

# FamilyPromise 2022

Rochester

## ANNUAL REPORT



913 1st ST NW  
Rochester MN, 55901  
507-281-3122  
[www.fprochestermn.org](http://www.fprochestermn.org)

Our mission to help low-income families and families experiencing homelessness achieve sustainable independence.



# Family Promise Program Highlights

## Core Services

- ★ Family Shelter - North Star House
- ★ Stabilization - Life Skills Classes
- ★ Permanent Housing Program
- ★ Shelter Diversion & Prevention
- ★ Scattered Site Shelter

## NORTH STAR HOUSE, SHELTER

At the North Star House, families experiencing homelessness receive a warm safe place to call home, hot meals, shower and laundry facilities along with case management and ongoing life skills programming. Family Promise Rochester's North Star House, shelter, allows families to stay for up to 4 months while they work with a case manager to achieve sustainable independence. As a small-scale shelter serving up to four families at one time, Family Promise Rochester works hard to partner with other community agencies to provide additional support.

## NEW PROGRAMS IN 2022

In 2022 FPR added two new programs, Shelter Diversion and Prevention and Scattered-Site transitional shelter, to the catalog of offerings to the families and the community. These new programs are in partnership with the United Way of Olmsted County, Olmsted County Housing Redevelopment Authority (HRA) and a community wide effort by local churches.



Shelter Diversion & Prevention



Scattered Site Shelter - Duplex



**101**  
Individuals Served



**26**  
Families Served



**83 %**  
Successfully Housed



**59**  
Community Partners

## BENEFITS

1

### Capacity Building

By expanding services and programs, Family Promise Rochester is able to increase the capacity of families served in new ways.

2

### Not a one size fits all

Not all families are in need of emergency shelter. By adding diversion & prevention, we are able to financially support families in order to prevent or divert homelessness.

3

### Experience

By adding scattered site shelter, families are able to gain the independence of maintaining their own home, gaining positive rental history while still staying connected to case management services through FPR.

News Highlights

**\*Our financial support continues to grow. The following grants were secured in 2022: United Way of Olmsted County, Elk's Lodge, Mayo Clinic, Otto Bremer (for 2023 year), and the Carl and Verna Schmidt Foundation.**

**\*In 2022 we were able to return to some of our in person events again: Promise Fest and Trunk or Treating held at the United Way Parking lot, a pancake breakfast fundraiser hosted at Mount Olive Lutheran Church, a \$5 5K at TerraLoco and our annual choir concert and silent auction at Bethel which brought in just over \$10,000!**

**\*Miracle on First is our Christmas time giving for families currently in shelter and graduate families. Thank you so much to all of you who took on a families' wish list. New this year was crisis intervention funds where families could choose, instead of a gift wish list, to have a volunteer pay for something they were unable to such as a car repair, medical bill or past due bill on utilities or daycare.**



Duplex Program



Choir Concert



Pancake Breakfast



\$5 5K at TerraLoco

**Life Skills**

**This program has been a staple for our Rochester affiliate from inception in 2001. With our ever growing "Family" we have adapted and changed the climate to mimic the desires of each member. We have solidified many partnerships in our community including our local school district, Rochester Public Schools, who provide our space, Early Childhood Educators and a Parent educator to our families. In 2022, we hosted a number of classes on topics such as trauma informed yoga, finance and balancing a budget, landlord/tenant information, The Five Love Languages and mindfulness to name a few. Our staff truly believe that the success of Family Promise and families not entering back into homelessness is due to the education provided at our Life Skills classes. Because of it's importance we will strive even more to place emphasis, time, planning and dollars into these classes.**

**We added meals to the beginning of our classes as we find that most families are coming right from work. We would love to thank our 5 fall 2022 Life Skills Class restaurants that donated meals to our classes: Nupa, Mr Pizza North, Forager, Five West and Potbelly's. Please support those who support us and visit these local restaurants!**

- Bethel Lutheran Church
- Christ United Methodist Church
- Mount Olive Lutheran Church
- Gloria Dei Lutheran Church
- Church of the Resurrection
- Byron United Methodist Church
- Zumbro Lutheran Church WELCA
- Rochester Covenant Church
- Trinity Presbyterian Church
- Redeemer Lutheran Church
- First Presbyterian Church
- Co-Cathedral of St. John the Evangelist Catholic Church
- Saint Francis of Assisi Church
- Good Shephard Lutheran Church
- Hosanna Lutheran Church
- Peace Untied Church of Christ
- St. Charles Borromeo Church
- First Unitarian Universalist Church
- St. Pius X Catholic Church
- Pax Christi Church
- Rainbow Preschool
- Primrose Preschool
- Scheels
- Elk's Lodge
- Herr Branding
- Mayo Clinic
- OMC
- Rochester Area Foundation
- United Way of Olmsted County
- Olive Branch
- Subaru of Rochester
- Honors Choir of SE MN
- Carl and Verna Schmidt Foundation
- Forager
- Potbelly's
- Five West
- Nupa
- Canadian Honker
- Nothing Bundt Cakes
- Mr. Pizza North
- Great Harvest Bakery



# Year End Message

Dear Family Promise Friends and Supporters,

Since 1999 Family Promise has been helping families experiencing homelessness in the Rochester Area. We are so grateful to you for your support during the past two years as Covid was an obstacle for us all. Much has changed at Family Promise in the past two years—new leadership, new facility, new programming, and less volunteer opportunities now that we are no longer operating on the church rotation model. But yet, we were able to remain open and house families in shelter through all of these hard times. And even more importantly, we can now look forward to our future.

Homelessness in Rochester is an ever growing crisis—for individuals and families. Our waitlist continues to grow, with 24 families on the waitlist at the end of 2022. Landlords don't want to rent to families with no rental history or poor rental history. So when Olmsted County approached us about an opportunity to use a Duplex as a scattered site shelter, we were excited to give it a go! Not only does the Duplex allow us to have more families served at a time, but it lets families gain positive rental history, as they are charged 30% of their income while staying up to 6 months. Families still receive case management and attend Life Skills classes, but they are also able to start the process of being able to manage the day to day living on their own in their own space. The program began in June of 2022 and 3 families were able to successfully attain their own apartment and move out from the Duplex.

Family Promise board and staff are starting conversations about how we can help more families at a time and working on a possible expansion project. There will be more details to come this spring. We know that our program works—intense case management for a short period of time to encourage families to make life changing choices. The need is here and is real and we are determined to be able to do more.



**Sincerely,**

Erin Sinnwell  
Interim Executive Director

## 2022 STAFF

**Erin Sinnwell**

Interim Executive Director  
executivedirector@fprochestermn.org

**Nicollette Keller**

Programs Director

**Kai Miller**

Volunteer and Family Services  
Coordinator

**Mary White**

Administrative Assistant --volunteer

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