

Winter 2014 News

Helping homeless families achieve sustainable independence

Sandi's Story

My name is Sandi Burchett and I am a 38 year old single mother of 5 children. I grew up in a good, Christian home with a wonderful family led by the best parents in the world. I had a great childhood and basically a really good life until trusting that life to one individual made it all come crashing down. For three years I was a victim of domestic violence and lived with a man whose addictions were more important than his family. So in January of this year (2013), I found myself living in a motel, alone with no where to go, no job and children to care for.

I thank God everyday for leading me to Family Promise. It gave me the starting point I needed to rebuild my life from scratch. Not only did they help me find ways to provide for our physical needs, but the love and support I have received from everyone involved in the organization has been amazing. Some of them have become my good friends and even though I am out of the program, these relationships are still very much a part of my life and I treasure them. In only 3 months, I was employed full time, had my own apartment, a decent car, and was well on my way to regaining everything I had lost over the past few years.

Now almost a year later, I can't believe how my life has become. The full time employment turned into a salaried position with a large company in town and we are busy with school activities, ballgames and the kids are happy and doing well in school. Things aren't always easy or perfect, but I know they never have to be what they were ever again. I have friends, my family, my church and a life I had almost lost hope of ever having again and it all started when I walked thru the doors of Family Promise.



What We Do

When a family is admitted into our program, they work with our director to make an assessment of the family's situation. Through this assessment, goals, barriers, and needs are identified.

The family works with the director, staff, volunteers, and other social service professionals in our community to meet their goals.

The length of time the family spends at Family Promise depends on their situation and on the availability of housing. Most families are with us 4-5 weeks.

Once housing has been established, Family Promise is able to access free furnishings through the First United Methodist Furniture Bank. The family is also given a "start up kit" of supplies and household items.

Every family deserves a home.

Have you seen the aquarium at the Day Center?
Many thanks to Pets Mart for donating the aquarium and supplies and setting it up for us.





HOMeward BOUND

Uniting to Provide Housing and Fight Homelessness in Indiana

Fact Sheet 2014

Who: Family Promise, Rainbow Haven Transitional Housing, Lafayette Transitional Housing Center, Homestead Consulting Services, and Salvation Army

What: *Homeward Bound* is a state-wide walk to promote homeless and affordable housing service providers in 11 different locations. This walk is designed to raise funds and resources to provide affordable housing and end homelessness.

Where: Riehle Plaza (downtown Lafayette)

When: Sunday, April 6, 2014

1 p.m. Registration

2 p.m. Walk begins

Why: To raise funds to support affordable housing, end homelessness, and increase our community's awareness of these issues.

What you can do to help: Individuals and teams are needed to walk and raise pledges to support these agencies.

Goal: \$50,000

Cost: Free, but donations are welcome

Questions: For more information regarding the Greater Lafayette walk, go to the walk website www.homewardboundindiana.org, or call Jennifer Layton, local chair, at 765-423-4880.

Family Promise Outcomes

2013

- ◆ 20 families served (25 adults, 40 children)
- ◆ 14 families achieved independent housing with assistance from several programs (Rapid Rehousing, Miller stabilization program, low income subsidized housing and the Fresh Start Program)
- ◆ 3 families were accepted into Lafayette Transitional Housing
- ◆ 8 adults gained employment while staying with us
- ◆ 2 adults completed educational programs (CNA certification)
- ◆ 8 families gained public assistance (food stamps, Medicaid, Childcare Vouchers)



Our volunteers are the lifeblood of Family Promise. But, it still costs almost \$90,000 a year to run the organization - that's \$7,500 a month, or \$125 per family per day. Almost half of that money comes directly from individual contributions. Bottom line, Family Promise can't operate without your help. Please consider making a gift today.

YES! I want to help Family Promise do even more to help local families in crisis.

I am returning a tax-deductible contribution in the amount of:

_____ \$75 _____ \$100 _____ \$250 _____ \$500 _____ Your best gift

Name: _____ Email: _____

Address: _____ City: _____ State: _____ Zip: _____

Thank you! Your support is very important to us. Please make checks payable to Family Promise of Greater Lafayette and send it to us at P.O. Box 825 Lafayette, IN 47902. To make a secure online donation, go to www.fpqlinc.org