



IMPACT REPORT



ABOUT FAMILY PROMISE NATIONAL

Family Promise envisions a nation in which every family has a home, a livelihood, and the chance to build a better future. What began as a local initiative in Summit, NJ, has become a national movement that involves hundreds of thousands of volunteers in 200+ communities in 43 states. Family Promise delivers innovative solutions for family homelessness including prevention, shelter, and stabilization services. We have served 1 million family members since our founding more than 30 years ago.

Learn more at FamilyPromise.org.

MISSION

As a national nonprofit, our mission is to help families experiencing homelessness and low-income families achieve sustainable independence through a community-based response.

VISION

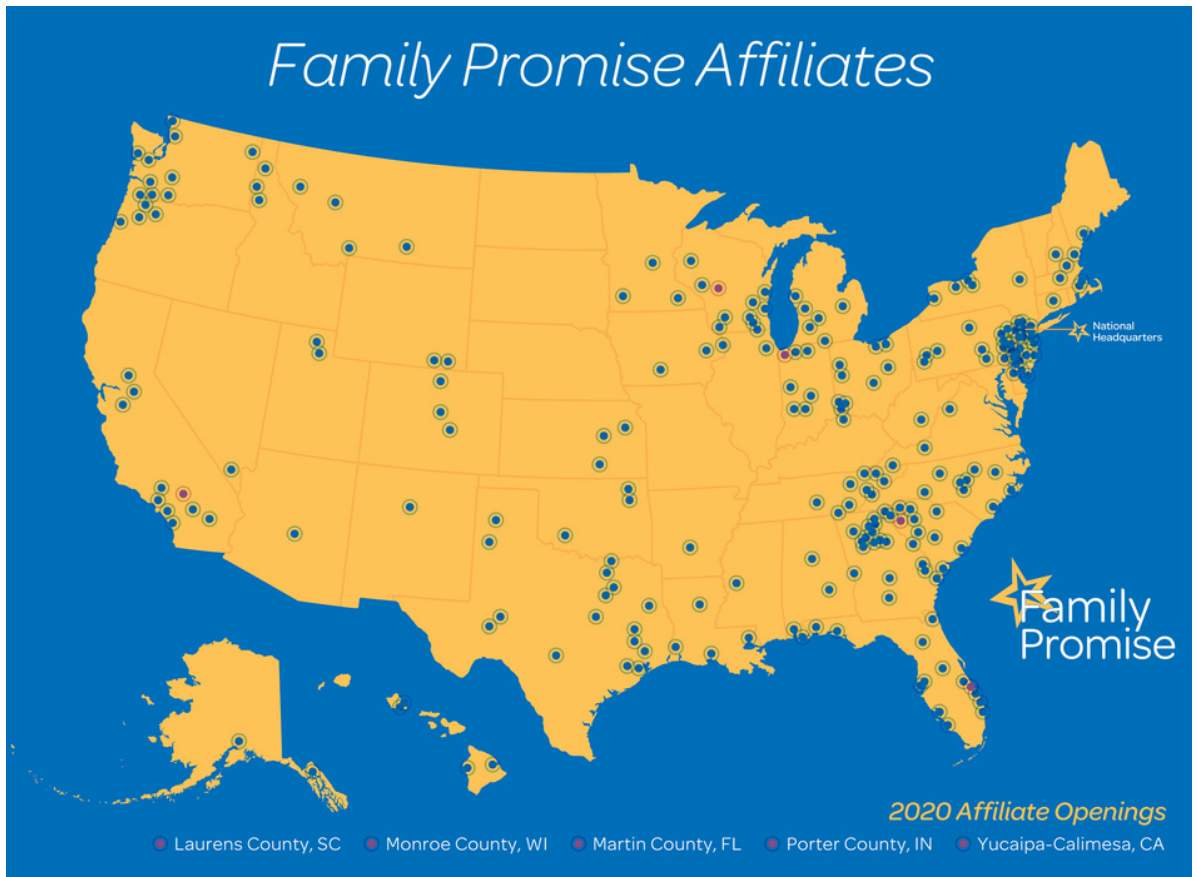
A nation in which every family has a home, a livelihood, and the chance to build a better future.



