

Faith In Action

Family Promise of Warren County Newsletter

President's Page

by Carol Spicer
Board President

Greetings! 2026 is a year of growth for Family Promise of Warren County (FPWC).

FPWC has been supporting un-housed families in Warren County for over twenty-seven years and continues to see the need for greater support for our children and families.

Our Growth Goals for 2026 focus on the following:

- **New Leadership, Same Heart:** We are thrilled to welcome Tracy Funke as our new Executive Director. With her deep roots in child wellbeing and Warren County, Tracy is prepared to lead us into this new chapter. Linda Rabolt will move into a new part-time position as our Director of Development (Fundraising). This move allows her to use her passion and strong skills to enhance the financial infrastructure as FPWC looks towards the future. Together, they are focused on one thing: building a sustainable financial foundation so no family is left behind.
- **Expanded Network, Double the Impact:** Right now, the need for stable housing in our community is rising. Our bold goal is to double the number of families we serve in our Neighborhood. This isn't

just a number; it represents twice as many children sleeping in warm beds and twice as many parents achieving sustainable independence. You are the key to this expansion. Whether you serve as a volunteer, a congregation, business, organization, partner, or a donor, your "Yes" transforms lives right here in Warren County. If you are looking to get involved in community outreach, please connect with FPWC to learn more. We need YOU!

- **Fundraising Events:** Mark your calendars and join us for fellowship and fun while raising the critical funds needed to house our neighbors. Your participation directly funds our mission: Golf for Home on May 4th, Run4Home on July 4th, and Tailgate for Home on October 18th

Please keep FPWC in your prayers and for your support. Your volunteer time and financial contributions are the lifeblood of our mission.

On behalf of FPWC we THANK you so much for your time, dedication and hard work. Together, we are growing a future where every child in Warren County has a place to call home.

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Lebanon, OH 45036
www.familypromisewarren.org
513.934.5250
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FAITH • *Hope* • **Love**
Justice • God
peace • Kindness
HOSPITALITY
New Life • *encouragement*
Family

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Linda's Letter

by Linda Rabolt
FPWC Former Executive Director

Twenty-eight years ago, I was working in the daycare unit at the Department of Job and Family Services when approached by a colleague of mine who shared with me that there was a group of folks, headed by Pastor Bill Cain of Lebanon Presbyterian Church, who were addressing the issue of family homelessness. Louise shared that they were looking to hire an Executive Director, and she suggested that I apply.

I did and to my surprise, in August 1998, I was offered this position, which I accepted for selfish reasons – I was going to have more time with my family! Little did I know how I was about to step into a journey that would change my life.

The first Board of Directors was made up of some of the most faithful and kind people I ever had the pleasure of knowing. Norm Atkinson, Dick Reed, Ann Feinauer, Brenda Dunlap, John Desmarias, Park Gast and David Yelton. This Board built the foundation of what was then the Interfaith Hospitality Network of Warren County. They and others in the community set up our first day center at 118 North Cherry Street in Lebanon – provided by Lebanon Presbyterian

Church. They and others secured eight congregations in and around Lebanon to provide a place for our families to interact with caring volunteers who provided wonderful meals, great fellowship, and the security of a warm and safe Sunday school room in which to sleep. These volunteers became the family that many of our families did not have.

Of those eight host congregations, we continue to work with Lebanon Presbyterian Church, Lebanon United Methodist Church (known now as Summit UMC and Lebanon Community Methodist Church), Sycamore Presbyterian Church and St. Patrick's Episcopal Church. Additionally, we continue to work with Resurrection Lutheran Church and Lakeview UCC who were originally known as support congregations. Their commitment of almost 28 years of service is impressive to say the least and has made a difference in the lives of literally thousands of individuals.

Throughout the years, IHNWC moved our day center from Cherry Street to Warren Street and then we were blessed with both the Cherry Street building and the Warren Street

building as IHNWC/FPWC grew our reach and our programs. Again, the commitment from Lebanon Presbyterian Church cannot be understated. They provided a day home for the families that we were blessed to serve.

