

The Promise

Quarterly Newsletter of Family Promise of Wayne County, N.Y.

Note From The Board

Welcome to the inaugural issue of “The Promise”, the Newsletter of Family Promise of Wayne County, N.Y.. We realize that with so much happening so quickly in the development of our Wayne County affiliate, that it’s particularly important to keep our supporters and constituents aware, informed, and in the loop.

In this edition of “The Promise” we review some of the important aspects of our program – the things that make Family Promise unique and valuable to our clients, that is, to our *guests*. In addition we’re proud of our many accomplishments over these past few months and want to be sure you know about them as well.

And, of course, we have upcoming events and activities that you’ll want to know about and hopefully take part in.

To those of you receiving this newsletter, Family Promise **thanks you** for being part of OUR family; for your interest, efforts, and involvement. As a grass-roots organization that is offering a community response to a real and present need in Wayne County, we understand that our ability to perform our mission is only as strong as our volunteers. Echoing the motto from this year’s national conference, “United, We Serve”; indeed together we can make a real difference to those in need in our towns, our county, and our region. We honor your commitment and thank you deeply for your continued involvement.

William Bush
Board President

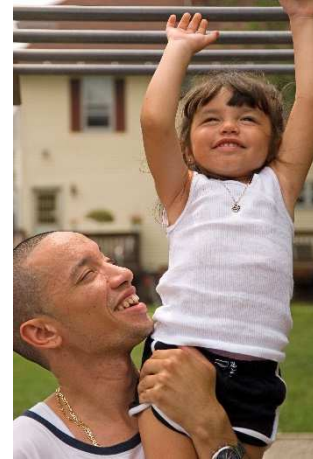
January 2018 Issue

The Promise

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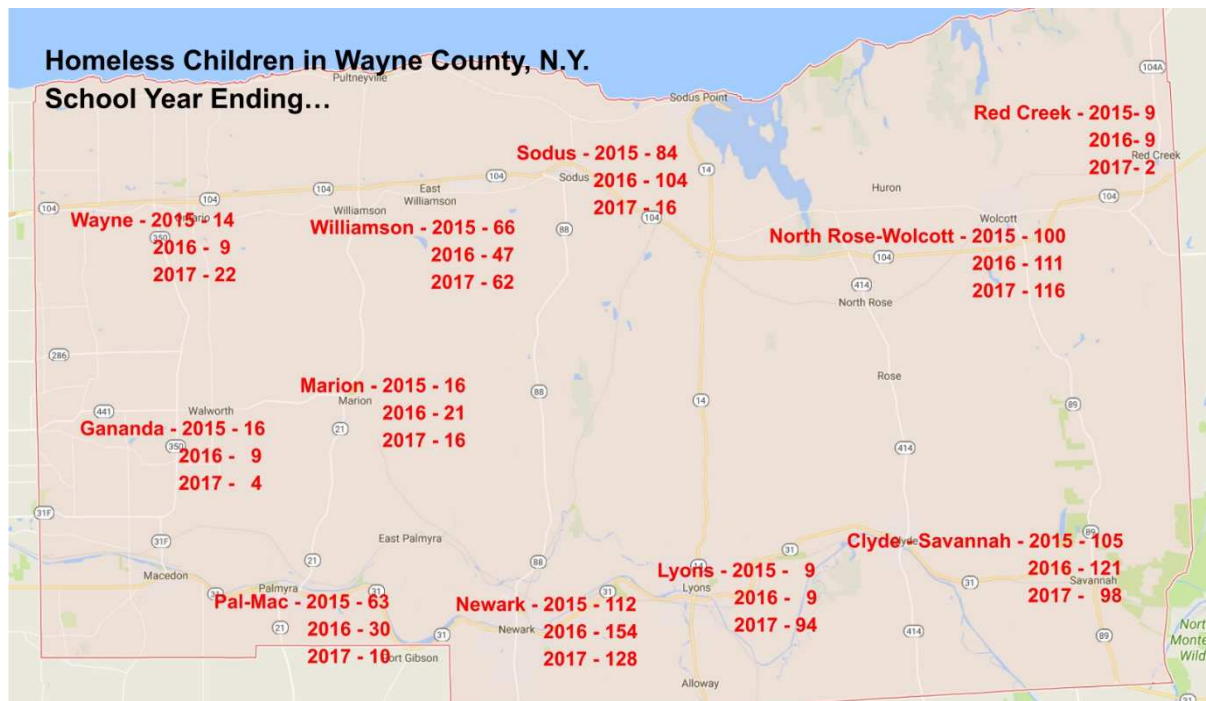
Our Mission

The mission of Family Promise of Wayne County is to help homeless and low-income families achieve sustainable self-reliance through a non-governmental, non-denominational community-based response. Specifically, we enlist and coordinate congregations and service organizations in Wayne County to provide large numbers of volunteers to shelter (in churches' buildings) and feed homeless families. We then use our own professionals to assist in finding relevant services and in job placement.



