



## 2010 ARCHIVES

### JANUARY

#### **Churches Housing Families Again**

Family Promise host congregations are again housing families in the Kernersville community.

In late November, Kernersville Fire Marshall Tim Swaim informed Family Promise that the town had received approval from the state to apply the 2011 amendment to the NC Building and Fire Code in advance, which allows our churches to house families overnight.

Already as many as three families at a time are being hosted by area churches.

Each week, a different congregation takes on the hosting responsibility, ideally in a quarterly rotation. For more information on host congregations, click [here](#). (go to our network)

In addition, some churches that are not physically equipped to host families overnight serve as support congregations. These include: Beit Hallel, Morris Chapel United Methodist Church; Mount Pleasant United Methodist Church, Pine Grove United Methodist Church and Summit Church.

#### **Register Now for Cardboard Box City:**

This is an experience you don't want to miss!

Now's the time to register your organization for Cardboard Box City 2010:

Friday & Saturday April 23-24

Kernersville Elementary Athletic Field

Cardboard Box City is a fundraiser in which people camp for the night in a temporary dwelling to

increase awareness about homelessness and raise money to support Family Promise of Forsyth County.

Each participant raises at least \$50 in "rent" (pledges) and then camps in Cardboard box city for one night. At the inaugural Kernersville event last spring, hundreds of people participated, mainly youth groups from area churches and organizations, but any group or family is invited to participate. See [brochure](#) for complete information.

[Click here](#) for a complete copy of the informational brochure, with photos from last year's event.

[Click here](#) to register.

For additional information or to receive printed copies of the brochure or registration forms, email [boxcity@familypromiseforsyth.org](mailto:boxcity@familypromiseforsyth.org)

#### **Family Promise Continues to Receive Grants**

The Women's Fund of Winston-Salem granted Family Promise \$9900. The Women's Fund seeks to improve the lives of women and girls by building a community of female philanthropists and providing grants to local programs and initiatives that address the root causes of social issues impacting women and girls in Forsyth County.

A grant of \$4,000 was prepared and gifted by Fountain of Life Lutheran Church from the Lutheran Missouri Synod, Southeastern District, Ablaze fund.

The following churches included Family Promise in their 2010 benevolence or outreach budgets: Fountain of Life, Main Street Methodist, First Baptist Church, Kernersville, Augsburg Lutheran.



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### **Benefit Auction Tremendous Success**

The Family Promise benefit auction at First Christian Church in October raised more than \$12,000 with 120 people in attendance for the dinner, silent auction and live auction.

Special thanks to Danny Jefferson (auctioneer), Ed Skurka (emcee), Skip Staples and the Ramshackles (music), and Antawn Hairston (chef) - all who donated their time and talent. Also thanks to our Funding Committee, who put in so much effort in making the event a success and solicited such a huge number of very enticing auction items.

## **MARCH**

### **The Big Event is Here!**

Cardboard Box City 2010: Friday & Saturday April 23-24 at Kernersville Elementary Athletic Field. 6 p.m. to 7 a.m. Be a part of it!

Cardboard Box City is a fundraiser in which people spend the night in a cardboard box to increase awareness about homelessness and raise money to support Family Promise of Forsyth County.

Each participant raises at least \$50 in "rent" (pledges) and then stays in Cardboard Box City for one night. At the inaugural Kernersville event last spring, more than 130 people participated, mainly youth groups from area churches and organizations, but any group or family is invited to participate. See brochure for complete information.

Register here.

For additional information or to receive printed copies of the brochure or registration forms, email [boxcity@familypromiseforsyth.org](mailto:boxcity@familypromiseforsyth.org).

### **We Appreciate Our Sponsors**

We are so thankful for our Cardboard Box City sponsors this year: Fish Originals, Kilpatrick Stockton LLP, Lawrence Transportation Systems, Pam Barrett Communications and TIMCO Aviation Services.

### **Become a Fan of Family Promise on Facebook**

Please keep "up to the minute" on Family Promise of Forsyth by becoming our fan on Facebook. Our goal is to have 914 fans, to equal the number of homeless families in Forsyth County.

Why not add your thoughts to our wall? Many of you have shared your good experiences serving our guests. Please post your thoughts for others to see. (Remember not to use our guests' names.)

### **Holy Cross Becomes Host Congregation**

Family Promise welcomes Holy Cross Catholic Church in Kernersville as a host congregation! We are excited to have them aboard to serve alongside us.