The Heaven and Hearth furniture ministry was built early on with the oversight and vision of Shelly DeGeorge. None of us could fathom getting a family housed and then learning that they had nothing to put in that home. No beds, no table, no linens – nothing. With the addition of Heaven and Hearth and through the generosity of the community who donated good as new items, our families moved into their homes with all that they needed. Early on, we had a 30-year-old pick-up truck that did the moving and often times I laughed as we looked like the Clampetts of the Beverly Hillbillies as we moved a family – rocking chair on the cab and all!

And then we were gifted the Heaven and Hearth building on East Street in Lebanon and FPWC now had the reach to not only help our shelter graduated families but those in the community who had health challenges, and other challenges that

Linda's Letter cont. on next page...

required our assistance. To those who have provided support for this important program, I cannot thank you enough.

In March 2020, FPWC and the world was challenged by the COVID virus. FPWC was one of the first in the area to shut down operations as we knew it and moved our families to a local hotel to protect our volunteers as well as our families from this hideous virus. My heart stays full when I recall the overwhelming support from our coordinators and volunteers when I made the announcement of this change and asked for their support – not as we had always cared for our families but in a new way – that of social distancing and protection. Not one host or support congregation backed away from the challenge, and this enabled FPWC to continue to provide for families who needed us more than ever.

I will always be grateful to all of our volunteers at that time but particularly of Nelson Kennedy from Heritage Presbyterian Church who was the first phone call to me after I made this decision. He simply said, “what do you need” and through my tears I told him, “Prayer and food.” Nelson represented all volunteers at that moment and with that, FPWC continued to make an impact through the most difficult of times.

As a result of COVID, we knew that we could never go back to the way things had always been. The FPWC Board, with the leadership of Tom Ludeke and Todd Rockstroh

located the former Shaker Inn and in March 2022 this became our new home. With the financial assistance of so many and the blood, sweat and tears of hundreds of volunteers, the Shaker Inn was renovated to be the static shelter building that we now inhabit. A place where our families do not have to move from place to place and our volunteers come to us. A place where we provide stability for our kiddos and a place where we provide more wrap around services than ever before as we continue to support families to become self-sufficient and housed.

Whew, a lot has happened in these 28 years! And this is due to prayer and support from our community. For this I cannot thank you enough and with that it is now time for me to step back. I met a lot of people along my journey. Volunteers, supporters, families, and individuals in need. I have been blessed. I have put FPWC ahead of my own family and friends. It is time for me to reconnect with them.

The FPWC staff and volunteers became my other family. I cannot express enough how much I love these people and how much they mean to me. Their unconditional love for our families and each other is without compare. It is one of the main reasons that FPWC has the success that it does.

We have hired a new Executive Director, Tracy Funke. She is incredible. She is smart. She is caring. She will take FPWC to the next steps in our

journey of making a difference. I know that you will welcome her to the FPWC family and you will love her, pray for her and care about her as you have me.

Now it is time for me to take a step back and love on my family and friends whom I have neglected over the years. I need to love on my brother, John, and sister Laurie. I need to reconnect with dear friends. I need to take time to enjoy my daughter Katy, her husband Dan, my son Andrew and my beloved husband of 47 years, Steve. And let’s not forget that 5-year-old grandson of mine, Tristan. I look forward to being “Omie” and doing the grandma thing with him. My family has been patient and supportive. They have been my north star.

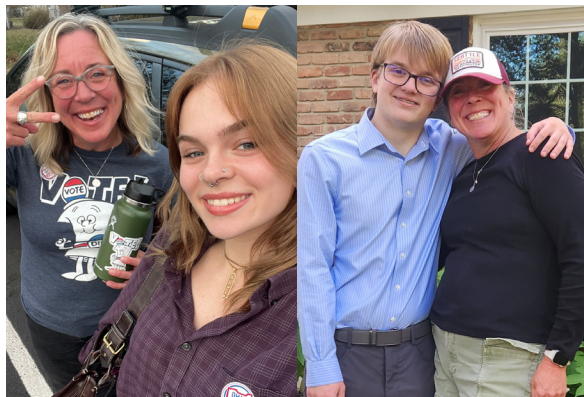
And while I am stepping down from the Executive Director role, you will still hear from me from time to time as I step into a very part time role of Director of Development, allowing me to continue to shape FPWC alongside of Tracy and the Board of Directors though the role of fundraising.

