



FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

The numbers of families we served increased significantly again in 2022. With 42% of renters in our county cost-burdened and a low supply of affordable housing units, it is evident that we are facing a housing crisis in Waukesha County. While we are proud of our ability to assist families experiencing economic difficulty, it is a situation that we wish did not exist. In 2022 we:

- Set a record by serving 95 families
- Provided financial assistance to prevent homelessness to 78 families
- Served 17 households in the Apartment Shelter program
- Added a program coordinator to our staff
- Hired an additional case manager to support the Family Homelessness Prevention program
- Started plans to open a Community Shelter using partners and volunteers
- Made 823 referrals since the shelter was at capacity.

This last number is our motivation for 2023. It is why we are set on opening the new Community Shelter at the end of April. With this shelter we will double the number of families to whom we can provide services!

We hope you will check out the stories in this annual report. As we continue to expand there will be many opportunities for you to support the needs of families experiencing economic distress by offering gifts of time and treasure. Both are needed!

Thank you!

Joe Nettesheim



STAFF CONTACT INFORMATION

Joe Nettesheim, Executive Director, ext.100
joe@familypromisewaukeshawi.org

Callie Pauc, Case Manager, ext. 104
callie@familypromisewaukeshawi.org

Lisa LaBorde, Administrative Assistant, ext 101
lisa@familypromisewaukeshawi.org

Maria Mundt, Program Coordinator, ext. 105
maria@familypromisewaukeshawi.org

Courtney Rutkowski, Lead Case Manager, ext 102
courtney@familypromisewaukeshawi.org

Kaylee Chojnacki, Case Manager, ext. 106
kaylee@familypromisewaukeshawi.org

Kelly Hawkins, Case Manager, ext. 103
kelly@familypromisewaukeshawi.org

Tim Culhane
businessmanager@familypromisewaukeshawi.org

2022

Annual Report



In the photo:

Back row L-R: Maria, Callie, Joe, Lisa, Kelly
Front row L-R: Courtney, Kaylee





Rolling Out the Welcome Mat for the New Family Promise Community Shelter

by Rebecca Seymour

Opening at the end of April, the new Family Promise Community Shelter will be set up in the building owned by the Housing Action Coalition of Waukesha County, located at 1210 Sentry Drive. The space has been used as the winter overflow shelter for people experiencing homelessness from November through March since 2018.

“The Housing Action Coalition is excited to begin this partnership with Family Promise, and our Board is confident that it will make an immediate impact on families experiencing homelessness,” said Joe Pieper, Housing Action Coalition board president. “Partnering with Family Promise keeps the building alive, vibrant, and serving an important role in keeping people housed.”

The Family Promise Community Shelter will provide temporary housing for up to five families at one time, with the purpose of helping them achieve permanent places to live. “We are excited for this new program because of the many partnerships throughout Waukesha County. It is a grassroots, community response to families experiencing homelessness,” said Joe Nettesheim, executive director for Family Promise of Waukesha County.

Family Promise currently leases five single-family apartments that are used to provide shelter to families and single women. Adding the new shelter program will allow the nonprofit organization to double its ability to respond and avert the impact of homelessness. “Working with the Housing Action Coalition, and all of our partners, is the type of cooperation needed to have an effective, community-wide response to homelessness. Shelter is not the answer to homelessness. It’s an opportunity for families to stabilize. The solution is permanent, affordable housing.” added Nettesheim.

COMMUNITY RESPONSE TO HOMELESSNESS

Before Covid-19, Family Promise partnered with 28 faith communities within Waukesha County to provide shelter to families experiencing homelessness. The new community shelter will once again offer opportunities for community volunteers to help their neighbors in need by providing warm meals, fellowship, and more.

Partner organizations consist of businesses, congregations, and civic groups, including new groups such as Green Bay Packaging, Shorewest Realty, QPS Employment, ProHealth Care, Oconomowoc Rotary Club, Highview Estates Neighborhood, Family Impacteers, and the list is growing.

Nettesheim added, “The need for shelter and housing assistance has been growing. This is a temporary program, but it will make a difference in the lives of the families who need shelter.”



Volunteers set up the Waukesha Overflow in Jan 2021

For information about how to volunteer at the new Family Promise Community Shelter, visit www.familypromisewaukeshawi.org/become-a-partner.



