



Family Promise of Skagit Valley

Fall Newsletter
November 2023

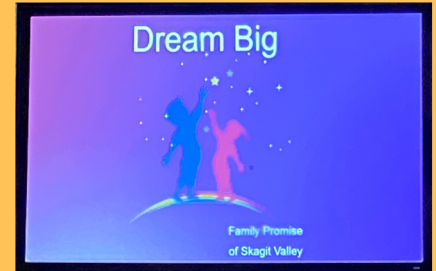
RETURN SERVICES REQUESTED

Fall/Winter 2023
Newsletter



Memorable Night of Celebration

The 10th Annual Night Without a Bed event was an evening of heart-warming stories reminding us of our why and bringing to the forefront the families whose lives have been changed by Family Promise of Skagit Valley because of your support.



Dr. Miriam Mickelson shared her own story growing up in poverty in the Philippines. She shared how she had fallen down a well shaft as a young girl and her mother's heroism in rescuing her. Literally extending a leg for her to grab onto so that she didn't drown.

You, Family Promise supporters, are that lifeline for the 699 families who have been served over the years. You are the hand reaching out that allows our guests to feel loved and supported, to heal from life's injuries, and to begin to dream of a future again.



Glory Craig



Mud Flat Ramblers



Thank you to our amazing sponsors and matching donors for 2023 Night Without a Bed



Home Sweet Home Sponsorship

Janicki Industries
Inspire Church
Banner Bank
Bob Wygal

Family Promise Board & Staff

My Own Room Sponsorship

Bethlehem Lutheran Church
United General
District 304
Fruitland Growers

Warm Hearth Sponsorship

Haggen
Stiles & Lehr, Inc.

Donations for Sleepers

Whidbey Bagel Factory
Haggen
Mestizo's
Shelley's Shack
Ma & Pa Kettlecorn



Family Promise of Skagit Valley

Service Pathway

- Prevention & Diversion**: Eviction Prevention Shelter Diversion
- Shelter**: Case Management New Beginnings Family Mentoring Volunteers
- Transitional Housing**: 2nd & 3rd Stage Housing New Beginnings Family Mentoring
- Graduate Support Services**: Sustainable Living Family Mentoring Holiday Support
- Volunteer**: Families Give Back to their Communities

If you need housing assistance or shelter, call us @ 360-854-0743



A New Future, A New Hope

When Junior arrived at Family Promise, not only could he not see a future for him and his children, he physically had to be guided by his children across the room because health issues had robbed him of his eye sight.

As a child Junior dreamed of being a bike mechanic. He grew up always struggling to have enough, but he really loved fixing things.

He never envisioned the changes that being a parent would bring. He also never imagined that substance abuse would rob him of the life he later envisioned with his wife.

He had many hurdles he had to overcome while at Family Promise of Skagit. Throughout his journey, you heard our pleas for help. Volunteers and case managers offered him hope and loving, caring support. People believed in him.

Today, not only is Junior able to see a future for himself and his family, but the time to heal has brought back his eye sight. He also now has a high school diploma (first in his family), he has learned to save and has a dream to go to college to be an auto mechanic.

Perhaps more importantly, his entire family has hope for a new future in their new apartment they just moved into.



424

Families have been placed or sustained in housing

1,492

Children have been served at Family Promise of Skagit

Seasonal Shelter Needs

You can make a huge difference by either picking up an item or two from our needs list while you're out shopping or start a drive that helps engage friends, family, neighbors and colleagues.

Needs List

Children and baby hygiene needs:

Toothpaste
Toothbrushes
Shampoo/conditioner
Tylenol/Ibuprofen
Diapers/wipes

Shelter items:

First aid items
Toilet paper/Paper towels
Clorox wipes
Dish & hand soap
Laundry Soap

For adults

\$10-15 gift cards to Rite Aid

Gift Certificates for clothing

\$20-50 to Wal-Mart, Fred Meyer or Target

Want to get involved? Volunteer needs

We need YOU!!!! There is a place for everyone at Family Promise. We currently have lofty goals to quadruple our volunteer, board and committee sizes.

Shelter & Program needs

Weekend office coverage
Dinner and overnight support
Van drivers
Mentors
Kids activities
Move-out/Move-in support
Maintenance support

Administrative Support

Marketing support
Social media support/newsletters
Phone support
Data entry
Donor & volunteer relations
Event support
Board/committees support

The cold is here: Seasonal Shelter time!!!!

Winter is a difficult season. While it is always hard to see a family and their children without a stable place to call home, it is substantially more difficult during the cold, wet winter months. Depression, trauma, and grief will be at an all-time high for these families as they are just trying to survive for the holidays.

Already this week we were visited by the fire department who found a man in the bushes in the below-freezing temperatures. As prepared as I feel we are for this winter, my heart is never ready for the story of hurt and danger that people face during this season.

