



*Because every
child ^{still}
deserves a
home*

— 2018 —
ANNUAL REPORT



A Message from the Immediate Past President

A few months after the founding congregations of what was then known as the Northside Interfaith Hospitality Network began welcoming homeless children and their caregivers, I became tangentially involved when my congregation, Indianapolis Hebrew Congregation, signed on and my wife, Marcella, began volunteering.

Over two decades later much has changed. Rather than just tagging along with Marcella, my involvement increased. I joined the board and have now just completed three years as president. The organization is now named Family Promise, although many longtime volunteers still call it IHN. There are more congregations, enough to have two congregations hosting almost every night of the year. Thanks to a generous donor, the Family Assistance Fund provides financial aid that enables guest families to move from temporary shelter to permanent, secure housing more quickly. This also allows us to serve more families. More guest families are exiting to permanent housing and thanks in part to our AfterCare program that assists families for up to two years after they move into permanent housing, fewer families are returning to homelessness.

I am glad some things have not changed. The core values on which Northside Interfaith Hospitality Network was based remain alive in today's Family Promise: 1) Interfaith cooperation; 2) Keeping families together during the most difficult times in their lives, no matter the makeup of a family; 3) Changing lives to create lasting stability; 4) Hospitality, providing a warm welcome and compassionate service; 5) Good stewardship, making every dollar count; 6) Raising awareness of the systemic causes of homelessness.

Because every child deserves a home, I know that until family homelessness is eliminated, Family Promise, with its thousands of volunteers, scores of congregations, and many supporters will continue welcoming homeless children and their families to help transform their lives.

Alex Slabosky
2016-2018 President, Board of Directors

A Message from the New President

Looking back at the work this incredible organization has done over the past 25 years, I find myself humbled and honored to have the opportunity to serve the families in our program, our amazing network of volunteers and the invaluable staff at our Day Center who keep the home fires burning each and every day. As an organization, we face a constant struggle to continually do “more with less” while delivering the best possible experience for the families who put so much faith, trust, and hope in us. It isn’t easy, but let me assure you – we are up to the challenge!

For many of us, the struggles we face in our state’s capital can seem quite daunting at times:

- The staff at the Day Center receive at least 10 calls each day from families in need of assistance that they have to turn away due to lack of resources;
- Indianapolis has the **second highest** annual number of evictions of any city in the United States (twice as many as Chicago, despite just one third of their population).

The past 25 years have taught us a great deal, and we use those as lessons to look to the next 25 years. We have many exciting things in the works, evolutions to our program that we believe will continue to make Family Promise of Greater Indianapolis a leader in the fight against family homelessness in Greater Indianapolis. Thanks to visionary leadership, the talents of many (many!) motivated individuals, and the tremendous support of all of you, the next 25 years hold promise to be a turning point.

Scott Mercaeant-Koohns

2019-2020 President, Board of Directors



This picture above was drawn by a 10-year old in the Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) shelter program when asked, “What does home mean to you?” The family moved into their own housing and is still there one year later, where she has found a passion for theatre, landing big roles in two different school plays. Her answer to the question is fitting given Family Promise was founded to fill the gaps of traditional shelters that often have to split families up by gender.

Because every child deserves a home...

Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN)

Family Promise of Greater Indianapolis' (FPGI) core program is a network of more than 50 congregations who open their doors to shelter, feed, and give hospitality to families in a housing transition. In 2018, that program completed its 24th year of operation.

Two new hosting congregations joined the network: University United Methodist and the Irvington Association of Ministers (IMA). The latter is made up of seven congregations, including Downey Avenue Christian, Ellenberger United Church of Christ, Emerson Avenue Baptist, Gethesemane Lutheran, Irvington Presbyterian (providing the hosting facility), Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic, and St. Matthew's Episcopal. The additions allowed the IHN program to remain open with two congregations every night (i.e., eight families served per night instead of four) at year's end for the first time in at least 10 years.

The increase in the number of weeks hosting (thanks to more congregation members) meant that FPGI was able to serve more families. The IHN program served 59 families in 2018, one short of its goal of 60 due to a period of short staffing in a case manager transition. However, this is still a large increase from the 40-45 families served prior to 2017.