Lynn Marsh, Chairperson of Family Promise of Waukesha County



I’m excited to be the new Chairperson for Family Promise of Waukesha County as we endeavor on our new Community Shelter Program. We have an energetic Board of Trustees that is supporting this effort as we begin involving more of our volunteers again.



Lynn Marsh and her family

The past three years have brought about a lot of change for our organization due to the pandemic, but out of change come great things. We have a prevention program in place that helps prevent the lifelong trauma children and families endure when they become homeless. We have an apartment shelter program that has grown to five apartments housing both families and single women. Now we are beginning our new Community Shelter program, which will allow us to house up to another five families. We are especially excited to get our wonderful volunteers back in similar roles that they were accustomed to when we were operating solely under the congregational model. It’s also great to see the number of new volunteers that are starting with us. We couldn’t do this without everyone.

I’ve lived in Lake Country for more than 25 years along with my husband, Jim. We have three children - Brandon, Evan, and Sydney. Sydney volunteered with me as a teenager whenever our congregation was hosting, and it was eye opening to her to see that homelessness existed in our rather affluent Lake Country area. We enjoyed playing with the kids, serving the meals, as well as sitting down to eat with the families. I feel this is what makes volunteering with Family Promise so special - really seeing how you can impact someone’s life when they are going through a rough time and being able to raise your children to show that same kindness.

I joined the Board of Trustees in May 2019 at a time when my kids were older and I was able to devote more time and use my skillsets in finance and business to help the organization grow and transform

through the pandemic. I became the Treasurer in May 2020 and now most recently accepted the role of Chairperson. I look forward to continuing to grow our organization with the other trustees and the committed staff at Family Promise so we can help families navigate homelessness in our community.





FAMILY PROMISE STAFF SERVE NEEDS IN OUR COMMUNITY



Your donation on April 20 will help families experiencing homelessness.



<https://www.fpgives.org/organizations/family-promise-of-waukesha-county>

You can support all of our shelter programs on April 20.
Use the link or QR Code to learn more about Giving Day

WHO DID WE SERVE IN 2022?



Kelly Hawkins joined the Family Promise of Waukesha County staff as a Case Manager in November 2022. Her role is to support local families to achieve housing security. She connects them to resources, and facilitates case management. Her clients are both in the homelessness prevention and shelter programs.

When asked about role at Family Promise, Kelly states, "The most rewarding part of my job is when I see our clients succeed in achieving their goals. I am very grateful to be able to offer the resources and care that families in our community need."

What I have learned most from working with Family Promise is how our clients can succeed with the support from our community. I have seen the strength, resilience, and determination of the families we serve. It is also obvious that our community does not have enough resources available for all of the families experiencing homelessness and struggling with housing instability."

Kelly exudes compassion and care for her clients. Family Promise is fortunate to have her on staff.



Kelly Hawkins, Ranj, Dianne & Tucker

Maria Mundt joined Family Promise of Waukesha County as the Program Coordinator in May 2022 after completing her degree in Public Health from Carroll University. As the Program Coordinator, her role is to keep the programs running smoothly and work with volunteers.

Maria was interested in working for Family Promise because she has a passion for non-profits and is grateful to make a difference. She likes that through her role she is able to address the stigma surrounding homelessness.



Maria Mundt

Maria says, "The work we do is a step toward alleviating those stigma and biases. I will be the first to admit I was confused as to how an individual could make a choice that would result in them losing their home, but that's just it, they often don't make that choice."

Working at Family Promise has taught her that the families served are no different than any of us. "The families who come through our door are human, they have a family, they have feelings. It is not our job to judge but to uplift and provide a supportive community and resources!" Maria is a go-getter who has a passion for the work she does. In her free time she also enjoys doing puzzles, traveling and making memories with her family!



CARRIE'S STORY



by Rebecca Seymour



This last year has admittedly been a rough one for Carrie. After leaving an unhealthy relationship with her children's father, Carrie moved from Milwaukee to Waukesha to stay with her cousin.

"I was in a real low place and my life was in a shambles. COVID really affected me and I lost my job. I didn't want to be a burden to my cousin, so I called Family Promise last November. They were so kind and friendly and moved me into an apartment with other women being helped by Family Promise," she explained.