### **Volunteer & Grant Opportunities**

Volunteer Opportunities – please call or email if these opportunities interest you:

- Van Drivers – transporting guests from 5:30-6:30 a.m. or 5:15-6:15 p.m. weekdays
- Marketing Committee
- Grant Writing
- Auction Committee – will begin meeting soon to plan the November event
- Day Center Volunteers – one Saturday afternoon a month



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### **Have something else in mind?**

We will find a volunteer project to fit your skills and interests. Eight adults and three children from Mayodan, NC came to Kernersville to prepare dinner for our families the day before Easter.

Pepsi is awarding 10 grants of \$5,000 to \$250,000 to people, businesses and non-profits making a positive community impact. Then the world gets to vote! The ideas with the top 10 votes in each grant category are awarded the Refresh grants. Each month Pepsi accepts 1000 grants. We're waiting for our chance and hope to be included in May.

We will update you in March on how to vote. For more information, go to [www.refresheverything.com](http://www.refresheverything.com).

### **Family Promise Participated in Project Homeless Connect**

This event, held on April 14, brought all the services available for the homeless population to one place, Lawrence Joel Veterans Memorial Coliseum Annex in Winston-Salem, for easy access. One Day. One Stop. One Shop. One step toward ending homelessness. Family Promise was pleased to take part.

### **Family Promise Is Changing Lives**

The families we serve tell us how blessed they feel to be participating in Family Promise. They tell us each volunteer, from van driver, to overnight host, to day center helpers, has made a difference in their lives.

Right now, we are hosting two families. A third family has just moved into an apartment, paying three months rent up front. The Salvation Army helped with deposits.

Our newest family is two parents and two boys. Mom is employed but they were down to their last night's lodging when they were accepted into our program.

When our third mom met the new family, she took her frozen pizzas from the freezer and gave them to the new family so they would have dinner to eat. She said she wanted to help them because she knows how it feels to be down to your last dollar. At Family Promise, the spirit of giving and sharing is everywhere.

More churches and organizations are still needed in our Interfaith Hospitality Network. Right now we have 8 hosts and 7 support congregations. If you are already involved, talk up the experience with friends in other groups. If your congregation is not yet participating as a host or support congregation, please encourage them to get involved.

### **A Day in Life of Our Guests**

- |           |  |
|-----------|--|
| 6:20 a.m. | Van arrives at day center  |
| 7:00 a.m. | Children dropped off at day care   |
| 7:25 a.m. | Parents in WorkFirst Program are taken to Winston-Salem to catch a bus to either Department of Social Services or Goodwill |
| 4:10 p.m. | Parents picked up from the PART bus stop and children collected from day care  |
| 4:45 p.m. | Arrive back at the day center  |
| 5:30 p.m. | Van leaves day center to go to congregation  |
| 6:00 p.m. | Arrive at congregation   |
| 6:30 p.m. | Dinner   |

Congregations provide breakfast, packed lunches, dinners and evening activities.



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Each week the families meet with our social worker, determine the chores they are going to be responsible for handling at the day center, and schedule their laundry days for the week.

### MAY

#### **Box City Raises More Than \$15,000**

The 150 participants in Cardboard Box City the night of April 23 raised more than \$15,250 to support Family Promise of Forsyth County. About half the participants literally spent the night in a cardboard box and collected donations for their vigil. The other half were volunteers who made the event fun, smooth and successful for the participants. We were blessed with good weather. You probably saw some of the excellent media coverage the event received. Pisgah United Methodist Church won the box decorating contest with the theme "Sleeping Under the Stars So Others Won't Have To."

A special thanks to Bill Alger for chairing the event, to Ed Skurka our Emcee, to Mayor Dawn Morgan for opening our ceremonies and to Shirley Ramsey from Keller Williams for judging our boxes. Also thanks go to Andy Phelps of Andy's Tune Express and the First Christian Church Ministries youth band who provided the great music for the evening.

A big "Thank You" to our corporate sponsors TIMCO Aviation Services, Lawrence Transportation Systems, National Retailer Systems, Kilpatrick Stockton, LLP, Fish Originals, Pam Barrett Communications, Hayworth Miller Funeral Home and Long Insurance Services.

#### **Are You On Facebook?**

Join Family Promise on Facebook and share your photos and stories from Cardboard Box City. Our

goal is 914 fans, the number of homeless families in Forsyth County. Our Facebook page is a great way to keep current with what is taking place at Family Promise. Our newsletter comes out regularly, but our Facebook page can get updates every day or every hour! We hope that you will share with others, not just us, the positive impact you are experiencing in serving our guests. Please remember not to use our guests' names.

#### **Holy Cross Becomes Host Congregation**

Family Promise welcomes Holy Cross Catholic Church in Kernersville as a host congregation! We are excited to have them aboard to serve alongside us.