For the second year in a row, Family Promise of Skagit Valley is grateful to Skagit Public Health to be able to open a winter shelter for families with children. They have worked hard and spent a lot of time planning in order to make our shelter possible.

During our first year of winter shelter, we were unsure what to expect. We were so pleased at the end of the season that we were able to serve 19 families through seasonal shelter. We housed 3 families into permanent housing, 7 families in our rotational shelter and 7 families in other shelter.

Together as a community we can make a safe place for these families and their children to not just stay warm, but feel loved.



What happens when the goal is not met?

Unfortunately, even though we experienced such a successful evening and received wonderful compliments from individuals that came to our event, the above question is one that I must face for the first time in the 6 years I have been here at Family Promise.

Let me reassure you that this does NOT mean that clients will receive any lower quality of care. It does mean that a few more families may have to remain on the waitlist, and we may not be able to act as quickly as we like. It may mean that fewer families find our services because we are unable to devote resources to outreach. It may mean that we have higher case management turnover which affects how many clients at a time we can serve.

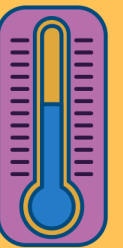
Expect to see us focusing on fundraising harder than usual. [Please join us in continuing to spread the message of need.](#) No one wants to say no to a child. No one wants to see a family in a car during this cold season.

Let's work together to fill these funding gaps.

Current Funding needs

Night Without a Bed 2023 Goal	\$80,000
NWAB Donations as of 10/30/23	\$41,500
Funding still needed for NWAB	\$38,500

Our income is down \$62,300 from last year.



SCAN ME

Board Highlight: Lynn Boeding

From his role on the board to the many times he shows up as an overnight host, dinner provider, mentor and a support to the staff, Lynn is a constant at Family Promise.



Lynn continues to inspire us with not only his selfless giving of his time but also his love for our mission. Thank you Lynn for your dedication to the families we serve!! You make all our days a little brighter!

Staff Highlight: Danna Ackley

Danna came to us as a college intern who had already overcome many obstacles in life. After being hired she held a few positions before she found her passion for her current role as a homeless prevention services provider.



Danna has continued to embody grit, love and a drive to complete her dreams. She is steadfast even through the most difficult of times. Thank you Danna for allowing space in your big heart for Family Promise. You are an inspiration to us all!

Current Board and Staff

Executive Board

President: Rev. Laurin Vance
Vice President:
Rebecca Bunke
Treasurer: Bobby Stephens
Secretary: Angelia Jordan

Board At Large

Lynn Boeding
Nicole Latulippe
Don Moe
Kim Bafus-Welling

Executive Staff Team

Executive Director: Audrea
Finance Manager: Tami
Operations Manager: Angie

Management Staff

Executive Assistant:
Katherine
Data Manager: Danielle
Housing Manager: Isamar

Support Staff

Bookkeeper: Lisa
Housing Assistant: Jasmin
Homeless Prevention Case
Manager: Danna

Donor Highlight:

A HUGE THANK YOU TO OUR MONTHLY/REGULAR DONORS
Your consistent giving makes up for 35% of our income from individuals each month. *You literally keep us going!*

Angie Fields
Dan Symonds
Barbara Clure
Bridgman Family
Candace Smith
Carla Simonis
Cheryl & Fredrick Stilwell
David Lyman
Debbie Morrison
Diane Knutzen
Doug & Janice Miller
Edison Lutheran Church
Emily Moore
Hans & Vickie DeJonge
Henry & Carolyn Gregg

Jacqueline Hawkins
Jerry & Peggy Anderson
Jessica Bryan
Katherine L Olson
Katherine M Olson
Katie Pulley
Katrina Murphy
Keldon Pickering
Kent Jensen
Kent Turner
Kindle & Jolene Schmidt
Lisa Lewis
Mary Ellen Byerly
Mary McGoffin
Matthew DesVoigne

Millie Fosberg
Miriam & Gene Schroeder
Pat Schlect
Patrick Greiner
Rachel Wangen-Hoch
Becky & DeVere Bunke
Robert & Linda Johnson
Ross & Jennifer Johnson
Ruth Westerbeck
St. James Episcopal Church
Steve & Lela Coleman
Susan Wood
Susanne Hendrickson
Vickie Anne Newell
W C Harvey



Holiday Giving



We know that many love to bring a little extra light and hope to families during this time of year. Thanks to a toy drive most of our children will have 3-4 gifts to open on Christmas Day.

- On **December 14** we will be hosting a **graduate party**. Children will receive loaded stockings from the Fredonia Grange. We would also like to give gift cards to the parents who attend. **We are seeking approximately \$15-\$50** cards for this party.
- **Sponsor a family for the holiday:** Cost of living is high this season. We often see families have unexpected vital needs on their wish list such as brakes for their car, winter clothes/shoes for them and their children, work supplies, emergency medical expenses...the list goes on. **For \$50-350 in cash or gift cards you can lighten the load for a family and increase their success rate.**