I would be remiss if I did not recognize David Yelton. It is because of his strong faith, his wisdom, and his faith in me that with our staff, boards, and volunteers throughout the years we have accomplished so much. Thank you for this opportunity. It has been my honor and my privilege to be on this journey with you.



Passing the Pen

by Tracy Funke
FPWC Executive Director



I am humbled and honored—and mostly a little gobsmacked—to be writing this as I join Family Promise of Warren County (FPWC) as the incoming Executive Director. While this role may feel new, my relationship with FPWC is not. I have worked alongside FPWC for nearly a decade in my previous roles, supporting families and collaborating with this organization long before I ever imagined I was “interviewing” for this position the whole time. Looking back now, it feels very much like a God thing—a journey unfolding one step at a time.

With a background in social work and a career dedicated to supporting children and families, I am deeply grateful for the opportunity to serve in this way. From my very first days here, I have felt genuinely welcomed by the board, staff, volunteers, and community partners. There is something special about FPWC—a culture rooted in compassion, faith, and trust—and it is a privilege to step into this role.

As I begin this transition, I am spending time listening, learning, and gaining a deeper understanding of the work that happens here every day. What stands out most

is the steady, faithful presence FPWC has been for families during some of the most challenging moments of their lives. This work is not about quick fixes; it is about walking alongside families, keeping them together, and offering hope, dignity, and stability.

I’m not sure everyone realizes that Linda Rabolt is truly a legend in this community. As we work side by side during this transition, it does not escape me that her faith in this organization—and in the work we can do together as volunteers, donors, board members, and staff—has helped shape the strong foundation we stand on today. I am grateful for her leadership and example, and I am honored to help carry this work forward.

I see this season as one of stewardship—honoring the foundation that has been built and caring well for the mission entrusted to us. I truly believe this transition is a God thing, and I am excited to meet each and every one of you as we continue this important work together.

Thank you for the support you give, the prayers you offer, and the many ways you show up for FPWC. I am deeply grateful to be part of this community.



BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Carol Spicer	<i>President</i>
Jennifer Goepper	<i>Vice President</i>
Monica Widdig	<i>Treasurer</i>
Jennifer Fry	<i>Secretary/Chair HRR</i>
Steve Bullock	<i>Member</i>
Michael Hoelscher	<i>Member</i>
Rev. Mary Joseph	<i>Member</i>
Joseph Mansfield	<i>Member</i>
Rev. Jackie Matisse	<i>Member</i>
Tracy Funke	<i>Executive Director</i>

FPWC STAFF

Jesse Bischoff	<i>Marketing Manager</i>
Mischelle Dvořák	<i>Shelter Case Manager</i>
Doug Gilham	<i>HCRP Case Manager</i>
Emma Janson	<i>Office Assistant</i>
Andrew Rabolt	<i>Weekend Manager/ Statistics</i>
Linda Rabolt	<i>Director of Development</i>
Nichole Richardson	<i>Program Manager</i>
Rodney Short	<i>Driver/Maintenance</i>
Tracy Funke	<i>Executive Director</i>

OPEN HOUSE

The FPWC Board of Directors invites you to meet our new Executive Director, Tracy Funke.

Tracy brings extensive experience supporting the well being of children and families throughout Warren County. She will be instrumental in taking FPWC on the next steps of our journey to support families who are experiencing homelessness.

When: Sunday, April 26, 2026
Time: 10:30am - 1:30pm
Where: FPWC Campus
600 Cincinnati Avenue
Lebanon, Ohio 45036

Light refreshments will be served.

