

Winter 2021 Newsletter

PO Box 32775 Juneau, AK 99803 907-500-3032 www.familypromisejuneau.org

Board and Staff

Please feel free to contact any of the board members below.

- **Executive Director**
- Katti Carlson
- **Board Chair**
- Tari Stage-Harvey
- Vice-Chair
- Lisa Lindeman
- Secretary
- Pat McLear
- Treasurer
- Shane Carson
- Members
- Eileen Hosey
- Vickie Gartley
- David Morris
- Kelly Reed
- Soapy Lingle
- Rebecca Farrell
- Peter Mores
- Kayla Wisner
- Alaska Native Consultant
- Deanna Komar
- Homeless Prevention Kate Wolfe Family Support Specialist Sheila Dyer Office Administrator Jen Pegues

A message from Executive Director, Katti Carlson :

As we all settle down from the holiday season my hope is that we are all filled with joy, laughter, love and grace. I know that I have been working hard to keep these elements going in my life. If you know me you know that I LOVE people from all walks of life. I love helping them, talking to them, learning from them, conversing with them, and building a relationship with them. My



relationships with people sustain me. I love being a light in people's lives and a receiving a good hug from a stranger. You know I have not physically hugged a stranger or even anyone outside of my household in nearly 10 months? My hug cup is empty and when I am able to, I am going to start a HUG train. All of this talk of hugs has me thinking about how we hug those around us with the compassion and support we share. I am also thinking of how we are hugged by those that support us. Something that also fills my cup is stories from those that we help and those that help us to help others. Please enjoy.

Notes of Thanks From Families

~THANK YOU Katti, Kate and Sheila, we couldn't have all of this without your help. I am so grateful for you all, I wish I could hug you all.



~I do not know who to thank, other than Family Promise for the food boxes they provide. I usually have an abundance with the food stamps we receive. I sometimes share this food with my neighbor that struggles with food. This week the powers that be messed up my family's food stamp case. I did not receive my food stamps and they are not sure when my case will be processed and repaired. With this box of food, I was able to

prepare food for my children today. I get paid tomorrow but today I was scared that I would not be able to feed us, and then the food box showed up and relieved my scared thoughts. THANK YOU SO MUCH.

-Thank you so much for your support and help. My son John and I are so blessed to know Family Promise and especially grateful for our new apartment. Kate Wolfe and Katti Carlson are absolutely angels sent by God. John and I were desperate to find a place to live and Family Promise worked hard to help us find a place. GOD BLESS FAMILY PROMISE OF JUNEAU AND ALL THE ANGELS OF MERCY THAT DO GOD'S WORK.

Making Christmas the most wonderful time of the year...THANK YOU

- A private donor adopted seven of our previous families and families in our Homeless Prevention Program for Christmas this year
- Juneau-Gastineau Rotary Adopted two of our families
- Rotary Club of the Juneau 58° Innovators adopted our families in shelter.

Thank you to all our sponsors.

Rasmuson Foundation, Richard and Diane L. Block Foundation, Benito and Frances C Gaguine Foundation, Coeur Alaska, SEALASKA, SEARHC, Southeast Mining Supply, Tingey Orthodontics, American Seafood Community Advisory Board, Shattuck & Grummett, Rainforest Custom, LLC, True North Federal Credit Union, The Anderson Heidersdorf Kohan Group Merrill Lynch, Thrivent Financial, Alaska Airlines, Alaska Seaplanes, Wings Airways, Juneau Interiors, Southeast Alaska Board of Realtors, Juneau Community Foundation, Juneau Gastineau Rotary Club, Doggie Dos, Sportsman's Warehouse, Marine Exchange, Chiropractic First, State Farm Insurance Reuben Willis, Stellar Financial Services, Tlingit and Haida Office of the President, Platinum Real Estate Group, Alaska Vision, Behrends Mechanical, Christine Moleski DMD, CMI, First Bank Juneau, First Bank Ketchikan, Haight & Associates, Latitude 58 Real Estate Group, Malia Hayward State Farm Insurance Agency, Residential Mortgage, Shaw Dental, The Yoga Path, Congregation Sukkat Shalom, Shepherd of the Valley, Chapel by the Lake, Holy Trinity, Bishop Segher's Council #1760, Bishop Crimont Assembly, NLUC Community of Christian Women, Northern Light United Church, Filipino Community, Inc, Aldersgate Methodist, Goldbelt, Church of the Nazarene, AVISTA, McGivney's, DOWL LLC, Pioneers of Alaska Men's Igloo #6 and Women's Igloo #6, Svalbard Lodge #33 Sons Of Norway

Thank you to our current Families of 500

1 Year as Famliy of 500: Mike & Sara Chambers, Peter & Jacque Christensen, Nancy & John DeCherney, Cynthia & David Morris, Julie & Gordy Olson, nine anonymous households 2 Years: Debera Cokeley, Vickie Gartley, Janice Gray, Eileen Hosey, Barb Kreher, Brenden Vaughn & Shannon Fisher, Karlynn and Richard Welling, one anonymous household