#### **Volunteer & Grant Opportunities**

On April 28, Family Promise received a \$2,500 grant from the Kernersville Foundation to help purchase privacy dividers and for the general operating budget. We are honored to have the foundation partner with us to help homeless families.

#### **Help by Taking a Survey:**

Please take a few minutes to respond to a transportation survey that will affect the Kernersville community and the families we serve. Go to [partnc.org/rtdp.html](http://partnc.org/rtdp.html) to take the Piedmont Authority for Regional Transportation survey.

#### **We Need Volunteers**

- Van Drivers – transporting guests from 5:30-6:30 a.m. or 5:15-6:15 p.m. weekdays  
Marketing Committee
- Grant Writing
- Auction Committee – will begin meeting soon to plan the November event



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Please call or email [info@familypromiseforsyth.org](mailto:info@familypromiseforsyth.org) if these opportunities interest you.

Have something else in mind?

We will find a volunteer project to fit your skills and interests.

### **Project Homeless Connect**

On April 14, we took part in Project Homeless Connect. This was a great opportunity for the homeless population to come to one location and make contact with all service providers who can assist them. This year the flow of people was steady all day long. We had many people inquire about our services. We provided referrals for 18 people and performed initial contact reviews and set up interviews at the day center for four people.

### **Family Promise Is Changing Lives**

Two of our families have moved into housing. One family moved out of state to be near family. The other family is in a two-bedroom apartment, with all the furnishings provided by our Family Promise congregations and are very proud and happy. As the family moved, the mother said, "Thank you, you have taught me how to love again." What a tribute that is to ALL the volunteers who participate in our mission. Our current family is working hard on moving forward and is very appreciative of all of you.

Each week the families meet with our case worker, determine the chores they are going to be responsible for handling at the day center, and schedule their laundry days for the week.

## JUNE

### **The Latest News on Our Families**

Two of our youth guests just graduated, one from high school and one from elementary to middle school. Our volunteers make it possible for these children to stay in their home schools and succeed academically. Right now we are serving one family that has been with us two months. Other families are being interviewed.

### **Our Amazing Year So Far**

Did you know that since opening in August 2009, our Interfaith Hospitality network has served seven families with shelter and meals? As of May 31, we have provided 840 bed nights of shelter and 2,530 individual meals.

We have received 182 calls for assistance. These 182 households included 30 men, 167 women and 283 children. In response, we have connected families to agencies to help them remain in housing; single adults and couples to adult shelters; and families that do not fit our mission to other agencies that could help them.

We have provided 57 households not served by our Interfaith Hospitality Network with clothing; food; furniture; resume assistance; job and housing leads; Christmas; career training; financial assistance; and housing program referrals; as well as transportation to bus terminals and appointments.



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### Upcoming Events

- **No Dirty Dishes Raffle**—Raffle begins August 1. Prizes awarded in September. First Prize -Win dinner for two at five area restaurants and then you will not have dirty dishes for five nights. Tickets are \$5 or 5 tickets for \$20. List of restaurants will be announced on our Facebook page soon.
- **Volunteer Appreciation Day**— Saturday, August 28 from 3-5 p.m. we will be holding a volunteer appreciation open house at the Day Center for all who have served as a volunteer in our affiliate. Please mark your calendar so you can be sure to attend this event and allow us to extend the thanks you deserve.
- **Benefit Auction and Dinner**— We will be having our fall silent/live auction again this year on Saturday, October 23. If you have a service or item you would like to donate for the auction or you would be willing to work on the committee, please call us at 245-1807.

### How You Can Help

- Raffle ticket salespeople during August. No Dirty Dishes is a great raffle prize, so tickets are a breeze to sell.
- Van Drivers — transporting guests from 5:30-6:30 a.m. or 5:15-6:15 p.m. weekdays (choose 1 trip to make each week — like Wednesday morning or Tuesday afternoon). No special license required.
- Marketing Committee members
- Hosts at the day center on the 4th and 5th Saturdays from noon-5:30 p.m. This allows families to use the day center during that time.
- Host Recruitment Committee members
- Benefit Auction Committee members

Please call or email [info@familypromiseforsyth.org](mailto:info@familypromiseforsyth.org) if these opportunities interest you.

### Have something else in mind?

We will find a volunteer project to fit your skills and interests.

### Family Promise in the News

The June issue of Forsyth Family magazine, page 50, has included an article about Family Promise's Cardboard Box City called "Sleeping Under the Stars, So No One has To". We also had a large front page article on our progress in Kernersville's Tuesday News on June 2.