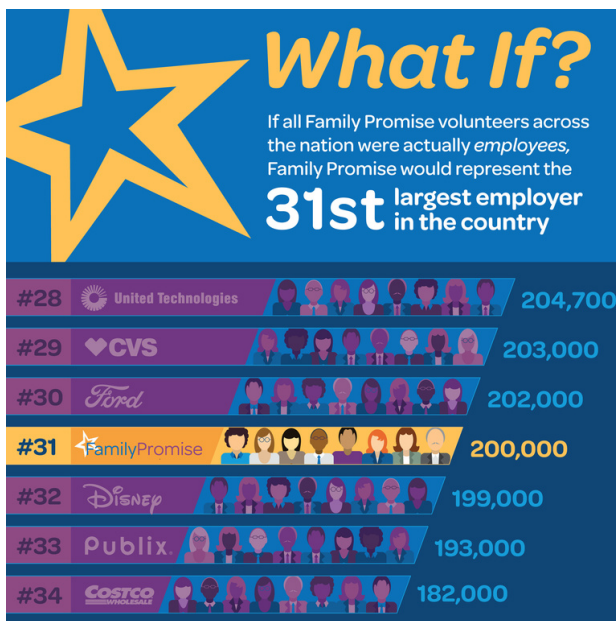
ASPIRATION

We will change the future for 1 million children by 2030 through our community-based programs.

A NATIONAL NETWORK



The Family Promise network consists of 200+ Affiliates in 43 states: AK, AL, AR, AZ, CA, CO, CT, DE, FL, GA, HI, IA, ID, IN, IL, KS, KY, LA, MA, MD, MI, MN, MO, MS, MT, NC, NH, NJ, NM, NV, NY, OH, OK, OR, PA, SC, TN, TX, UT, VA, WA, WI, and WY. In 2021, Family Promise also had 2 new Affiliates open: Family Promise of Aiken County and Family Promise of the Flint Hills.



Through the mobilization of existing community resources and an average of 200,000 volunteers per year, Family Promise provides comprehensive services to families at a fraction of the cost of government programs.

ABOUT FAMILY PROMISE OF HUDSON COUNTY

Family Promise of Hudson County is a nonprofit that transforms the lives of families threatened by homelessness. With our multiple programs, we strive to assist families in every way possible from even before they become homeless to even after they get back on their feet.

With our proactive programming and ambitious determination, we plan to change the world for the better one family at a time.

To learn more, visit:

familypromisehudsoncountynj.org

MISSION & VISION

Sharing the same mission and vision as our nonprofit's National HQ, we bring together our community to assist families in both achieving a sustainable independence and building a better future.



ASPIRATION

We seek to breathe life into our National HQ's aspiration, making it not a hope but a reality. Thus, we put our all into changing the world for the better by starting the change in our community!

OUR CORE VALUES

Family Promise of Hudson County's work with families is guided by our commitment to these core values.

Hospitality

We are more than just shelter. Our hundreds of thousands of volunteers provide support and companionship as families work toward stability.



Empathy

Family Promise of Hudson County takes the time to understand the perspective of every family we serve.



Community

Family Promise of Hudson County brings together members of the community to work together to combat family homelessness.



Dynamic

Family Promise of Hudson County provides a customized, holistic approach to addressing family homelessness.



Innovative

Family Promise of Hudson County creates programs to respond to the unique needs of our community.



Empowerment

The entire Family Promise of Hudson County network from donors to volunteers to local businesses are empowered to effect change in our community.