The Need

The McInney-Vento Act requires that school districts document and report instances of school-aged homelessness. The map below shows numbers of children reported under the Act by the school district named along with a statistical factor to account for additional children who are pre-school. Based on the data reported there is a consistent county-wide number of more than 600 children and their parents annually that lack permanent housing.

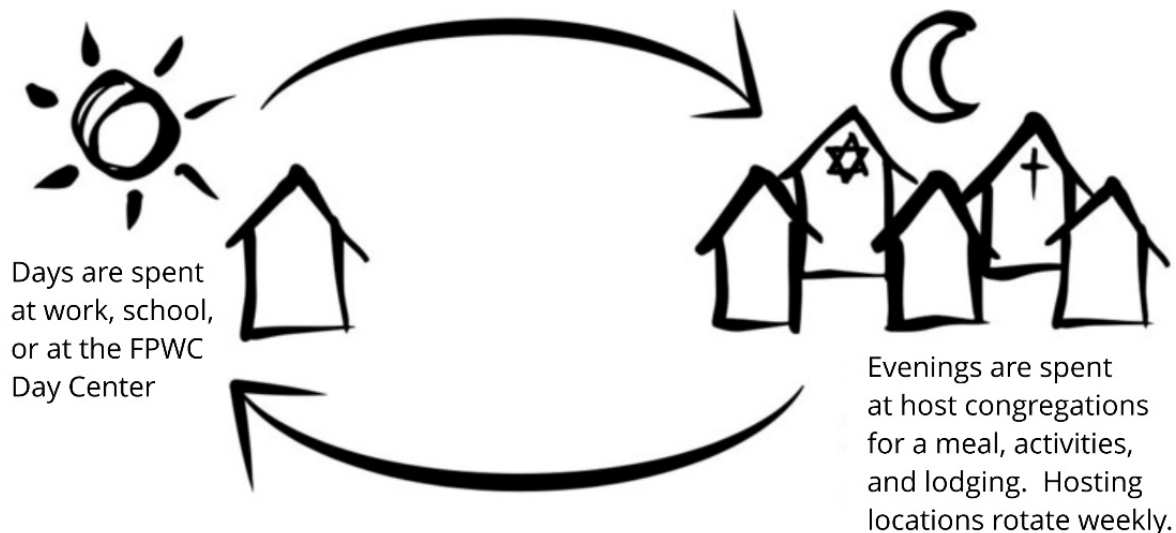


The Promise

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How We Function

The simplified graphic below depicts how services are provided to homeless families admitted into the Family Promise program:



How will our program be accessed?

Family Promise guest families are referred through a variety of existing resources in the county.

Family Promise of Wayne County has already established close relationships with many of the churches in the county which are points of referral. We are also known to school counseling offices in every school district and have been systematically meeting with various Social Service organizations in the county such as Green Angels, Wayne County Action Program, Legal Assistance of Western NY, Lions and Rotary service clubs, Victim Resource Center, Youth Advocacy Program, Family Counseling Service, Thriving Families Program (TFP). Through close cooperation with these and other Wayne County organizations families are appropriately referred to Family Promise.



The Promise

Quarterly Newsletter of Family Promise of Wayne County, N.Y.

What's The Latest?

Our Daycenter

Family Promise is excited to announce that Lyons will be the location of our Daycenter. Thanks to the gracious hospitality of the First Presbyterian Church of Lyons, we will have access to their manse for use as the Family Promise Daycenter for the foreseeable future. This development is so very important because the Daycenter is the hub of many important activities associated with support to our guests. The Daycenter provides:

1. The office and operating location for our Executive Director
2. Case management offices
3. The place where guests go each day for:
 - a. Liaison to existing Social Services.
 - b. Skills development
 - c. Job hunting
 - d. Guidance from our case manager
 - e. Support for preschool children
 - f. Showers and personal care



And, of course, with the Daycenter being located in Lyons just a few blocks away from the Wayne County Department of Social Services our guests will be in close proximity to existing support and services that they will be accessing along the way.

Bed City

Momentum is gathering for one of our biggest annual events, Bed City. This coming May our volunteers, supporters, and congregations will gather in Newark to celebrate our Families, our services, and to have some fun voting for the most creatively built and decorated Beds! There will be lots of food, prizes, and fun activities for the whole family.

So SAVE THE DATE, May 12, 2018 and be sure to come out and enjoy the festivities at Park Presbyterian Church in Newark!!

The Promise

Quarterly Newsletter of Family Promise of Wayne County, N.Y.

[Our Website \(click here\)](#)

We'd love to have you visit our new website at fpwayne.org and browse. There are testimonial videos, detailed information about the Family Promise program, and sign-up forms where you can register to receive more information or to volunteer.

Although there are a few pages on the site that are still 'under construction', the important pieces are completed, including this newsletter, and information on how to designate Family Promise as your charity of choice for the Amazon Smile program.

Family Promise of Wayne County

Home The Need About Us Our Response How To Help News and Events Contact Us

Events Newsletter

Donate Volunteer

We are a local response to a national crisis, helping homeless families build new lives.