### Cardboard Box City Update

The funds still continue to come in. Several youth who were unable to participate that evening, corporate donations from companies who had volunteers at the event, and those still wishing to help out have brought our proceeds up to \$15,279.

Check out photos of the event on our Facebook page.

Cardboard Box City 2011 will be held **Friday, April 29, 2011.**

## AUGUST

### Get No Dirty Dishes Raffle Tickets Now

How would you like to eat out five nights in a row and not have to cook? If you are the winner of our No Dirty Dishes raffle, you could choose to do that. Or you could eat out once a week for five weeks. If you win, it's up to you!

Grand prize is five gift certificates for Dinner for Two, at five area restaurants. Second place will win three certificates and third place two gift certificates. Our 2010 raffle runs from August 1 through August 31. We will announce the winner on September 1.



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This was a very successful fundraising event for us last year as we raised \$6,000. We hope to exceed that number this year. Tickets are \$5 or 5 tickets for \$20. You can get tickets from any of our board members, staff, at the day center, or through members in your congregation.

First Prize: Bimini's Oyster Bar \$25, Bistro B & Wine Bar \$25, Firebirds Wood Fired Grill \$40, PF Chang's \$25, and Village Tavern \$50.

Second Prize: Chili's \$20, Outwest Steak House and Saddleroom \$25 and Red Lobster \$25.

Third Prize: Olive Garden Italian Restaurant \$15 and Smitty's Grille \$25.

We will be selling tickets in the community as well. Find us at Harris Teeter, on South Main Street, Kernersville on August 14, from 9 a.m. - 2 p.m.

### **Family Promise Honored By Piedmont Parent!**

Family Promise of Forsyth County has been selected as the Charity Partner for Piedmont Parent's 1st annual Moms@Work luncheon, Tuesday, September 14, 2010.

At the luncheon we will be presented a check for \$1,000.

All attendees will be asked to bring a donation of kitchen, laundry or bathroom supplies for our families. These supplies will provide a home starter kit for the families as they move into housing.

The event is at The Sheraton Greensboro Hotel at Four Seasons from 11 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. The keynote speaker will be Sheron Decker of the Satisfied Life radio show. Fifty NC companies will be recognized

for helping parents balance work and family. We hope to have a Family Promise table. Call us to reserve your seat (\$30 a person).

### **Volunteer Appreciation Day**

Thank You, Thank You, Thank You!!!! But words are not enough... the Board and staff would like to invite you to attend our Volunteer Appreciation Day on Saturday, August 28, 2010 at the Day Center.

We're honoring our volunteers with delicious refreshments, thank you gifts and more. Plus we'd love for you to meet some of your fellow volunteers. We will have an Open House from 3 p.m. to 5 p.m., with a short program beginning at 4 p.m.

We hope that you will stop by and see us!

### **Second Annual Benefit Auction and Dinner**

Saturday, October 23, 2010 we will hold our Second Annual Benefit Auction and Dinner fundraiser at Kernersville Seventh Day Adventist Church. We will have a silent and live auction.

Dinner will be prepared by Jeff Bacon, Director and Executive Chef of Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC's Triad Community Kitchen program, and Antawn Hairston, Executive Chef and owner of Sweet Thangs Classic Creations.

Mark your calendars and save the date for a night of fun!

### **Family Promise in the News**

The June issue of Forsyth Family magazine, page 50, has included an article about Family Promise's Cardboard Box City called "Sleeping Under the Stars, So No One has To". We also had a large front page article on our progress in Kernersville's Tuesday News on June 2.



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### **The Latest on Our Families**

We had 38 referral calls for the month of June, which meant July became a busy month at the day center.

We had three families, 13 individuals, in the program the first week. One family of two went into permanent supportive housing and another family of four went into transitional housing. The dad from the family of four was able to find work while they were here, so when they left both parents had employment. We are able to provide a family of seven who needed shelter for a couple of weeks. Towards the end of July we were able to bring in a new family of three.

And a great piece of news for our future families: Kernersville Moravian Church has joined our network to host and is working on their permit!

Have you been wondering what happens with the children of our families during the summer? Stephanie provides the families with multiple opportunities. Depending on their age, some are in daycare; others take part in camps or go on vacation trips with relatives or families of friends. We even have a partnership worked out with the Kernersville YMCA that if parents need the morning for interviews and appointments that the children can attend their summer program.

## **SEPTEMBER**

### **Help us Win \$50,000**

Family Promise Needs Your Daily Votes

We finally "made it" as a September Pepsi Refresh Grant finalist, and we have a chance to win \$50,000!

The top 10 voted on in each category will win.

