



YEAR-END REPORT - 2021

A message from our Executive Director

Dec. 1, 2021

MEET OUR TEAM



David Cole
Executive Director



Lindsay Newcomer
Operations Manager



Kelsey Loy
Case Manager



Leah Howard
Admin. Assist.

2021 has been a great year for Family Promise of Clark County. Thanks to the support from our congregational partners, we have been able to fully re-open our rotational shelter. We have also been able to navigate the pandemic, thanks to our COVID-19 safety policies, without having a single COVID-19 case. We have expanded our services to meet the needs of homeless families with children, who are arguably the most impacted by the pandemic. These expanded services include after-school tutoring for homeless students and a new diversion program that aims to prevent families from ever needing to enter a shelter program.

By the end of 2021, we will have served more families than our combined previous two years of operations, while maintaining performance standards exceeding the national average.

Since first opening our doors in April 2019, together, we have:

- Served over 60 families / 200+ Individuals
- Served over 130 children
- Provided over 20,000 meals
- Maintained a graduation rate of over 85% (families securing safe and affordable housing)
- AND.... 100% of our graduating families have maintained their housing!

Despite living in unprecedented times, we have been able to provide hurting families with hope and a path forward for a brighter future. Thank you for your continued support in our efforts to ensure that a child's housing status does not define their future.

Blessings,

David Cole
Executive Director
Family Promise of Clark County



Diversion program: Serving families beyond our rotational shelter program

Often, people think of homelessness as the people they see on the side of the road holding signs, sleeping in tents or in cars. While this is a growing concern for our community, the majority of the homeless population is described as the "hidden homeless population." This group makes up more than 70% of our nation's homeless and is typically people living with friends and family, sleeping on floors, or "couch surfing." These living arrangements can be supportive to those in need, but can often strain relationships and end quickly.



Our newest program, FPCares, works with families who are on "shelter's door" to prevent the trauma of traditional shelter programs and make unstable living situations stable. We work with families to reduce the strain both on the homes and the relationships that are providing temporary support, with the goal of having the family move on from these living scenarios to their own home, bypassing shelter programs. While in the FPCares program, families receive case management support, connection to available community resources, access to food and health care services, training on becoming a good tenant, and support completing rental applications.

The Lumbreras family moved to Washington from California after their husband/father was diagnosed with a major health issue. The oldest child, Anabel, had given up all hope in graduating high school as a result of her interrupted education. Once joining Family Promise, Anabel and her brother were both enrolled in school, and with the support of our new learning center and volunteer tutors they began seeing success.

In June of this year, Anabel's dad attended her virtual graduation ceremony, where he saw his daughter receive her high school diploma. Later that same month, the Lumbreras family moved into their own home! Thank you for playing a role in this family's success.

Success Story!



A year in review: 2021 highlights

Rebounding from COVID-19: Thanks to the continued support of our partner congregations, our shelter program has returned to its pre-pandemic state. Thanks to strict policies and support from Family Promise National, we have so far made it without a single COVID-19 case. This has resulted in us having nearly all of our churches reopening to our rotational shelter.



Family Promise nominated for Best of Clark County:

Family Promise of Clark County was nominated – and chosen as a finalist – for Best of Clark County recognition in the nonprofit division. We didn't win the category, unfortunately, but there's always next year! Please watch our social media and your email next spring, when we'll be asking you to vote for us again.



Give More 24: Once again, this year on Sept. 23, we participated in Give More 24! This 24-hour, online fundraiser rallies our community to raise money for more than 200 local nonprofits—all online. We exceeded our goal to raise over \$70,000.00 and finished 13th overall in funds raised. This was a 20 percent increase from last year. Thank you for all you gave, and to our matching donors who doubled all of the funds raised for the event.



Leadership Clark County: This year we have partnered with Leadership Clark County and the LCC Class of 2022 to perform a community-wide survey of local businesses. The goal of their survey is to understand ways that businesses are looking to engage with non-profits and in what capacity. If you know of a company that would be interested in supporting our work in a variety of ways, including employee engagement and volunteerism, email us at: info@familypromiseofclarkco.org.



Want to get involved? We need....

- Host sites (congregations or businesses with living space - our most pressing need!)
- Shelter volunteers
- Day center volunteers
- Learning center tutors
- Van drivers
- Meal preparers
- Board/committee members
- Adult mentors
- Join our Partners for Promise donor club
- And more!