We look forward to seeing you on April 26!

Stories of Promise

by Sara Kesse
Graduated Client



shelter, I did our intake with the Program Manager, Nichole. She showed me our room. We were in room 4. It was a bigger room but with nine of us it was still crowded, but we made it work.

At first our progress towards getting a home seemed to go really slow. We lost our car shortly after joining. When looking for a home I heard a lot of no's: too many people for the size of the unit, too many kids with only one parent, not enough income... I found it hard to trust the process and believe that the volunteers and staff cared about us.

After awhile things got better. We realized that everyone at FPWC cared. There were also a lot of great volunteers. They made sure the kids felt special on their birthdays and they tried to plan a lot of fun things for them to do. For awhile everyday they would forget we were homeless.

We finally started to make progress. Volunteers from a host church helped me get a new car, car insurance, and even booster seats for my kids. And finally we found a landlord who didn't say no.

We moved into our own place in October after being in shelter for 200 days. It's not the greatest and not where we want to be but it's just a stop along the way until our forever comes. Without all their help we wouldn't have gotten things from the past fixed to get where we want to be in the future. Without all their help we wouldn't have gotten a home.

I am not going to talk about our past and how we became homeless. It's in the past where it will stay.

The counselor at the kids' school stopped me one morning and asked me what was going on at home because my son was very emotional at school. So, I told her how my dad and step-mom told us we had to leave. She reached out to another lady, Tracy Funke, who called me and told me about Family Promise of Warren County (FPWC) and asked me if I was ok with her reaching out to them on our behalf. I told her yes because I had eight kids and no other options. A couple of days later someone from FPWC called to set up an appointment.

When we went to our appointment the first person we met was Emma. She was so happy and bubbly. She played with the kids while I met with the Case Manager, Mischelle. That day my step-mom kicked us out.

When we got into the

Coordinator Corner

by Steve Bullock
Community of the Good Shepherd A Catholic Parish

“Will you be my friend” asked one of the young guests at Family Promise of Warren County (FPWC) to one of our Volunteers during our “Try It, You’ll Like It” night! Of course, the answer was a heartfelt YES!

The Community of the Good Shepherd is a contemporary Catholic Community accompanying one another individually and collectively on our faith journeys. We share in the healing love of Christ, which moves us – and those we serve - toward deeper communion with God. We accomplish this through many ways including meaningful fellowship, and compassionate outreach. We look beyond ourselves, to reach out and to serve those in need throughout our communities, including FPWC.

FPWC is such a special place for our neighbors with children who suddenly find themselves without a home. The care, the love, the gifts that FPWC shares with our homeless neighbors is beyond compare. The Good Shepherd Parish was truly inspired to help Linda and all the wonderful people at FPWC who were making such an enormous difference in the lives of our neighbors in need. It was an easy choice to partner with FPWC as Good Shepherd’s Major Outreach Initiative. But monetary support is only part of the story.

As I sit here writing this column on this snowy, frigid winter day, I cannot help but reflect back on all the kids we have met and played with during our dinner nights. Spirited kids with a zeal for life, under very trying conditions to

say the least – but also some who are very much struggling with their situation. While we provide dinner for these children and their families, the real blessings come with the time we spend with them during and after dinner.

The little girl asking one of the volunteers to be her friend, quickly reached out to take their hand and lead them to the playground with the swings. With a big smile on the little girl’s face, the Volunteer began to push the swing – “higher – push me higher” said the little girl with the big smile! Such joy, if only for a short while. Then it was on to other things – “watch me ride my bike.” FPWC has done everything they can to help these kids and their families to feel at home...and volunteers help by being a “friend” or maybe even a substitute grandparent.

But before the playground, there is dinner – especially important family time – which always starts with a prayer or blessing – the kids especially love doing this – and it is so important to provide hope and faith and thanks in their lives.