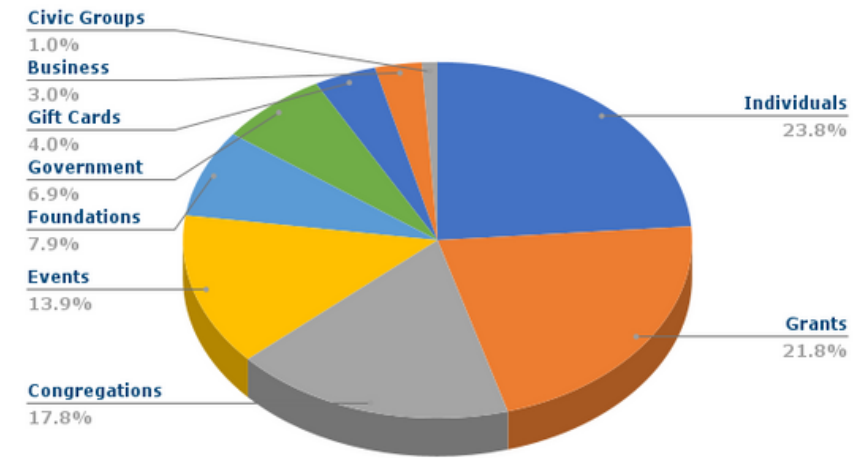
After meeting with Family Promise Lead Case Manager Courtney Rutkowski a couple of times, Carrie said she started to feel better about where her life was heading. "I got a job right away as a utility operator at Gund in Waukesha, and I actually just got a promotion. I moved into an efficiency apartment and now I'm looking for a bigger place so that my kids can spend weekends with me. Courtney is amazing – I love her," said Carrie with emotion.

The single mom of three teens met with Courtney every week, took money management and first-time home buyer classes, and took the time needed to focus on getting back on track. "It took some time, but I was motivated to get back on my feet. Family Promise offered some stability and was there for me step by step. I wouldn't have gotten this far if it weren't for Family Promise," she added.

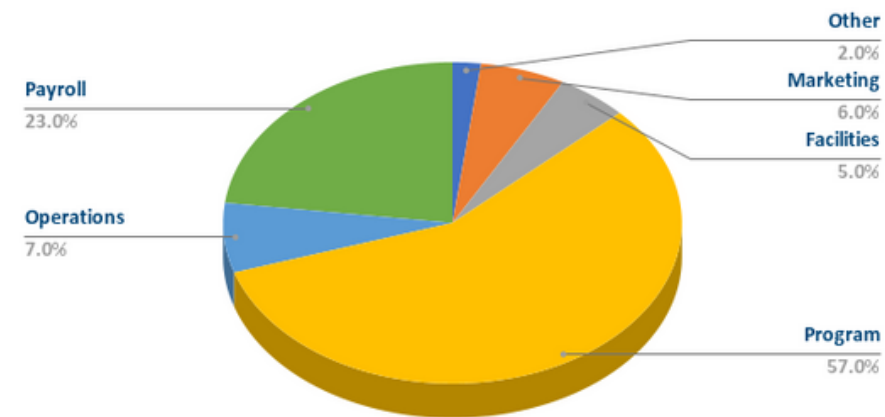
Carrie is planning to take CNC technician and machine set up training classes this fall at Waukesha County Technical College to add to her skill set for her career at Gund. "I'm very proud of how hard I've worked and how far I've come in a year. My credit score is awesome and I was able to get a car. I know that I can call Courtney and she will help me out. She keeps me focused," said Carrie. "But I am determined and I won't give up. I will not fall to the ground. Sometimes life gets hard and Family Promise was there for me."

FAMILY PROMISE FINANCIAL STATUS

Family Promise Waukesha Income 2022



Family Promise Waukesha Expenses 2022



- Since 2019, the FP expenses have grown 167%.
- Income has grown 187%
- We have a strong financial foundation.
- Opening a new shelter will challenge us to grow our income in 2023.
- Our biggest expenses are program and payroll.
- Individuals, grants, and congregations are biggest source of income.
- Case manager salaries are included in program expenses.
- Many business contributions came through the Golf Outing.



2023 Golf Outing



SUBSCRIBE TO THE "FRIDAY FIVE"

The Friday Five is a weekly blog update that focuses on the top five occurrences, issues, and opportunities facing Family Promise.

Subscribe to have the Friday Five emailed to you each week. stay informed and connected to the mission of Family Promise of Waukesha County.