[Get details.](#)



New in 2021:

Partners for Promise donor club

Family homelessness knows no season. In June, we launched our Partners for Promise donor club. Members help children and families avoid or recover from homelessness with their automatic monthly gifts. For less than the cost of a cup of coffee every day for a month, you can help transform lives. [Join Partners for Promise](#) today, select your monthly donation amount, and make an impact all year long.





It's not how much we give but how much love we put into giving. -Mother Theresa

Since Family Promise of Clark County was established in 2019, our **Year-End Campaign** has been an important fundraiser to help us support the needs of homeless children and their families in our community.

We know you have many reasons for giving, and many options to direct your generosity. As you consider organizations to support with your end-of-year giving, we hope that you would consider financially supporting Family Promise of Clark County. You can donate online anytime **here**.

If you prefer to use a check, please mail your donation to: Family Promise of Clark County, PO Box 873308, Vancouver, WA 98687.

Thank you, and we wish you and yours all the best in 2022.

Best wishes,

All of us at Family Promise of Clark County



Telling our story

Our families find us in various ways, including through referrals from [Council for the Homeless](#). We've heard from some potential guests that they don't understand how our services work. Will we be sleeping on church pews in the sanctuary? Are there showers and laundry services? What about my unusual work schedule?

To help answer these concerns, we produced a short, client-facing video that shows and tells the way our program works. [Watch the video](#).

Our impact is real and the transformations we have seen take place have been miraculous. To hear more stories about how we are impacting lives, [check out this video](#).



Without our partners, we could not do what we do

Serving families takes hundreds of hours of volunteer time and a sustained commitment from our partner congregations. Without this generous and kind support, we couldn't provide our families with loving care and a safe place to sleep. Cheers – and endless thanks – to our host congregations' volunteer coordinators!

Battle Ground United Methodist Church
Volunteer Coordinator: Jean Brown



Battle Ground United Methodist Church is a phenomenal partner! BGUMC has been a champion for our programming in Battle Ground and is committed to serving our families. Recently, one of their members gave one of our families a toaster oven. This has allowed families to prepare their cultural foods while at our day center and made a huge impact. This kind of generosity is frequent with BGUMC.

Partner recognition, continued....

Bethel Community Church

Volunteer Coordinator: Brenda Eyman



The COVID-19 pandemic has been long and particularly challenging for many congregations. We are grateful for their commitment, their financial support, and their willingness to continue as a support congregation. We appreciate them for playing a key role in getting our organization through these challenging times and for providing exceptional care and kindness to our families.

Camas Church of the Nazarene

Volunteer Coordinator: Amy Smith



Our guests love coming to this facility, as they are welcomed with open arms, respected, and worthy of kindness and real relationships. While at The Outpost, Camas Nazarene always makes our guests feel welcomed and invited to take part in the various ministries. We are also extremely appreciative of Camas Church of Nazarene opening up its facilities to other churches for their hosting commitments.

East Woods Presbyterian Church

Volunteer Coordinator: Pat Norby



We are incredibly grateful for our partnership with East Woods Presbyterian Church. Church leaders, congregations, and Volunteer Coordinators have been extremely supportive of FPCC since the beginning! Recently, an East Woods member took the time to have a real conversation with one of our guests and learned that this young man was traveling to work in a car that needed repairs. He made the arrangements and generously paid the entire cost. This is an example of the level of care and loving-kindness that we continually experience from East Woods Presbyterian Church!

First Presbyterian Church Vancouver

**Volunteer Coordinators: Yusnita Weirather,
Lysbeth Leitner, Claudia Moreno, Antoinette Emch**



**First Presbyterian
Church Vancouver**

First Presbyterian was the first congregation to sign as one of our Congregation Partners. Their team of Coordinators takes an active role in preparing for our families each week they are hosting. They like to think "outside of the box" to ensure our guests are taken care of. One week this summer, First Presbyterian treated all of our families to a sit-down meal at a restaurant. This was a real treat for our guests!

Partner recognition, continued....

Gateway

Volunteer Coordinators: Heidi Troffey,
Alan Schell



We are extremely grateful for our partnership with Gateway. Their volunteers are always willing to pick up extra volunteer hours in support of other churches and to drive our van to help our families get to and from our shelter locations. Gateway even produced their own video for their congregation about an upcoming host week! This was shared with all of our partner congregations; many of them produced similar videos. Thank you Gateway for your amazing support!