Host & Support Churches

- Heritage Presbyterian Church
- St. Susanna Church
- Axis Church
- Compass Christian Church
- Grace Baptist Church
- Open Table Church
- Crossroads Church
- Lebanon Presbyterian Church
- Lebanon Community Methodist Church
- Pleasant Plain Presbyterian Church
- St. Patrick’s Episcopal Church
- Lakeview UCC
- Advent
- The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints
- Resurrection Lutheran Church
- Bethany UCC
- Sycamore Presbyterian Church
- Our Lady of Sorrows
- One Community Church
- The River Church
- First Church of God
- Red Lion United Methodist Church
- Covenant Presbyterian Church
- Springboro UCC
- Pilgrim South UCC
- Countryside Church of the Nazarene
- Good Shepherd Catholic Church
- Living Water Lutheran Church
- Cobblestone Community Church
- New Freedom Church
- King of Kings Lutheran Church
- Casseroles of Hope
- Lebanon Elks Lodge #422
- Summit United Methodist Church
- Crossroads Church Mason
- Notre Dame Club
- CrossView Christian Church
- St. Francis de Sales SVDP

If you have questions on how to become a host or support congregation, business, or organization, do not hesitate to contact Linda Rabolt at (513) 934-5250

Are you receiving our E-Newsletter?

This newsletter keeps you up to date on the most recent news at FPWC! To sign up for this, visit our web-page at www.familypromisewarren.org/faith-in-action-newsletter or send your email to jesse@ihnwc.org.

Coordinator Corner cont. on next page...

Where Charity and Love Prevail.



The kids really drive the dinner choices – the one night we decided to have a family grill out with hamburgers and hot dogs – a big hit! A little hard to keep up with the demand at times but it all worked well – the families were very patient...and appreciative. No frozen hamburgers by the way – fresh ground beef! We also had homemade baked beans, mac-n-cheese, and tater tots along with fruit – must have fruit – the kids love it. The homemade baked beans were a big hit, especially with the dads – In fact, the dads claimed all the leftovers! And of course, we had cookies and brownies to round things out. The cook-out just made it a little more fun, and maybe a little more like things were at “home.” In any case, they all seemed to enjoy it.

On another night we had fried chicken with all the fixings’ – another dinner was pizza night (LaRosa’s) which was also a hit – and yet another night we served three types of pasta with different sauces and meats – somewhat surprising, this went over really well – something for everyone’s taste. And as far as desserts, it is hard to go wrong with homemade cookies, brownies, or cupcakes.

One other important activity for the afternoon/evening is having some sort of craft. Kids still love to color, paint, and build. Thank goodness that our kids still enjoy these important growth activities in our high-tech world! The one night,

we provided large size paper place mats with games and things they could color – it was around Memorial Day or 4th of July, cannot remember which, but the place mat had a patriotic theme. The kids loved doing this while they waited on dinner – mom and dad had fun as well. One cool craft we gave the kids around Thanksgiving was a small wooden Christmas scene centerpiece that they had to paint and build (snap in parts). We gave them markers/paint sticks to help limit the mess! They really had fun with this one and were proud of their creations – they decided to leave them on the kitchen tables to display so they would not get broke back in their room!

Thinking back at the reactions of first-time volunteers, there were three common comments: “I had no idea!”...“This place is amazing”...“I will definitely be back – what else can I do?” And you walk away with the feeling that you are so blessed in your own lives, but more important, it is a true blessing to help your neighbors in need. It is so incredibly special to share your time, your talents, and your love with these families in need. And I am sure they appreciate it more than we can realize.

YES, we will be your friend! May God bless all the families and children who find themselves homeless, and may God bless all the FPWC staff and volunteers, and their families.



Host Recruitment & Retention

by Jennifer Fry
Chair



As I'm writing this, I'm looking at snow, snow, and more snow!! Winter is beautiful, but Spring is a time for renewal, rejuvenation, and reevaluation!!

One of the most meaningful parts of serving with Family Promise of Warren County (FPWC) happens during the simple, everyday moments—sharing a meal, sitting at a table, laughing over a game, or coloring alongside a child. As we move into spring, we encourage our volunteers to lean into those moments of connection that help families feel welcomed, respected, and at ease.

