

Reflections on Family Promise

“IHN has involved more people than any other program in our church. It has stirred some people who have not been active before, as well as draw the participation of new members. People feel, “Here’s something that I can do. It’s concrete. This is something the church ought to be doing.

Rev. Russell Fuller

During our crisis, it was peaceful to come to a church and feel protected. Although our home moved weekly, we would not be abandoned until I was able to secure a permanent job and affordable housing.

Parent, age 26

Support Congregations:

Hope Lutheran Church

4541 N Wickham Road, Melbourne, 32935

The Greater Allen Chapel African Methodist Episcopal Church

2416 S Lipscomb Street, Melbourne, 32901

Other Congregations:

Hope Episcopal Church

190 Interlachen Road, Melbourne, 32940

Host Congregations:

Advent Lutheran Church

7550 Wickham Road, Melbourne, 32940

Church of Our Saviour Catholic Community

5301 N Atlantic Avenue, Cocoa Beach, 32931

Church of Our Savior Episcopal

1000 Jersey Lane NE, Palm Bay, 32905

Emmanuel United Methodist Church

2800 W Eau Gallie Blvd, Melbourne, 32935

Faith Viera Lutheran Church

5550 Faith Drive, Rockledge, 32955

First Presbyterian Church of Palm Bay

1080 Port Malabar Blvd NE, Palm Bay, 32905

First United Methodist Church of Cocoa Beach

3300 N Atlantic Avenue, Cocoa Beach, 32931

First United Methodist Church of Melbourne

110 East New Haven Avenue, Melbourne, 32901

Grace Fellowship Church

3420 Murrell Road, Rockledge, 32955

Hope United Church of Christ

2555 Fiske Blvd, Rockledge, 32955

Riverside Presbyterian Church

3400 North Atlantic Avenue, Cocoa Beach, 32931

Saint Mark's United Methodist Church

2030 N Highway A1A, Indialantic, 32903

Suntree United Methodist Church

7440 N Wickham Road, Melbourne, 32940



Building communities, Strengthening Lives

A community response for homeless families



Help and Hope for homeless families

Family Promise of Brevard, Inc.

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<http://facebook.com/fpbrevard>



<http://twitter.com/familypromisebr>

Need for Family Promise

Did you Know...

Families are the fastest growing segment of the homeless population, representing about 40% of all homeless people?

July 11, 2012 There are 1,376 homeless students in the Brevard County School System. There are 1,100 additional children age 5 and under not in school representing a total 1,300 homeless families in the school system.



“Is not this the sort of fast that pleases me: to break unjust fetters, to undo the thongs of the yoke, to let the oppressed go free, and to break all yokes? Is it not sharing your food with the hungry, and sheltering the homeless poor; if you see someone lacking clothes, to clothe him, and not to turn away from your own kin? Then your light will blaze out like the dawn and your wound be quickly healed over. Saving justice will go ahead of you and Yahweh's glory come behind you.

(Isaiah 58:6-8 NJB)

Basic Elements for the Program

1. Host Congregation

Hosting rotates four times a year for one week at a time, among the thirteen congregations in the Network who provide overnight lodging, meals (supper, breakfast and brown-bag lunch), and hospitality for three to five families (up to fourteen individuals), from 5:00pm to 7:00am the next morning.

Christine Garrigues - Recruiting Director
(321) 759-2523 christineg923@earthlink.net

2. Volunteers

Volunteers are the heart of the Network; without them, it cannot exist. Volunteers provide a variety of services: cooking and serving meals, playing with children or helping them with homework, and staying overnight. Volunteers also interact with the guests, treating them with respect and responding with compassion.

3. Social Service Agencies

Local social service agencies refer families to the network. The agencies may also help guests find housing, jobs and other services. Since Family Promise is primarily comprised of volunteers, the social service agencies help assess potential guest families for substance abuse, domestic violence or psychiatric problems.

4. Family Day Center

Guests use a local day center, space at a congregation or agency, from 7:00am to 5:00pm to shower, care for pre-school children and seek employment. Many guests are employed during the day and go to work. During the school year, children go to school. The day center provides guests with a mailing address and a home base from which to conduct their housing search. The Network Director's and case worker's office will be at the day center.

Grace Day Center

3478 Murrell Road, Rockledge, 32955

5. Transportation

A network van transports guests to and from the day center. A trailer also carries bedding and luggage to the next host congregation once each week.