Grace Church

Volunteer Coordinator: Danielle Neuman



Grace Church has been such a blessing to us. We are grateful to be one of their many missional partners in Clark County. Grace has been instrumental in helping us meet the needs of homeless students who were falling behind as a result of the pandemic, and are always reaching out for ways to better support us. Grace Church always invites our families to take part in their activities during Easter, Halloween, and Christmas and is routinely supporting our needs through service projects.

Holy Redeemer Catholic Parish

Volunteer Coordinator: Ed Brands



**HOLY REDEEMER
CATHOLIC PARISH**

We love Holy Redeemer! Holy Redeemer is extremely generous to our organization and to our guests. Each year they sponsor our families for Christmas stockings. This summer, Holy Redeemer was a huge support as we made last-minute changes with our shelter locations to find relief from a significant heatwave. Their parishioners serve with love and are gracious to our guests. Holy Redeemer is such a positive and supportive partner!

Meadow Glade Seventh-Day Adventist

Volunteer Coordinators: Shane Scalf, Kathy Meeks
Debbie Givens



Our guests love coming to Meadow Glade SDA and the interaction they have with volunteers. This is in large part to the additional steps their Volunteer Coordinators and congregation members take to make our guests feel at home. The extra effort of staging rooms with additional furniture never goes unnoticed. Meadow Glade SDA was instrumental in helping us get through the pandemic, by opening up their building to allow other congregations to host out of their beautiful facilities. Thank you Meadow Glade SDA!

Partner recognition, continued....

River City Church

Volunteer Coordinator: Ryan Sydholm



River City is a small church with such a big love of serving. They stepped in when we really needed extra help and provided hospitality to our guests. We appreciate their continued support and how they are helping our community as a shelter provider for homeless families during times of severe weather.

Salmon Creek Church

**Volunteer Coordinator: Karen Beilsmith
and Lori McRae (Felida Bible)**



Salmon Creek UMC, with their support congregation Felida Bible, is a wonderful partner. They are always a blessing to our staff during their weeks. One week this year SCUMC played a critical role in supporting one of our guests who was in critical need. Salmon Creek volunteers handled the situation with grace and respect. Volunteers at Salmon Creek always treat our families with such compassion and grace!

St. John Lutheran Church

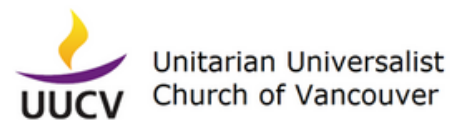
Volunteer Coordinator: David Schramper



We are so blessed by our partnership with St. John Lutheran. Their leadership, staff, and Coordinator are incredibly supportive of our mission. They coordinate a community of partners in support of homeless ministry. Recently, we had a single mother with three young children who were evacuated from Afghanistan. She was overwhelmed. The St. John Lutheran volunteer team accepted this family with open arms in the middle of their hosting week, prepared extra meals, and made the family feel comfortable and at home. They continue to show such kindness to our families.

Unitarian Universalist Church of Vancouver

Volunteer Coordinator: David Irwin & Lorraine Wheeler



We are extremely appreciative of how UUCV has helped us navigate the COVID-19 pandemic. Their generosity and willingness to open their building have allowed other churches to fulfill their hosting commitments and have enabled an impact far beyond these gestures. We are so grateful UUCV allowed us to use its facilities to serve those in need. UUCV takes such great care organizing food for their hosting week. They take the time to ensure our families have delicious, healthy food for dinner all week!

Partner recognition, continued....

Cascades Presbyterian Church

Cascades Presbyterian is neither a “support” or “host” congregation but continues to step in and provide support to our program when we need it most. Cascades Presbyterian has been attentive and responsive to our financial needs, and in a way that is so encouraging. They are more than willing to help provide needed supplies for our program families and help supply graduate families with items they need as they transition to permanent housing. We are so blessed to have a partner like Cascade Presbyterian!



Thank you to our Support Congregations!

- Bethel Lutheran
- Epikos Church
- Felida Bible
- Harvest Community Church
- Mill Plain UMC
- Radiant Church
- St. Thomas Aquinas Church
- Unity Family Church
- Washougal United Methodist



Would you like to see your church
on our list of partner congregations?

Let's start a conversation! Email us at: info@familypromiseofclarkco.org



Thank you to our 2021 Corporate Donors



Thank you to our 2021 Grants & Foundation Donors