Volunteer Tips:

- Be present, not perfect. You don't need the right words—your time and attention matter most.
- Follow the family's lead. Some families love to chat; others may prefer a quieter evening. Both are okay.
- Keep it simple. Activities like UNO, coloring, or Play-Doh often spark the best conversations.
- Listen more than you talk. Avoid advice-giving; listening, encouragement, and empathy go

a long way.

- Protect dignity and privacy. Families may share little or a lot—respect their boundaries and stories.

As a reminder, all volunteers are required to attend FPWC volunteer training prior to serving. Training is held on the first Saturday of most months at 9:00 a.m. This training ensures we provide a safe, consistent, and supportive environment for every family in our program.

Thank you for the time, compassion, and energy you bring to this work. Your willingness to show up, sit down, and connect makes a lasting difference—often in ways you may never fully see, but that families will always remember.

If your organization or church is interested in how you can best support the mission of FPWC, please reach out to the office at 513-934-5250 and speak with Tracy. She will be happy to help you get started.

Here's hoping that by the time you read this, we're experiencing some Spring-like weather and the snow is gone!!

Vision:

“A county where every family has a home, a livelihood and a future full of promise.”

Dear Churches, Organizations, and Volunteers,

I want you to know how deeply your work touches the lives of the people who walk through those doors. You show up with open hearts, steady hands, and a kind of quiet strength that brings comfort on days when hope feels out of reach. The warmth you offer isn't just kindness, it's dignity, safety, and a reminder that people matter. Thank you for every late night, every difficult moment, every smile you give even when you're tired. Thank you for treating people with humanity when the world often looks away. Your compassion creates a place where healing can begin, and that is a gift beyond measure.

With Sincere Gratitude
-Bri

Mission:

“To assist families experiencing homelessness in Warren County, Ohio, to achieve sustainable independence through a community-based response.”

1. What do you usually do to volunteer for FPWC? Which is your favorite?

This was my first time volunteering with FPWC, and everyone was incredibly pleasant to work with. Knowing that even the small amount of time I spend helping this organization can have such a positive impact on the lives of others is what makes every minute worthwhile.

2. How did you first get involved in FPWC?

After reaching out within our community and seeing the work FPWC does for individuals in need, I wanted to find a way to better serve the community and make a meaningful impact. I work for The Home Depot and through them I was able to finance some improvements to the FPWC warehouse.

3. What is your "why" for volunteering?

My why for volunteering is simple. Helping others and knowing that my time can make a real difference. You never know when you will need support in your life. If you can give, just do it. You will be surprised at how much of a positive impact it will have on your own life.

4. What is a memorable moment about your work with us?

Some folks struggle with too many numbers in their head. Yes, that is me. Keep it simple and only ask me for one board length at a time. 50 inches and 72 inches are close but in a board length its "not going to make it"

5. What would you tell new members/ volunteers about volunteering for FPWC?

What you put into a project is what you'll get out of it. Have fun along the way, and remember that your effort big or small creates positive change in the community.

6. Tell us a fun fact about yourself!

Life is always on the run, and I wouldn't have it any other way. With five kids, three dogs, three cats, and my wife, there's never a dull moment, just a lot of love, laughter, and motion.



Volunteer Spotlight

GETTING TO KNOW

LARRY AYLWARD

Operations Manager
The Home Depot - West Chester

Staff Spotlight



GETTING TO KNOW

TRACY FUNKE

Executive Director

1. How long have you been a member of the staff of FPWC? What is your position? Tell us a little about what you do and your educational background.

I have been on staff at FPWC since January 28, 2026. I am excited to serve as the incoming Executive Director. Currently, I am learning the organization's operations by shadowing every staff member. I earned my Bachelor of Social Work degree from Wright State University in 2005.

2. What do you enjoy most about being on the FPWC staff?

What I enjoy most about being on the FPWC staff is how energizing the mission and vision are. I have also been incredibly appreciative of the warm welcome from both the board and staff. Most importantly, I value the opportunity to work directly with families—especially the children—and to see the impact our work has on their lives.