3 Years: Alan and Mana Akiyama, Nico and Susan Bus, Mary Capobianco, Jennifer and Shane Carson, Randy Coleman and Lisa Lindeman, Madeleine Lefebvre and Dave Deirdorff, Michael McMullen, Peter and Jane Mores, Myra Munson, April Rezendes, Michelle and Steve Strickler, Gaye Willis

4 Years: Jack and Margie Beedle, Melinda and Tom Cosgrove, Virgil and Lori Fredenberg, Mary Lou Madden, Julie Neyhart, Joe and Julie Orsi, Marlene Schneider, Tari and Kirt Stage-Harvey, Trish & Luke Dihle

5 Years: James and Jean Alter, Willie Anderson, Odette Edgar, Mary and Thomas Fitterer, Carla Goeransson and Thomas Chapple, Kimberly Kiefer and Pat McLear, Linda McCargar and George Partlow, Elfrida Nord, Scott and Annette Ranger

Thank you Southeast Mine Supply!

We are thankful for the tires and oil changes Southeast Mine Supply has provided for our van over these last three years. Please support the local businesses who support local non-profits.









2020 Highlights

FPJ highlights from 2020 mirror the highlights from years past i.e., a phenomenal, hard working staff; extraordinary volunteers; generous donors and a dedicated, supportive Board of Trustees.

What made 2020 different from the previous two years is the willingness of everyone involved with Family Promise of Juneau, in any capacity, to be so very flexible in identifying and meeting the needs of a most vulnerable population during this unprecedented, unpredictable year.

"No matter what accomplishments you make, somebody helped you." Althea Gibson

Noted in a review of the 2020 calendar are the successful FPJ fundraisers:



The Fifth Annual Halibut Dinner

We served scrumptious halibut chowder in bread bowls and enjoyed a fabulous dessert auction. The TMHS National Honor Society worked hard preparing and serving food. One of the highlights was watching the video created by David Reed. You can watch it on our website.

Night Without A Bed

This was our first virtual fundraiser where board members and leaders were encouraged to spend a night somewhere other than their bed. Donors were gracious in supporting this effort and we raised over \$10,000 and received a match from the Benito and Frances C. Gaguine Foundation.

100+ Women Who Care

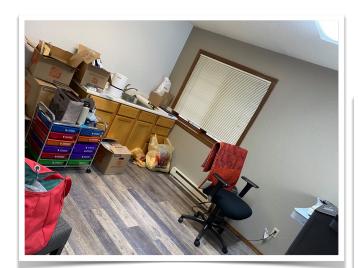
FPJ received a surprise donation from the 100+ Women Who Care. This group of over 100 local women choose an organization quarterly and each woman writes a \$100 check to that organization. It was a great boost in a difficult year.



Katti's New Office - Still Unpacking:)



Family Area



Board Member Emeriti

Thank you to the many volunteers who work tirelessly to interrupt the trauma of homelessness in children's lives. We want to honor Soapy Lingle and Pat McLear who served in the organizing group and later the board of Family Promise for the past six years. They no longer have to attend monthly board members, but they will be donned Board Emeriti Members. Emeritus means having retired but allowed to retain their title as an honor. We like to think of it as retired but allowed to still work:)



Because of COVID, we couldn't transport families together in one vehicle and we were able to use CARES funds to purchase a van that can get nearly 40 mpg!



Sheila's Office

Welcome to Sheila Dyer as our Family Support Specialist

Sheila Dyer joined Family Promise of Juneau in mid-October as the Family Services Specialist. Throughout a long career in early childhood and elementary education, she has enjoyed partnering with families and their children be happy and successful in school. In addition to a K-8 Alaska Teaching Certificate, she has a Master of Education from the University of Virginia. Putting to work her knowledge of strengthening families, trauma informed care and locating local resources, she is excited to be to collaborating with her guests to find a home, satisfying employment and reach toward other goals they set for themselves. Her two almost adult children are both in college; her son is in a PhD program at the University of California Berkeley in physical chemistry and her daughter is studying creative writing at Furman University in South Carolina. Watching children flourish is her major form of entertainment but she also loves to read, garden, bike/hike, sail, draw and oil paint, photograph nature, eat pastries, travel and fix up her 1930s miner's shack. She is thankful to be working with a fantastic team of caring, competent women!

Welcome New Board Members

Congregations & Organizations who help host

Chapel by the Lake Northern Light United Church Shepherd of the Valley Holy Trinity The Salvation Army Church of the Nazarene Church of Christ St. Paul's Cathedral of the Nativity Resurrection Lutheran St. Brendan's Emmanuel Baptist Juneau Unitarian Universalist Fellowship Auke Bay Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Dav Saints Alaska Native Sisterhood Camp 2 TMHS National Honor Society

Jane Johnson: Juneau born and raised .. loves family and friends, enjoys social times that makes covid extremely difficult, but having 5 grandkids, lives with 3 and the other 2 on weekends and school breaks keeps me busy! Taught to have an open mind and not everyone has to value the same! Just need to be kind!!