OUR STORY

2014

Like many great ideas, Family Promise of Hudson County began in a church basement. In the spring and summer of 2014, a group of clergy, lay leaders, and community members from across Jersey City started meeting in the basement of Ocean Avenue Baptist Church at the corner of Ocean Avenue and Virginia Avenue in Ward F to discuss the challenges of homelessness and housing insecurity in our community.



We knew that the shelter system in Hudson County provided no option for homeless families that allowed them to stay together. We also knew that many counties around New Jersey had started Family Promise affiliates and had found the model to be effective for families in need, economical for donors, and invigorating for host congregations who participate.

2018

After many years of planning, research, and fundraising, FPHC formally opened our doors in early 2018, with a dozen faith communities serving as host and support congregations.

In the years since, we have helped over 50 families transition from our shelter into stable, affordable housing of their own. We continue to be guided by the same belief that led our founders to start meeting almost a decade ago: the belief that all of us have a collective responsibility to take care of the neediest members of our community.



2020

Covid-19 brought new challenges to everyone around the globe. Imagine dealing with a contagious, life-threatening virus while being without a home. Family Promise of Hudson County had to swiftly change gears when houses of worship closed their doors. We implemented a plan to use short-term home rentals to keep our families safe.

2021

The Family Promise of Hudson County Board of Trustees has permanently voted to use the static location instead of the rotational model, for various reasons; the pandemic has caused uncertainty with our community-based congregational partners re-opening and more importantly, because we have found that the static location models offer a sense of temporary housing security to the family, more importantly, the children.

Static locations are fixed sites for the families to stay, these static locations consist of multiple single-family 3-bedroom homes that are completely furnished, and have washers and dryers, televisions as well as high-speed internet access. The static site model also engages our community partners as well as our community-based volunteers by keeping them involved and allowing them to provide hospitality from afar.

PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

We seek to develop Hudson County as a viable community by promoting integrated approaches that provide decent, affordable housing, suitable living environments, public spaces, public services, and expanded economic opportunities.

To help this goal, in 2021, the Board of Trustees and the Managing Consulting Director decided to take a more proactive approach to look at the root of homelessness in Hudson County. We realized there needed to be more programming so that there never had to be a shelter guest in the first place. Thus, our programming was designed to help at every stage leading to, during, and following homelessness.



SHELTER DIVERSION

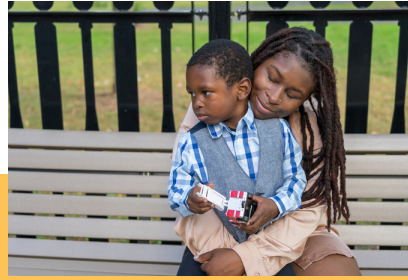
We provide a one-time infusion to those in need of a small amount of assistance.

While this may not seem like much to some, this can:

- Prevent eviction
- Pay bills
- Pay for groceries
- Etc.

"Family Promise saved us from eviction during difficult times and we are so grateful for the blessing they gave my family quickly and without difficulty."

-Jenny
Shelter Diversion Member



HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION

We work to prevent families from experiencing the loss of housing through:

- Case management
- Rental assistance
- Utility support
- Landlord mediation
- Housing location
- Transportation
- Referrals

"Family Promise of Hudson County has helped me in so many ways. This program is a blessing to me and my family. I thank you all!"

-Michael
Homelessness Prevention Member



ALUMNI

We provide a graduate program to reduce the risk of a family's re-entry into homelessness.

- Tenancy training
- Home ownership
- Financial capability
- Educational initiatives
- Career pathways
- Technology support
- Health and wellness

"Family Promise of Hudson County has been a beacon of light when times looked dim. My son is especially fond of the cupcakes they sent us for back to school."

-Yasmin
Alumni Member

By Our Numbers

Working in our community with the help of other agencies, partners, and volunteers, Family Promise of Hudson County has assisted low-income families and families experiencing homelessness get back on their feet.

This has been possible because of fostering strong partnerships and responsibly investing our funding resources in the community we serve.