Family Promise of Forsyth County is in the Food & Shelter category, and now it's up to us to bring in the votes. Will you help us? Go to [www.refresheverything.com/familypromiseforsyth](http://www.refresheverything.com/familypromiseforsyth)

and sign up. You can vote ONCE A DAY until Sept. 30. Just enter your password & vote away!

You can also vote from your mobile phone - Text\* 10231 to Pepsi (73774) \*Standard text messaging rates apply. Please ask your friends and family to vote too.

If we win the grant, the money will be used to help with overhead expenses, including staff salaries, utilities, volunteer training, van maintenance and our homeless assistance fund.

How is Pepsi doing this? They decided this year to give money to both individuals and non-profits with great ideas and projects instead of running any Super Bowl ads.

### **Lights, Cameras, Auction!**

Buy Tickets Now to our Auction & Dinner

Are you ready for a night of fun? Join us at 7:00 p.m. on Saturday, October 23, 2010, for our Second Annual Benefit Auction and Dinner fundraiser at Kernersville Seventh Day Adventist Church, and enjoy live music and other entertainment. A silent auction will take place during dinner and a live auction to follow.

You can reserve a table of eight (8) for \$80 or ten (10) for \$100. You can invite your friends to join you or have a group of friends purchase a table. With space limited and half of the tables already reserved, you will want to get your reservation in quickly! You can call 245-1807 in order to reserve your table.

Here are a few of the items you will be able to bid on:



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Doug Jewell has donated and will be your pilot for a scenic plane ride for two with a stop in VA for lunch  
Two tickets for an Appalachian State University football game

Kilpatrick Stockton has donated their suite at BB&T Ballpark for a DASH game which includes 16 tickets & two car passes

Dinner will be prepared by Jeff Bacon, Director and Executive Chef of Second Harvest Food Bank of Northwest NC's Triad Community Kitchen program, and Antawn Hairston, Executive Chef and owner of Sweet Thangs Classic Creations.

Buffet Menu: Mixed Greens w/choice of dressing, Garlic Bread, Tortellini, Fettuccini, Farfalle Pastas Alfredo, Marinara, & Meat Sauce. Assorted Desserts.

Volunteers Needed: We need approximately 20 youth to bus tables, refresh drinks, and serve as runners for the auction. Any interested youth or youth groups should call 245-1807.

### **An Amazing First Year**

During the eight and half months we have been able to operate fully, we went from four permitted host sites to eight, with 2 more in the process; zero to eight support congregations; and from 50 start up volunteers to over 600 volunteers taking part in serving our guests!

We served 11 families, 37 individuals (14 adults, 23 children)

The average stay of a family was 44 days. Of the nine families who have exited the program, 78% obtained housing. 4 – permanent housing, 1 – permanent supportive housing, 2 – transitional housing, and 2 – unknown.

While in our program 28% (4 adults) either maintained or found employment; 14% (2 adults) had disability benefits and 35% (5 adults) were connected to job assistance programs.

We provided 1,310 bed nights of shelter and 3,937 meals.

We received 272 household referrals from 69 different organizations. Of those who did not enter our program we were able to assist 87 households with clothing, food, furniture, resume preparation, service agency connections and job and housing leads.

Two of these families were able to maintain the housing they were in due to our referrals and three found housing. One dad was able to find temporary work through our assistance and then a little later was hired back by his former employer.

All of this is possible because of YOUR support!

### **Who Won the Raffle?**

Thank you to all who purchased – and sold – tickets!  
We were able to raise almost \$4,000.

Congratulations to our Winners:

First Place – Catherine McKeel

Second Place – Shirley Snow

Third Place – Bonnie Daniel

Thank you to all our participating restaurants. We hope that even if you did not win you will visit them!

Bimini's Oyster Bar, Bistro B & Wine Bar, Chilis, Firebirds Wood Fired Grill, Olive Garden Italian Restaurant, Outwest Steak House and Saddleroom,



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PF Chang's, Red Lobster, Smitty's Grille, and Village Tavern.

### **Volunteers: Opportunities & Appreciation**

It was great to see so many of you at our Volunteer Appreciation Day in August. A good time was had by all and those who attended got the chance to preview our new Family Promise video.

We have many ways in which you, your family or friends can help serve—from driving the van to serving on a committee.

We need committee members to work on our Benefit Auction, Marketing, and Host Recruitment teams.

We also still need permanent van drivers for Monday mornings and each evening except Sunday and Wednesday. You do not need a special license in order to drive our 15-passenger van.

We also need a volunteer at the day center each month on the 5th Saturday from 12-5:30 p.m. Having volunteers at the day center allows our families to use the day center on the weekend.

Just call or email us if any of these opportunities are right for you.