Bed City - May 12, 2018

Host Churches

Support Organizations

What We Do

Useful Links

Notables

Family Promise of Wayne County gains 501(c)3 not-for-profit status from the IRS

Agreement reached with First Presbyterian Church of Lyons for the use of their manse as the FPWC Day Center.

Donate

VISA MasterCard American Express Discover

Host Churches

Congregations continue to join the Family Promise team to provide shelter and hospitality to homeless families in Wayne County. With a goal of 13 host churches, we now have commitments from the following 8 and strong interest from several others.

- Western Presbyterian Church – Palmyra
- Park Presbyterian Church – Newark
- East Palmyra Christian Reformed Church – E. Palmyra
- Walworth United Methodist Church – Walworth
- First Baptist Church – Newark
- Zion Episcopal Church – Palmyra
- United Methodist Church – North Rose
- Sodus Catholic Church (St Maximillian Kolby Parish)

The Promise

Quarterly Newsletter of Family Promise of Wayne County, N.Y.

How Can I Help?

1. Volunteer!

There is no more important way you can help Family Promise than by volunteering your expertise in support of one or more of the ongoing activities of the organization.

Family Promise of Wayne County relies on about 1500 volunteers to provide the services necessary to sustain families in crisis. While families are living in the network, volunteers have opportunities to provide assistance 365 days a year, 24 hours a day.

Volunteers who directly serve guests reduce program expenses through the gift of their time and or donations. They share meals and sometimes stay overnight. Volunteers plan and manage recreational activities, such as birthday parties, Holiday celebrations and sporting events. They tutor school age children.

Administrative volunteers assist the Board of Trustees on various committees necessary to keep the Network functioning. These committees include:

- Fundraising
- Finance
- Communications and Public relations
- Personnel
- Congregation recruiting and relationships
- Transportation
- Day center oversight
- Operations/coordination

If you're interested in volunteering click [HERE](#), and let us know. We'd love to have you join our team!!

2. Donate

Our annual operating budget is over \$150,000. Your donation will help us continue to serve the growing population homeless families in Wayne County. We invite you to donate by clicking [HERE](#), and sincerely thank you for your consideration.

3. Provide Supplies

Some items that we'd be grateful for include:

- a. *** Gift cards – Grocery stores, Gas cards, Target and similar***
- b. AAA Sponsors for our families with vehicles
- c. Wayne Co. RTS Monthly Bus passes (call for details)
- d. Car Donations

The Promise

Quarterly Newsletter of Family Promise of Wayne County, N.Y.

- e. Diapers size 3 and up, and baby wipes
- f. Toddler booster seats with straps (for the table)
- g. Laundry detergent/Fabric Softener/Dryer sheets
- h. Lysol, room air fresheners
- i. Towels (New or gently used)
- j. Pillows (New only)
- k. Basic household items for families graduating from the programs – cleaning supplies,
- l. kitchen items, laundry items, bedding items. Call for specifics.
- m. Swiffer mops and refills.
- n. Dust Busters
- o. Flashlights and batteries
- p. Flash drives for computers
- q. Laptop Computers for our students
- r. Heavy duty paper plates: dinner and dessert size (no styrofoam)
- s. Paper Goods: Paper towels, napkins, hot & cold cups
- t. Aluminum foil, plastic storage bags, tall kitchen garbage bags
- u. Personal Hygiene Items (toothbrushes, toothpaste, body lotion, body wash, feminine hygiene products etc.)
- v. Men's Toiletries (razors, shaving cream, deodorant, body wash, etc.)
- w. Baby Essentials (lotions, body wash, shampoo, diaper cream, bottles, wipes, etc.)
- x. Liquid hand soap (refill size)
- y. Twin-size air mattresses with pump

4. An Awesome Way To Support Family Promise...for Free!

As an authorized 501c3, Family Promise of Wayne County has registered with Amazon as a designated charity under their Smile program.

What is Amazon Smile? It's very simple. As a philanthropic act, Amazon will donate 0.5% of the value of your purchases to Family Promise of Wayne County (FPWC). To benefit from this program you and I have to do only 2 things:

1. Designate Family Promise of Wayne County as your charity of choice. Click [HERE](#) to do so.
2. Shop at "smile.amazon.com" instead of "amazon.com". There is no difference in availability of items nor in prices.

Question: Half of one percent doesn't seem like much. Is it really worth it?

Answer: Let's assume we can persuade 500 people both within and outside of Wayne County to designate FPWC with Amazon Smile. And further, let's say that, on average, each one spends \$50/month on Amazon. Here are the numbers:

1. 500 people x \$50 in purchases = \$25,000 per month.
2. $0.005 \times \$25,000 = \125 per month contributed by Amazon to FPWC!

The Promise

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3. $\$125 \times 12 = \$1,500$ per year.

Which would be a wonderful benefit, yes; BUT I'm suggesting that we can probably spread the word to enlist MORE than 500 and that the average monthly spend could well be in excess of \$50. This one small program could bring multiple thousands of dollars to FPWC each year.

Please click [HERE](#) to designate FPWC as your charity of choice and **spread the word to your friends and family** and ask them to do the same (and to spread the word to THEIR friends and so on). Then just shop normally at smile.amazon.com!!