In 2021, Family Promise received a perfect score of 100 and a 4-star rating from Charity Navigator for the ninth consecutive year.

The breakdown of our



4

current programs:



90

adults & children assisted proactively to avoid homelessness

(through our Shelter Diversion and Homelessness Prevention Programs)



15

adults & children relocated into static locations

(through our Shelter Program)

Results From 2022



212+

adults & children assisted



66+

families assisted



87+

adults assisted



125+

children assisted

Youth Homelessness

(Information Taken From Family Promise National)

The three most cited reasons for family homelessness are lack of affordable housing, poverty, and unemployment.

2.5 million children in America will experience homelessness this year.

1 in 19 children experience homelessness before the 1st grade.

1 in 30 children in the United States experience homelessness annually.

30% of the homeless population is made up families with children.



Students experiencing homelessness are **87 percent** more likely to drop out of school than their housed peers.

51 percent of children experiencing homelessness are under age 6 and, therefore, too young for school and are not counted.

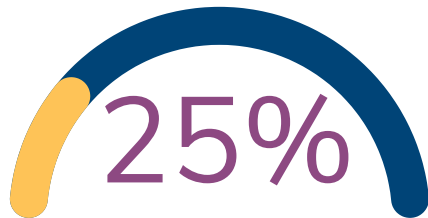
In the 2018-2019 school year, nearly **1.3 million**, or **6 percent**, of children under age six were experiencing homelessness.

Families experiencing homelessness are often hidden from view — they are living in shelters, cars, campgrounds, or doubled up in overcrowded apartments.

Housing and Poverty

(Information Taken From Family Promise National)

Of those considered eligible for federal housing assistance, only



receive help, due to lack of funding.

10.4 million

households spend more than 50% of their income on rent and utilities.

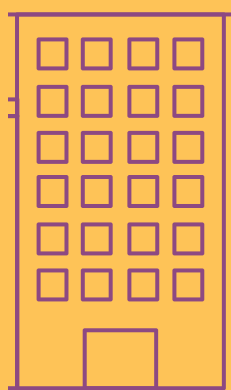
16.1 percent

of people under age 18 lived in poverty in 2020.

37 affordable rental homes

exist for every 100 extremely low-income households.

In no state, city, or county in the U.S. can a worker earning the federal or local minimum wage afford a modest two-bedroom rental home at fair market rent.



In only 218 counties out of more than 3,000 in the country can a worker making the federal minimum wage afford a Fair Market Rent one-bedroom apartment.

As of 2022, the federal minimum wage is \$7.25/hour.

The official poverty line for a family of four with two children is \$26,200 per year.



The U.S. has a shortage of 6.8 million rental homes affordable and available to extremely low-income renters.



The New York Times

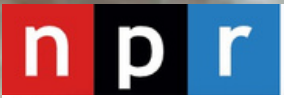


An Overlooked Cure for Loneliness

Science tells us the solution may lie in what we do for others, not ourselves.

Even during the height of the pandemic, Patricia Novy of Clark, N.J., 72, a retired art teacher and former Girl Scout leader, rallied former teachers, family members and neighbors to fill Easter baskets and Christmas stockings for those who could not afford them. They were distributed by [Family Promise](#), an organization that assists low-income families with housing and other services.

— Skin care products —



These moms overcame homelessness. But the fight for a better life is far from over



I think if it wasn't for Family Promise and if I wasn't able to come on my own with my children, I would still be stuck and I would not be able to do this.

Ramona Bravo
Family Promise Graduate

Unemployed in America: 'It's Gotten So Much More Expensive to Be Homeless.'



I just want to show Ka'laya that this is what you do, even when a pandemic has you down.

- Latrish Oseko, Family Promise Graduate



Contact Information

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ELENA GURCZESKI

(Program Director)

For additional information on ways to give, please contact our Program Director via the following email:

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SOCIAL MEDIA

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