

FAMILY PROMISE OF SHENANDOAH COUNTY NEWSLETTER



Message from Kelly Storey, Executive Director

Family Promise of Shenandoah County has been serving our community since 2016. During that time we have worked to meet the ever-changing needs of our community's families. From our initial and continued mission sheltering families experiencing homelessness, to our work preventing eviction and a subsequent homeless experience; we have been here for families.

The "face of homelessness" as seen on television may lead you to envision individuals struggling with mental illness, addictions, or criminal backgrounds. Our experience in Shenandoah County is that single parents and/or custodial adults are just as likely to hanging on by a thread and one financial crisis away from becoming the "face of the unhoused."

Safe, reliable child care is expensive and difficult enough to find. Locating child care that accommodates a parent's night shift and weekend work schedule is virtually impossible. When coupled with unreliable transportation, days missed from work to care for sick children, and low paying hourly jobs, a family can easily find themselves without a roof over their heads.

The impact this has on a family is immense. For children, it means delayed early development, reduced school attendance, poor academic performance, and increased risks of behavioral issues. For adults, it means a sense of failure, and the obvious anxiety and poor health this stress can bring. For Family Promise, it is an opportunity to provide a family with an opportunity to change the trajectory of their lives.

Please read the story of one such family in this month's Case Manager's report. It is but one example of how the non-profits in our community partner to assist families. When different funding streams exist, our partnerships make the best use of both tax-payer funded federal and state resources and community donations received by each organization. This particular case involved Family Promise of Shenandoah County, Shenandoah Alliance for Shelter, the Shenandoah County Department of Social Services, and Moms in Motion. Our collaboration created the perfect symphony of assistance for this family.

We thank you for your ongoing support of our work. Because of it we are able to provide hope. For I know the plans I have for you," declares the LORD, "plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jeremiah 29:11

**Blessings,
Kelly**



STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Family Promise of Shenandoah County Welcomes Holly Rusher as Associate Director

We are pleased to announce that Holly Rusher joined Family Promise of Shenandoah County as the Associate Director on July 1st. A lifelong resident of Shenandoah County, Holly graduated from Strasburg High School in 1986 and returned to the area after college to work in the school system. She recently retired in June 2023, following a long and dedicated career in education.

Holly resides in Strasburg with her husband, Tracy. She is the proud mother of one daughter and two bonus daughters, and she enjoys spending time with her two grandchildren and two dogs.

Holly has been actively involved with Family Promise for the past year, serving as the Outreach Coordinator. Reflecting on her new role, she shared, "I am excited to be serving in this capacity and to have the opportunity to support families and children in Shenandoah County." As a retired educator, Holly is passionate about educating the community on homelessness and is committed to fostering greater community support for our organization.



UPCOMING EVENTS

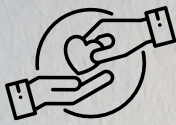


Join us on Saturday, November 16th for the 1st Family Promise 5K Turkey Trot. This event is for all ages, runners and walkers.

Location: Maurertown Park
Time: 8:00 check-in; 9:00 race begins

\$35.00 registration fee includes a long sleeve race t-shirt
\$25/00 for participants 12 and under
(Deadline November 4th)

There will also be a Virtual Race option for anyone that is not able to participate in-person.



DONATIONS



- Bryce Golf Tournament \$12,277
- New Market Seventh Day Adventist Church - monthly donations to the FP food pantry
- Arby's Fundraiser - \$211.00

Case Management Report

August was a busy month for us. We provided shelter to four families, meeting with each weekly to work on various aspects to improve their situations. Additionally, 85 families, including 133 children, reached out to us for assistance. When we couldn't provide a service directly, we connected them with other agencies that could help.

Number of Families	Service Provided
23	Food
14	Supplies
5	Diapers
1	Gas Card
3	Rent
1	Move In/Security Deposit

Success

We received a call from DSS regarding a father who recently gained custody of his young son with autism. Due to the need to relocate to Shenandoah County to create a structured and safe environment, he had to leave his job. We successfully welcomed this single father and his son into our program, where we provided shelter, case management, and support services.

They spent just over two months in our program and have recently moved into their own apartment. We assisted them with kitchen supplies, towels, beds, linens, and some furniture. The estimated monetary value of these services amounts to approximately \$2,500. Yet, the true value can only be appreciated in terms of the lasting impact that stable housing will have on this family.

Board Members

- Libby Rocco - President
- Katherine Morrison - Vice Pres.
- Kim Shrum - Secretary
- Kent Jeter - Treasurer
- Kirk Andrews
- Norma Barb
- Dale Bowers
- Jerry Copp
- Fabiana French
- Alesia Foltz
- Rick Kessler
- Heather Liller
- Walt Morgan
- Diane Pence



Staff

- Kelly Storey - Executive Director
- Holly Taff - Case Manager
- Zuly Gonzalez - Family Coach
- Donna Crabill - Office Manager
- Holly Rusher - Associate Director

Community Sponsors



Scattered Site Locations

Thank you!

- Fraziers
- Zion Lutheran Church
- Edinburg Christian Church
- P. Smoot (2)
- Ed and Ruth Aumiller