The Family Assistance Fund was renewed for a second year in

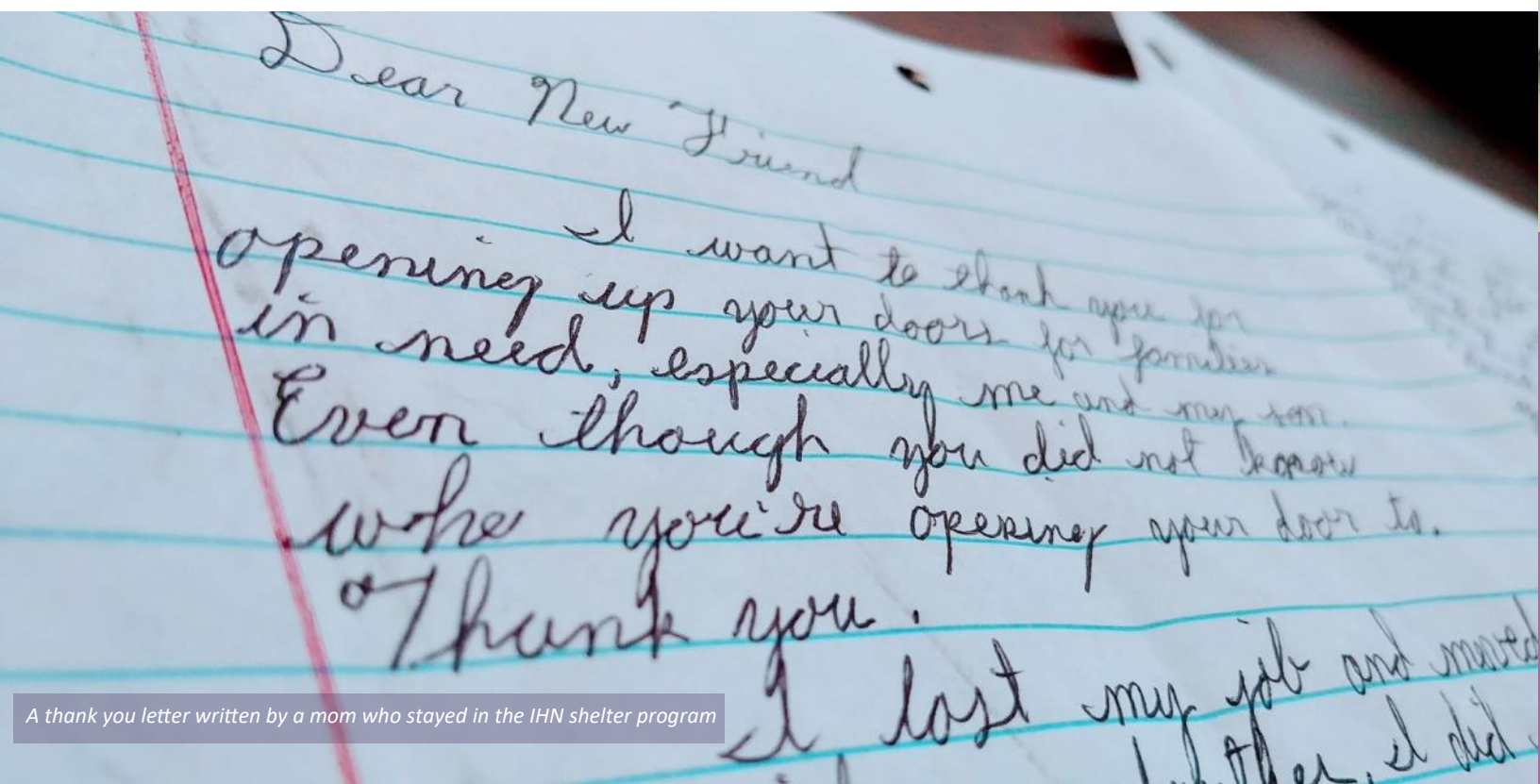
2018 with a \$40,000 gift from the Gayman-Davis Shoemaker Fund, a fund of Central Indiana Community Foundation. That fund was matched by the success of Home Sweet Home, allowing Family Promise to pilot in the fourth quarter of 2018 a "Housing First" model that invested in housing for high-capacity families even before three pay stubs were achieved.

In 2018, the Coalition of Homelessness Intervention & Prevention (CHIP) created a quarterly outcomes report for all family shelters in Indianapolis. FPGI was pleased that the IHN shelter program had the highest permanent housing rate by 14%. Fifty-nine percent of families entering IHN left with a signed lease for their own place. Another 8% left successfully to shared or transitional housing (transitional housing is generally considered a stay of six months or more). The report did show that our average (i.e., mean) length of stay for an individual was 47 days, whereas the top family shelter's mean stay was 34 days. That is the IHN program's primary focus for improvement in 2019.