Carol May: After 10 years in the field of biomedical

engineering and research, I moved to Juneau in 1996 and have been a teacher in the Juneau School District for 24 years. I currently teach math and computer science, coach robotics, and advise the TMHS National Honor Society. It was through NHS that I first became involved in

Family Promise. Tari asked the group if they would become supporting members and take I week per semester to be hosts and make meals. I was not confident it would go well, but the high school students love contributing their time, making meals, and entertaining the children. I have a 20-year old daughter that was introduced to Family Promise through NHS, and continues to volunteer with them in Bozeman, where she is a junior at MSU.

Deb Spencer: I am thrilled to be joining the Family Promise Board! As an elementary school counselor, I have been amazed at the wrap-around support and life-

changing results that FP families receive. I am excited to support this work. My husband and I have only been in Juneau for 8 years, but have lived in Southeast for over 30 each. I was a teacher in Pelican for 12 years and "retired" to tender troll salmon and be self-employed





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Thank you to the many sponsors, families and volunteers who have journeyed with us. *From April 30, 2017 to January 8, 2021*

Households Served: 51 Families in transition: 33 Homeless Prevention: 18 Adults Served: 74 Children Served: 96 Hospitality Nights Provided: 7,380 Meals Served: 22,110 Average Length of Stay: 66 Days Active Volunteers: 477 Active hosting supports: 16

With shelter services 80% of families in transition graduated into long term permanent housing. 100% of households in prevention services remain housed.

There are many ways to volunteer! A virtual volunteer training is available on the Family Promise of Juneau website, <u>www.familypromisejuneau.org</u>, or call 500-3032 for more information.

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A New Home for Family Promise Offices and Day Center

Family Promise is so grateful for the opportunity to be in our very own space. We would like to take the time to thank all of the people that have played a roll in our success.

Chapel by the Lake for providing us with our initial day center space and allowing us to occupy space to serve homeless families during the COVID-19 pandemic. Your support of FPJ and the families we serve is priceless. We hope to continue serving families in the space at Chapel until we re-open the rotation hosting in September.

Juneau Assembly and Mayor Beth Weldon for supporting our request for CARES funding, which has allowed us to serve families at capacity. The week of Christmas we served three families in shelter. We could not have done this without our new building space.

Benito and Frances C. Gaguine Foundation support of FPJ has been instrumental in our financial stability. From matching fund donations for our events, purchasing auctions items all the way to the substantial amount you gave to our building fund. Your investment in our stability is greatly appreciated by many.

FPJ Board members, THANK YOU for leading us to a space we can call our own. Many of you put in countless hours for this transition, including raising funds, making the transactions happen quickly, recording board actions correctly, planning and supervising needed changes within the building, moving, and now making this space what our families need.

Our new physical address is 2221 Jordan Creek:



Thanks to Randy and Dave for putting up the temporary sign



Family Area and Kitchen - thank you Vickie Gartley for the refrigerator



Jen and Kate's New Office

Sportsman's Warehouse donated over \$60,000 of merchandise this year. These donations of boots, jackets, clothes, and some random fun stuff was a great gift for many of our families as well as other agencies in town. And, as always, our *Families of 500* continue to have a special place in their hearts for FPJ and are loyal financial contributors.

These challenging times required flexibility. We hosted two families at Extended Stay through part of the summer and shifted our focus to keeping families housed as well as working with families in crisis.

> Kate Wolfe became the Homeless Prevention Coordinator and we hired Sheila Dyer as Family Support Specialist. One of the greatest gifts was the willingness of Kayla Wisner to do our bookkeeping as a volunteer.

On March 7 AWARE'S Women of Distinction 2020 Celebration was held and the FPJ Board of Trustees Chair, Reverend Tari Stage-Harvey, was recognized for her many years of exemplary work in the Juneau Community.

The board had extended meetings over the summer to discuss plans to keep people safe and meet the needs of families. CARES funding helped us hire overnight staff and Chapel by the Lake generously opened their space so we could host families at one site without moving weekly. Volunteers continued to graciously provide dinners. CARES funding also allowed us to purchase a building and minivan. These purchases helped us respond to COVID-19 concerns as well as become more sustainable in the future.

One of the highlights from this year was having three graduations in three weeks. All our families found housing right around Christmas and it was a good reminder of why we do what we do.

"The greatness of a community is most accurately measured by the compassionate actions of its members." Coretta Scott King

In applying Mrs. King's words to the Family Promise Juneau community it is indeed great due to the compassionate actions of all its members, staff, volunteers, donors, and board. Thank you, all!

