

### Spring 2020

Newsletter

PO Box 32775 Juneau, AK 99803 907-500-3032

www.familypromisejuneau.org

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#### A message from Executive Director, Katti Carlson:

In the last several weeks we have been living in isolation, far from our regular activity, family, friends and things in life that give us encouragement, perspective and self-worth. Those of us who can, have been engaging in self-care. However, for many of us self-care is more than just going for a run or stopping by the salon, it is serving others. Many of our supporters have been stuck at home without



the ability to serve Family Promise of Juneau or even the greater Juneau community. This can often weigh heavy on our hearts in such disparaging times. I assure you, though, that we will be together again.

I also assure you that Kate and I are working diligently to serve families in our community. Over the last few days, thanks to Shepherd of the Valley, Kate has delivered care packages to 8 families that we have served in the past few years. A few of them have signed up for our Rapid Rehousing Program (RRP) so we are still strengthening others in the name of Family Promise.

You are likely wondering, "What is Rapid Rehousing? With the help of Housing and Homelessness Services, Family Promise of Juneau received grant funding from the Alaska State Mental Health Trust. The primary goal of this funding is to keep families/individuals in their homes or shorten their stint of homelessness.

Rapid Rehousing is a fairly new concept (since 2009) in the US. We know that homelessness is a traumatizing experience for numerous people in our country. The concept behind Rapid Rehousing is to help fund households to remain in their current home or to shorten the time people are homeless. It is true that length of homelessness increases the level of difficulty to exit homelessness, and it exacerbates negative effects on adults and children. There are several goals with Rapid Rehousing: decrease homelessness, decrease the time people are homeless, and increase long-term stability post homelessness.

The model of Rapid Rehousing includes more than funding for struggling households. A large component of the RRP is case-management support and education to help households achieve long term stability. This is achieved by up to a year of case-management provided to the household. The case-manager works with families to

## Happy Third Anniversary on April 30!

Keep your eyes open for the Three-Year Review email going out soon with highlights and photos from the last three years. If you haven't checked out the Family Promise of Juneau video, then please visit our website and hear the interviews with graduates, volunteers, and leaders.



Thank you for supporting the halibut dinner. We raised close to \$30,000. Thank you to Beau Schooler and In Bocca Al Lupo for preparing the chowder; Breeze-In for the bread bowls; Alaska Glacier Seafood for the halibut; Thunder Mountain High School National Honor Society for volunteering; David Reed for producing the video; Food Services of America for the salad; Subway for the salad toppings; Heritage for the coffee; Amalga Distillery for the sparkling water; all those who donated desserts; Alaska Airlines, Wings Airways & Taku Lodge, Alaska Seaplanes, TEMSCO, Sportsmen's Warehouse, Shrine of St. Therese, Michelle & Steve Strickler, Soapy and Jill Lingle, and all other auction items; Auctioneer Colter Boehm; 2 4 7 for the music; T.K. Maguire's, Saffron, Baranof, Superbear, Safeway, Dominos, Mi Casa, Island Pub, Fred Meyer, Asiana Garden, Costco, McGivney's Sports Bar and Grill, and Suwanna Café for appetizers

make sure they are accessing all of the community resources they can, completing paperwork, maintaining a budget, tracking spending, communicating needs, and working on other goals a family might have. This program also supports a connection with homeowners and apartment managers. This connection provides for supports before households receive eviction notices. With FPJ in contact with landlords and apartment managers, they are able to provide a referral when approached with the inability to pay rent. This connection also allows landlords and apartment managers to know FPJ and how we work within our community.

Why Rapid Rehousing in the Juneau community? Rapid Rehousing nationwide has been very successful in decreasing the financial burden on communities, while providing long term sustainability for households (Rapid Rehousing Brief, Housing and Urban Development). Rapid Rehousing works with households to build their strength and connection to resources within the community.

Homelessness is a large, widespread issue across the United States. There is a stereotype behind who and why people are homeless. It is easy for us as a society to blame this nationwide issue on those that it affects. I

believe that we all make choices and that creates our reality. The issue is that we all are offered different choices. Not all of our choices are the same or presented the same. Family Promise of Juneau has chosen to lead Juneau through the movement to end family homelessness.

If you would like to learn more about the FPJ Rapid Rehousing Program please call Kate at 907-500-2740 Blessings, Katti

### Lives Touched since April 30, 2017

Bed Nights	6,494
Meals Served	19,482
Average Days in our Program	68
Families Served	27
Families Graduated into Housing	19
Adults Housed	44
Kids Housed	51
Active Supporting/Host Organizations	16
Active Volunteers	466

## Congregations & Organizations

#### Hosting

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

#### Supporting

Juneau Unitarian
Universalist Fellowship
Auke Bay Ward of the Church of
Jesus Christ of the Latter
Day Saints

Alaska Native Sisterhood Camp 2 TMHS National Honor Society

#### Circle of 500

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

## Thank you to all our sponsors and Families of 500.

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, Sportsmen'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, Behrens 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, and Goldbelt.

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# Thank you to 100+ Women Who Care Juneau!

Family Promise of Juneau would like to thank the 100+ Women Who Care for selecting us as the non-profit to support this quarter. The generosity and commitment of the women in Juneau is humbling and exciting.

Family Promise of Juneau will celebrate its three year anniversary on April 30. During that time we have hosted 27 families and recently served 14 households through Rapid Rehousing.

The \$20,000 raised will be kept here in Juneau to support families who are experiencing homelessness or at risk of becoming homeless. The current pandemic has made Family Promise reconfigure how we walk with families safely as we continue to serve families.





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### Family Promise COVID-19 Response

Family Promise of Juneau (FPJ) realized our annual Halibut Dinner was the last event before the mandate against gatherings. It was a difficult decision, but we wanted to make sure we had the resources to keep serving.

We are still serving. In this uncertain time, it important to update our network on how we are adapting. FPJ is currently serving eight households in our Rapid Rehousing Program. Most of our energy will go towards keeping people in housing.

We have reconfigured what hosting families safely looks like without contact with volunteers or staying in church buildings. We have a plan in place so we are taking phone calls for potential families to come into shelter. While we won't be using churches, we are still ready, willing and capable to serve a family in shelter, although it will look a little different. Family Promise of Juneau is still open, operating and ready to serve the Juneau Community.