"It is the promise to keep families together in their time of crisis. It is also the promise—the potential, that is—in each family."

Family Promise was created to fill a gap in the shelter system that did not let families stay together. The IHN program still fills that gap today, as the name Family Promise implies. It is the promise to keep families together in their time of crisis, *regardless of the makeup of the family*. It is also the promise—the potential, that is—in each family. Thank you for supporting this valuable program.

...and every parent the fighting chance to provide it.



A thank you letter written by a mom who stayed in the IHN shelter program



This mom and daughter secured housing thanks to her hard work coupled with support from FPGI's Family Assistance Fund. The Fund started in 2017 thanks to a generous gift from the Gayman-Davis Shoemaker Fund, a fund of Central Indiana Community Foundation. To date, that support has helped families with first month's rent and more, adding up to more than \$130,000 of assistance in two years.



59

families with children
served



8,678

bed nights of shelter
provided



26,034

meals provided



67%

of families signed leases
for their own housing
or entered transitional
housing



This family in our AfterCare program invited our case manager over for dinner to say thank you. Angie (pictured) is a testament to what can be achieved, having found a job more than 10 miles closer to home and earning a health certification to increase her pay by 20%. When asked what she was most thankful for, she said having her extended family over to her house for Sunday brunch again!



A Tribute to a Retiring AfterCare Case Manager

Barb Williams (left in photo) is retiring from the case manager position after four years of dedicated service. Barb was previously a member of the Board of Directors for Family Promise.

As the case manager, Barb always worked well above the forty-hour week. She repeatedly went out at night to help families get their broken down car to the mechanic at 9:00 p.m. She helped multiple moms who were victims of domestic violence get away from batterers to safe spaces with their children no matter the hour or day of the week. She rejected boundaries to help families thrive.

During her employment, Barb also volunteered as a congregational coordinator for the Speedway Ministerial Association through her home congregation of St. Gabriel Catholic Church. As any congregational coordinator will say, the position is demanding on top of a full-time job, and Barb did both in the same weeks four weeks per year, but with love and compassion. She drove the van, prepared meals, slept overnight, and more.

Why so many people love Barb is that this commitment and compassion above would be a lot for any individual. Barb did it all while battling Stage IV cancer for the four years. She was in and out of chemotherapy and radiation more than 10 times all while working. At publication of this annual report, she is miraculously cancer free. The staff of Family Promise ask for your prayers that her health stay strong so she can enjoy her retirement.

Thank you Barb, and God bless you now and always.

Shelter helps families secure housing...

AfterCare

The AfterCare program, established in 2012 and funded in part by the REALTOR® Foundation, is the support of a case manager who visits the homes of families who leave the Interfaith Hospitality Network shelter program successfully. The relationship lasts for up to two years. The case manager works with the family to maintain housing and school enrollment through financial literacy, navigating community resources, and emergency rent support.

In 2018, 47 families with children were served in the AfterCare program. Of those families, five successfully completed the two-year program and will graduate at the Family Promise Reunion in May 2019. The program is voluntary, and the average length of stay in the program is twelve months.

Thanks to increased financial support, Family Promise was able to pay the referral fee to Mustard Seed of Central Indiana for furniture for 24 families that were moving into their own housing. Not one family was turned away by FPGI due to funding shortages, and each family received beds, a kitchen table with chairs, a sofa, dressers, and more.

Continued blessings came from hosting congregations who supported AfterCare families by generously providing Thanksgiving and holiday gifts for 132 adults and children.

While the primary goal of the AfterCare is retaining housing, the objectives to achieve that have lasting impact as well in other areas. Four families were aided with criminal record expungements. Twenty families improved their credit scores by more than 100 points. Vital records were obtained for 34 families. Twelve children were enrolled in higher-performing schools through the assistance of School on Wheels. Eight

children enrolled in the 21st Century Scholars program to receive a full college tuition grant upon completion of high school.

Family Promise had an increased number of families eligible for AfterCare due to the increasing number of families being served by the IHN shelter program. To mitigate the capacity demands on the sole AfterCare case manager, Family Promise referred families with more support needs, whether temporary or per-

manent—i.e., families that qualified for long-term support from the federal government—to other partner agencies like the Homeless Initiative Program (HealthNet) or Horizon House for case management. These organizations receive federal funds to provide ongoing case management through programs called Rapid Re-housing or Permanent Supportive Housing. Thanks to their support, Family Promise was still able to keep the AfterCare census manageable at twenty families in the program at any one time.

“On December 31, 2018, 88% percent of families that had left the shelter successfully the previous two years had retained housing!”

