

Fall 2018

Newsletter

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

## Families of 500

We have 51 Families of

**500!** Thank you for your commitment to support Family Promise of Juneau with \$500 for the next three years. Our goal is 60 so we are almost there.

## Board

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

**Board Chair** 

Tari Stage-Harvey

Vice-Chair

Lisa Lindeman

Secretary

Pat McLear

Peter Mores

Treasurers

Willie Anderson

Jennifer Carson

Members

Joe Orsi

Kelly Hansen

Soapy Lingle

## A message from Executive **Director Shannon Fisher:**

I am incredibly competitive and I love being right. During my college soccer days I earned the nickname "the enforcer" for my...not retaliatory behavior, but rather my ability to ensure the safety of my teammates. I also found these skills useful navigating amongst four siblings as well as in law school. Proving yourself right is highly rewarded in law school.

Being right is less satisfying these days. In fact, winning an adversarial argument feels like losing before I've even won. I think the reason that is is because adversarial arguments neglect that we are all on the same team. It's cheesy, I know, but I really think it's true. The biggest wins at Family Promise are when we can see our own humanity in the other and treat them as we would like to be treated. I don't just mean volunteers relationships with guests, but also guests to volunteers, staff as well, and all the other interactions of those three. We are all worthy of respect and must see that in ourselves and in others.

Every day I get to hear beautiful examples this happening. Discussions that are more life giving and less contentious. Problem solving that is win-win. This creates an atmosphere allowing for all to flourish, to reach to the next step of their lives.

I know it's not all roses and puppies. But thank you for walking on this journey with us, with families, and together -as a team.

Thanks to all those who participated in leadership week: First Lady Donna Walker & her grandson Walker Jesse Kiehl & family Wade Bryson & family Michelle & Jim Hale Andi & Mike Story Chris Dimond & family

# **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 Mt. Juneau Ward of the Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints Alaska Native Sisterhood Camp 2 TMHS National Honor Society Beta Sigma Phi Sorority

**Spotlight on Congregational Coordinators: Randy Coleman from St. Paul's** the Apostle Church

I first heard of Family Promise in October 2014, about three weeks before I retired. I had been looking for some volunteer work to do in retirement, something that would help people and also get me more involved in my church. This seemed like a perfect fit, so I joined the group that set up the program in Juneau, and became the coordinator for St. Paul's Catholic Church. I have found this work to be surprisingly rewarding. I think all of us in Juneau know how hard it is to find affordable rental housing in our community. And it only takes one or two unlucky breaks for a family to find itself homeless. It just seems SO wrong to me that at any given time, there are 100-200 homeless kids in the Juneau School District! While Family Promise can't completely solve that problem, it sure solves it for the families we serve! I can't think of a better way to walk the talk of my faith, and I have met many wonderful people around town who are involved in the program.

Thank you Randy for your faithful service!

## Lives touched:

Total bed nights since opening: 3848 We have served a total of 14 families since opening; 12 have moved into housing, one is still with us.

29 individuals; 9 under the age of five

Year to Date bed nights: 2138 Eight families served in 2018: Six have moved into housing (one is still with us).

Two parents have attained driver's licenses in 2018. Two kids have started preschool. Six parents went from unemployed to full time employment.

Two families received assistance to stay in housing

Over 500 volunteers have been trained





Needed: laundry detergent, tp, paper towels, shampoo, conditioner, feminine hygiene items

Family Promise of Juneau is Grateful

The Taste of Promise fundraiser for Family Promise of Juneau was a wonderful success.

Folks enjoyed a delicious array of foods prepared by some of the best cooks from several congregations while listening to talented musicians. Many thanks go to the choirs from Aldersgate United Methodist Church and Shepherd of the Valley Lutheran Church, Noatak Post and the Backhall Kids.



The event was held at Chapel by the Lake whose hospitality was enhanced by the hard working students from the Thunder Mountain High School National Honor Society who helped set up, serve food and clean up while smiling all night long.

The silent auction was a stellar addition to the evening thanks to the generosity of individuals and local businesses: Pilates Bodies, Platinum Real Estate, Trove, A little Bazaar, Freja, The Yoga Path, Nugget Alaska Outfitter, Mountain Market and the Hangar. It is great to have such community support for Family Promise's work to assist and support children and their families who are experiencing homelessness.

The final tally for the event was matched by the Benito and Frances C. Gaguine Foundation. Family Promise of Juneau is humbled by and grateful for this bounteous contribution.

Congratulations go to the Wooden Spoon Winners whose food was voted the best in their category: Gail O'Dell for her winning side dish, Michelle Strickler and Barbara Shore for the winning entree, and Tamra Catt for the winning dessert. Let's see if they can retain their spoons next fall at the Taste of Promise Cook-Off!



# Welcome to Norman Alexander! He is our

Americorps member for 2018/2019. He is from Southeast Alaska and has lived in Juneau for a number of years. We are thankful to have his calm demeanor and good humor on board!

# **Alternative Gifts:**

Please consider making a gift in honor of someone this holiday season. We will send a special thank you card designed by one of our young guests.

# **Needs:**

One more hosting congregation and two more supporting organizations/congregations for 2018/19

Nine more "Families of 500." These families create a steady supply of funding so we can focus on the work that needs to be done.

Family Promise<sup>®</sup> of Juneau PO Box 32775

Juneau, AK 99803



# Upcoming Events

February 22

November 29	Congregational Coordin Ward of the Church of .
December 3	Volunteer Training at Ca
	Final Mudrooms to bene corytellers) 7:00 pm - 8:
January 13	Board Retreat

Thanks to our sponsors: Rasmuson Foundation, Richard and Diane L. Block Foundation, Benito and Frances C Gaguine Foundation, Coeur Alaska, SEALASKA, Southeast Mining Supply, Tingey Orthodontics, American Seafood Community Advisory Board, Shattuck & Grummett, Filipino Community, 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

## Shannon Fisher, Executive Director 907-500-3032 director@familypromisejuneau.org

nator meeting 6:30-8:00 pm at Auke Bay Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints

athedral downtown 6:30-8 pm

efit Family Promise (Shannon Fisher and 30 pm at Northern Light United Church

Tentative date for halibut dinner