3. What do you love most about your current position?

What I love most about the Executive Director role is the opportunity to bridge the board's vision with the day-to-day operations of the staff. It is a privilege to work alongside diverse groups of people who share a common passion for supporting families and children. I also greatly enjoy sharing the impactful work of FPWC with the broader community—especially with those who may not yet be familiar with the important services we provide.

4. Tell us a little about your family.

I am the proud mom of two amazing human beings—Sadie, a sophomore at the University of Cincinnati, and Simon, a senior at Lebanon High School who will also be heading to UC in the fall (Go Bearcats!). I recently got engaged to Trent, and we're happily taking our time and enjoying this exciting season. At home, our household is completed by two dogs, Lola and Mazzy, who keep life entertaining and full of love.

5. What's something about you (a fun fact) that not many people know?

A fun fact about me—my last name is "Moore Funke," which feels pretty fitting! I absolutely hate shopping, and I have a very real (and very serious) aversion to bridges.

Storybook Garden Path

by Warren County Master Gardener Volunteers



As we write this, 10" of snow are blanketing the Family Promise of Warren County (FPWC) grounds. However, plans are afoot for next year, building on the 2025 installation of woody plants, the storybook path and a pergola with seating. The Warren County Master Gardener Volunteers (WCMGV) will be selecting plantings to outline some new path areas as well as botanical climbers to enhance the pergola. In addition to the new plants, they will be making sure that the toddler butterfly gardens are well tended.

The street facing gardens will have annuals: bright cosmos, caterpillar-feeding dill, black-eyed susans and beautiful dahlias. Along the fence are planned hollyhocks and sunflowers. We are pleased to share that our beautiful gardens have been certified by the Cincinnati Zoo and Botanical Garden under their Plant for Pollinators program.

Volunteers led by the Town and Country Garden Club filled our raised planter beds with a bounty of fresh vegetables and lush flowers and we look

forward to another prolific crop this season. We planted several new trees in the Fall of 2024 and again in Fall of 2025, and we plan to add more trees this Fall to continue enhancing the beauty and privacy of the property.

Pre-cast border stones were added around a couple of beds last year with good effect and we will use more of these stones to surround our large patio area and entryways. This will be complimented by the addition this year of some new seating.

The storybook display has been updated monthly with stories appropriate to each holiday and season, and will continue to be refreshed monthly. In addition to tending the gardens, we are planning age-appropriate written materials to educate the residents about the plantings. Last, but not least, the WCMGV have packaged up seeds from FPWC and personal gardens that FPWC can use for fundraising. The WCMGV also plan to use these black-eyed susan, cosmos, echinacea, marigolds, and dill seeds as publicity for the project at MGer events.

Certified Pollinator Habitat

Your garden has been certified as a **Plant for Pollinators Garden** by the Cincinnati Zoo & Botanical Garden


David Jenike
Executive Director



Christmas in July

Christmas in July is one of the most impactful events that FPWC provides. On the last Saturday of July, the families who have been in the FPWC Shelter Program in the prior 12 months, will enjoy a Christmas dinner and fun fellowship. Most importantly, the children will be gifted everything that they need to successfully begin the school year.

Santa and Mrs Claus (aka Paul and Pam Ford) will be present to be with the children and to encourage them to have a successful year in school. Jennifer Keezer and her elves will shop for each child individually, to include specific school supplies requested by their teachers.

This event is not only impactful but it is life changing for our children. Each child will attend their first day of school, dressed appropriately, and fully prepared to take on a successful school year.

Thank you to the Mason Kiwanis for providing funding for shoes for each child. If you would like to volunteer, contact Jennifer at jenniferkeezer3@gmail.com. Financial gifts are also welcome. Your support is greatly appreciated!