Thanks to the Coalition of Homelessness Intervention & Prevention (CHIP), there is now a quarterly outcomes report for individuals or families who have gone through the shelter system. Family Promise was pleased to learn that it had the highest housing retention rate of any family shelter in Indianapolis. On December 31, 2018, eighty-eight percent (88%) of families that had left the IHN shelter successfully the previous two years had retained housing!

AfterCare makes an impact. As one mom said recently,

I have never renewed a lease before. I paid rent for the whole year and didn't have to make my kids move. I can't believe it.

...and AfterCare helps them keep it.



47

families with children served



24

families received furniture through Mustard Seed



47

youth received school supplies, uniforms, and backpacks



15

evictions prevented with financial support

FY2018 Financials (January 1—December 31, 2018)

Statement of Profit and Loss

Revenue	FY2017		FY2018	
Special Events	\$129,314.77	29%	\$168,242.90	34%
Private Grants ¹	\$98,500.00	22%	\$102,500.00	21%
Congregations	\$94,678.49	21%	\$97,210.46	20%
Individuals ²	\$75,947.83	17%	\$68,750.62	14%
Public Grants	\$30,000.00	7%	\$30,000.00	6%
Corporations & Other Orgs.	\$13,904.91	3%	\$23,994.01	5%
Product Sales	\$819.67	0%	\$528.27	0%
Total	\$443,165.67	100%	\$491,226.26	100%

Expenses	2017		2018	
Personnel (includes taxes and training) ³	\$214,959.30	50%	\$224,933.49	49%
Guest & Family Support	\$54,176.50	13%	\$87,422.01	19%
Day Center	\$39,591.44	9%	\$35,194.36	8%
Fundraising	\$30,275.36	7%	\$31,400.02	7%
Insurance	\$25,674.00	6%	\$33,491.25	7%
Transportation & Travel	\$12,556.91	3%	\$15,460.01	3%
Office and IT	\$11,043.35	3%	\$10,705.45	2%
Vehicle Purchases (Van 2017; Two Trailers 2018)	\$21,748.69	5%	\$6,547.00	1%
Contract Labor	\$10,195.00	2%	\$6,205.00	1%
Affiliate Fee (to Family Promise National)	\$4,000.00	1%	\$4,000.00	1%
Marketing and Branded Products	\$3,358.12	1%	\$2,037.00	0%
Total	\$427,578.67	100%	\$457,395.59	100%

Surplus (Deficit)⁶ **\$15,587.00** **\$33,830.67**

Notes

1. Private grants includes the \$40,000 gift to renew the Family Assistance Fund. This is an annual gift from the Gayman-Davis Shoemaker Fund, a fund of Central Indiana Community Foundation.
2. \$5,050 of donations from individuals are restricted gifts to help establish an endowment fund in FY2019. To date, restricted gifts of \$10,236.76 are being held until the goal of \$25,000 is reached to start the endowment.
3. Though "Personnel" includes all staff salaries, wages, and other compensation, the majority of this amount is categorized as program expenses for staff time dedicated to direct service of families.

Cash Reserves as of December 31, 2018: \$274,459.56

Family Promise serves almost twice as many families per dollar invested as traditional models of shelter by utilizing existing resources in the community. Every dollar counts.

Form 990 available at www.fpgi.org or by searching for Indianapolis Interfaith Hospitality Network, Inc. on www.guidestar.org. The organization was previously known as Indianapolis Interfaith Hospitality Network, Inc., but legally changed its name with the IRS and State of Indiana to Family Promise of Greater Indianapolis, Inc. in January 2019. (It had been doing business as that latter name since 2013). It is a 501(c)3 nonprofit organization registered in the State of Indiana with federal tax ID #35-1909912. The organization is not rated by Charity Navigator as it does not meet the minimum threshold of \$1M in revenue.



\$262,454

In-Kind

Volunteer Labor

\$213,759

In-Kind

Meals & Snacks

\$52,058

In-Kind

Night Facilities





Coordinators of the Year

In February of 2018 at its Annual Meeting, Family Promise presented the Coordinators of the Year Award to Ric Gasaway and Marge Ohl (above left). Ric and Marge have served together in the congregational coordinator role for 15 years at Old Bethel United Methodist Church on Indy's East Side. They went above and beyond helping families that moved into housing get donated appliances or furniture on more than one occasion. They even took on an extra hosting week to fill a gap recently, even though that week was a major holiday for them—Christmas.

