

Want to Get Involved?

Lunch n' Learns

Join us for a monthly Lunch n' Learn to find out how you can get plugged in.

Amazon Smile

Choose Family Promise Orlando as your charity on Amazon Smile.

Gift Card Donations

We always have a need for gift cards for our families from Walmart, CVS & gas cards.

Email info@familypromiseorlando.org with any questions.



www.familypromiseorlando.org

 Family Promise
of Greater Orlando
1000 Clay Street
Winter Park, FL 32789

Winter 2020

Family Promise

of Greater Orlando

Building Community, Strengthening Lives

From the Desk of the Executive Director



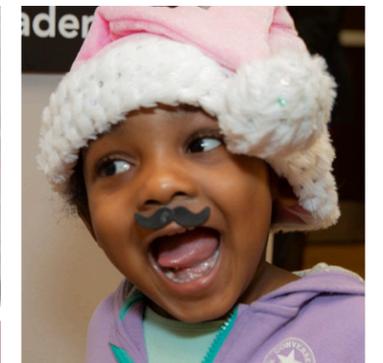
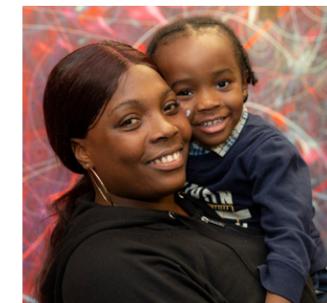
Greetings!

We have turned the page to the 2020 calendar with hopes and aspirations for all of the families in our programs. Because of your support, we **helped over 110 families in 2019 and over 79% of them moved into permanent housing.** Your support helped the lives of many families. We are incredibly grateful for all you do in helping our families find long-term stability.

Yours Truly,
Tia

Family Love

Over 100 guests attended our annual holiday party hosted at First United Methodist Church of Winter Park this past December. Not only did they have a great time, but the families received one \$50 gift card per child to use toward purchasing holiday gifts for their children. Thank you for your gift card donations. You truly helped empower our families.



FP Cheers on the Magic

Our staff and board members had the privilege of attending the Orlando Magic Game several weeks ago. This teambuilding event was a great way to kickoff the New Year.





Victory Cup Finalists

We were thrilled to be selected as a finalist for this year's Victory Cup Initiative. Eleven Central Florida nonprofits were selected to attend a story telling workshop and then share their story in 2.5 minutes to an audience of 500 attendees on February 20th.



MLK Tribute

Family Promise participated in the annual walk and interfaith service at the City of Orlando.



Thank you, Rotary!

Thank you to the Rotary of Winter Park for the \$1,500 grant for our Transportation Program.



Westgate Resorts Foundation's Generosity!

Thank you for their recent \$15,000 grant for our Barrier Buster Program. This program helps eliminate barriers that clients encounter while working to regain their financial independence.



A Huge Thank You to the O'Neill Foundation

The William J. and Dorothy K. O'Neill Foundation granted FP a \$30,000 grant to help families get back on their feet. We are so grateful!

Windermere Wine & Dine

A huge thank you to the 2020 Windermere Wine & Dine. While hosting an amazing event, they granted a \$50,000 check to Family Promise. With this grant, we can help families in our Keeping the Promise Program: an incentive-based program that assists families for up to two years after they exit the program significantly helping with their long-term stability.

This was the seventh annual event for the Windermere Wine & Dine. The Wine & Dine has become a highly sought ticket each January. The event takes place at the Windermere Town Hall and the grounds surrounding. Over 28 participating restaurants serve delectable bites and samplings from 100 varieties of wines. The committee anticipates this year's event will surpass \$250,000 in proceeds and over \$200,000 will go back directly to the community including Family Promise of Greater Orlando, Second Harvest Culinary Program, Title One Orange County Public Schools and many more. Family Promise is incredibly grateful to be one of this year's recipients.



Finding Hope

"Mommy, I cannot get comfortable, and Mommy, it's too noisy to sleep in here."

Words you cannot imagine your children ever saying to you but when you live in a homeless shelter, these are the unimaginable statements you hear coming from your dear children.

Lakima has three children and life took a turn for the worse. Her boyfriend became abusive. There was yelling...always yelling. And shaming... who could focus on homework when the man you live with is telling you that you are worthless.

Her prayers used to be different. She used to be pray for her children to succeed in school and find the right group of friends. Prayers every mom has for her children. Now, she found herself praying for her children to be able to sleep uninterrupted and for her ex-boyfriend to quietly disappear from their lives.

Lakima had worked her entire adult life as a security guard. She would keep people safe. Now ironically, she could not even guarantee the safety of her own children. It was time to go and a homeless shelter became her only option.

Packing a few belongings they had in a garbage bag, she moved her sweet children with her into a shelter. She quickly filled out all of the necessary paperwork so she and her children could begin receiving services. But waiting felt like forever and hopeless. She woke up each day, thinking that today would be the day they could move out. But each day ended as the day before.

And magically, one day, she was placed with Family Promise of Greater Orlando. She



received a phone call that she qualified for Rapid Rehousing and she and her three children would be moving into an apartment of their very own. No more standing in line to take a hot shower or receive a warm meal. They would have a bathroom and kitchen that they could call their own!

Lakima was assigned to Family Promise's Case Manager, Ruthie Williams, who would walk alongside her as she began to work toward independent living. Ruthie would talk to her about saving money and finding a job and where it would make sense for Lakima to live.

Lakima worked hard to meet her goals. She found a job at a local hamburger joint as a cashier and she began to reclaim her life. Because of many donations received from supporters, Lakima's apartment began to feel like her own. Her children now attend Ace Elementary and her 12 year old discovered he loved to play soccer and basketball after school with his friends. But this is not the end of her story. There is still much work to do in stabilizing her life. However, she's on the right path. And thanks to our loving donor and supporters, amongst all the messy, Lakima found hope.

110
Total number of families served

390
individuals served

66%
of those served were children

79%
of the families exited to permanent housing