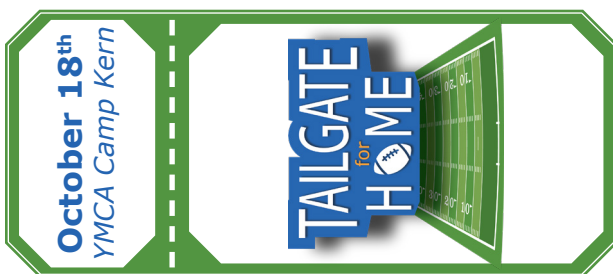
2026 UPCOMING EVENTS



Scan the QR Code to golf with us!
2026golfforhomeouting.golfgenius.com



Scan the QR Code to walk or run!
<https://runsignup.com/Race/OH/Lebanon/Run4Home5KandKidsFunRun>



Check our website for updates about this event!

Scan the QR code to sponsor!

www.familypromisewarren.org/get-involved/2026sponsorshipbundles



Fundraising Update

by Linda Rabolt
Director of Development

In April 2026, Family Promise of Warren County (FPWC) will celebrate two years in our new building. In these two years, there has been much growth and change. The families that we have housed have enjoyed their dignified space and we are so very grateful for those congregations, business and individuals that renovated the outdated hotel rooms and made them homes.

With that, we find that the rooms often need a little TLC after a family has vacated. Additionally, bathroom fans are seeing the end of their lives, roofs leak causing ceiling and wall damage, HVAC needs replaced, and other things that can be expected in an 80-year-old building.

Our Heaven and Hearth ministry, which provides furniture and household goods for both FPWC families and those in the community with needs, is also in need of a little TLC. We are so grateful to The Home Depot Foundation for sharing volunteers and funds with which we were able to repair a roof leak. They also built a mattress caddie and shelves to make this area manageable.

Our pick-up truck is over 44 years old (this is not a typo – it is truly 44 years old!) and being held together with duct tape and love. This is our lifeline to moving families into their own homes after successful completion of the FPWC program. It has had a good life and will need to be replaced in 2026.

As we expand the program to add more families to our network, we will need additional staffing to continue to provide the

high level of support that FPWC is known for. To encourage our growth and our ongoing needs, fundraising with clear direction is a must.

FPWC will hold three events this year. The first, Golf fore Home will be held on May 4th at Heatherwoode Golf Club in Springboro. Come and enjoy a great day of golf, food and fun while supporting our fundraising efforts.

The second is our 20th annual Run4Home and Kids Fun Run to be held on July 4th– the 250th birthday of the USA – at Armco Park! Be the 20th and the 250th runner/walker and enjoy special recognition!

Lastly, the 2nd Annual Tailgate for Home will be held at Camp Kern on October 18th. Enjoy the football game while enjoying a wine/bourbon pull, tailgate games, spin the wheel, raffle baskets, and even a special guest!

Maybe you are not a fan of attending events. I get that! Your continued support through matching funds through your employer or sharing the RMD through your IRA are very much appreciated. Your car washes, bake sales and other fundraising ideas are great and also very much appreciated.

FPWC has always been a good steward of all funds, and I assure you will continue to be such. You can rest assured that your support is used wisely.

We are looking forward to a year of promise and success for our families and supporters alike. Thank you in advance for helping us to help those who need us the most.

Did You Know?



Did you know in 2025 FPWC shelter program assisted:

- 27 families
- 93 individuals
- 53 children
- 32 children (*6 years old & under*)
- 4 unborn children
- 2639 referrals*

*these numbers represent and increase of 13.2% over the same period last year.

List of Needs

Looking to donate to Family Promise of Warren County but don't know what we need???

Here are a few suggestions:

- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Disinfectant/Lysol Spray
- Cleaning Supplies
- Financial gifts are always needed and appreciated

Thank you to all the many volunteers at our host and support congregations, businesses, and organizations for providing meals, fellowship, hospitality, and unconditional love to our families. If you would like to get involved, please contact Tracy Funke, Executive Director, at 513-934-5250 or tracy@ihnwc.org. For more information about FPWC go to: www.familypromisewarren.org.