Volunteers of the Year

Joe and Nancy McDonald were presented with the Volunteers of the Year Award by Bob Browning at the Annual Meeting. Joe and Nancy have been consistent volunteers—driving the vans, making meals, and more—for twenty-five years at Orchard Park Presbyterian. When Bob—a coordinator at Orchard Park—presented the award, he even mentioned how the couple was instrumental in securing Family Promise's first van to help families with transportation in the beginning years of the IHN program. Both Ric and Marge, and Joe and Nancy received standing ovations.



Walking for Dreams

With an amazing 147 walkers, Family Promise of Greater Indianapolis (FPGI) won the award for "Most Walkers" out of 20 nonprofit agencies participating in Walking for Dreams on Sunday, May 20. This annual friend-and-fundraiser is a leisurely stroll for families and pets along downtown Indianapolis' Central Canal. Thanks to pledges from congregation and company teams, \$32,083 was raised to support FPGI's AfterCare program.

Old Bethel Tenderfoots (Old Bethel United Methodist) recruited the largest walk team with 25 people. First Mennonite Church won the prize for raising the most funds for the mission—a week of volunteer help from the board and staff of FPGI during their hosting week. First Mennonite raised an amazing \$5,235!

2018 Awards and Events

Home Sweet Home

On Thursday, October 4, more than 380 people attended FPGI's hallmark fundraiser, the 19th Annual Home Sweet Home. The result was a record-shattering \$127,000 raised for the IHN program, including a \$25,000 donation from the David P. Sheetz Foundation.

The highlight of the event was a testimony from Yolanda Brewster (photo below, right), a mom participating in the AfterCare program. She was immediately followed by the event's claim to fame—a dessert auction presented by Major Tool & Machine whose winners were interviewed at their tables by emcee Scott Swan.

Family Promise sincerely thanks chair Kenda Resler Friend and all other dedicated members of the Home Sweet Home Committee: John Chambers, Lacey Echols, Patrick Eckert, Jo Flinn, Nancy Hardin, Judy Joutras, Claire Mauschaugh, Marcella Slabosky, and Laura Westerfield.

G. Dean Lindsey Leadership Award

Family Promise's highest honor was presented at Home Sweet Home to Nancy Hardin (photo below, left) by her long-time friend Marcia Angstadt.

Nancy has served on the Board of Directors and continues on the Advisory Council today. She was a congregational coordinator for her church, Meridian Street United Methodist. She still regularly drives the van and cooks meals for families in the shelter program. She has volunteered frequently at the Day Center, and serves on the Home Sweet Home Committee.

When Family Promise tragically lost its executive director in 2016, Nancy stepped up to write grants so the IHN program would not shut its doors. Since she returned to fundraising for FPGI in 2016, she has raised more than \$100,000 for the organization, helping expand the Family Assistance Fund from \$40,000/year to more than \$60,000/year, allowing families to move into their own housing nine days faster.



Thanks to our Generous Supporters

\$10,000+

The Gayman-Davis Shoemaker Fund,
a fund of Central Indiana Comm. Found.
David P. Sheetz Foundation
The Indianapolis Foundation,

a Central Indiana Comm. Found. affiliate
Indiana University Health
Meridian Street United Methodist Church
Nicholas H. Noyes, Jr. Memorial Foundation

The REALTOR® Foundation
Second Presbyterian Church
Strada Education Network, Inc.

\$5,000-\$9,999

Anonymous (2)
Carmel United Methodist Church
Castleton United Methodist Church
Orchard Park Presbyterian Church

Southport United Methodist Church
St. Elizabeth Ann Seton Catholic Church
St. Louis de Montfort Catholic Church
St. Mark's United Methodist Church

Karl Swain
Charles Taliercio and Susan Gunst
TCC Gives

\$1,000-\$4,999

Anonymous (1)
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Gary and Marcia Angstadt
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Women's Association
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Women's Association
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Tim Wallace
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Andy and Stephenie Weber
Robert and Holly Whitacre
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Zionsville Presbyterian Church
Zionsville United Methodist Church

\$500-\$999

Anonymous (2)
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Jean Butler
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\$100-\$499

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Steve Wood
Marie Young
Meghan Zurawicz

And to the 1,500+ volunteers in the Interfaith Hospitality Network program who host overnight, set up and tear down rooms, cook meals, plan activities, drive vans, wash sheets, and so much more.



Family Promise
appreciates every hour,
dollar, and prayer
contributed to this mission.

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We are a network of congregations and community organizations responding to the crisis of children and their families who are homeless.

We work to eliminate homelessness in Greater Indianapolis.

www.fpgi.org