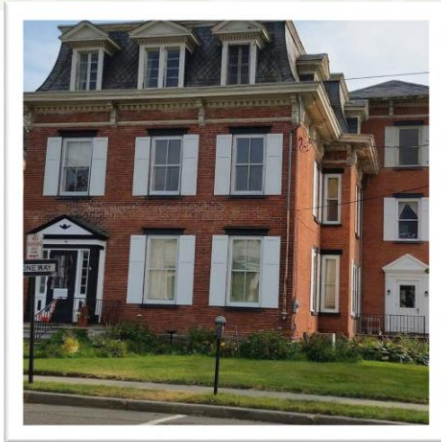


Family Promise of Sussex County

19 Church Street, Newton, NJ 07860
(973) 570-3400 - www.familypromisesussexcounty.org



The Edwards-Dutcher House

Our Day Center, historically known as the Edwards-Dutcher House, is a contributing element of the Newton Town Plot Historic District. The District has a period of significance from 1762-1941 and exhibits a range of architectural styles from Colonial to Revival Styles popular in the early decades of the 20th Century. The Edwards-Dutcher house was built in 1869 in the Second Empire or Mansard Style by General Lyman Edwards. The Newton Town Plot Historic District was listed in the New Jersey Register of Historic Places on September 24th, 1992 and listed in the National Register of Historic Places on November 12th, 1992.

Save the Date!

Seminar BBQ:

June 9th, 2016

5:00pm – 7:00pm at
Memory Park in
Newton to end our
current seminar
series.

Shelter Host Meeting:

July 20, 2016

11:30 AM at the
Day Center. Light
refreshments will
be served.

Coming Soon! Summer Craft Corner:

Please call for
more information.

About Us

How To Contact Us:

Phone: (973) 579-1180

Email: Info@familypromisesussex.org

Hours:

Monday – Friday: 9:00 am -5:00 pm

Programs We Offer:

Emergency Shelter Program

Men's Day Program

Rapid Rehousing Program

Homelessness Prevention Program

Life Skills Seminars

Youth Groups

Location:

**19 Church Street
Newton, NJ 07860**

Moving Day!



Updates from the Administrator's Desk

It's been an exciting year with much growth and change here at Family Promise of Sussex County. New staff, new programs and updated office space!

- *Expanded Men's Day Program* to 2 days a week: Homeless men are invited to come to the Day Center located at 19 Church Street in Newton to meet with a case manager and use the shower and laundry facilities. Computers are available for employment and housing searches.
- *Expanded Rapid Rehousing Program*: Our previous program was available only to shelter guests. The new program provides this important resource to a greater number of homeless individuals and families throughout the County to quickly move them back into stable permanent housing.
- *Expanded Laundry Facility*: A second floor laundry room has been added to meet the growing needs of our client population.
- *New Homeless Prevention Program*: Faced with an eviction notice? This program provides up to 6 months of assistance to families working to stay at their current location.
- *New Life Skills Seminars*: Financial repair, budgeting, money management, nutrition counseling, goal setting and other important skill building sessions aimed at achieving and maintaining financial and housing stability.
- *New Youth Groups*: Facing homelessness is a stressful experience especially for children who are at a vulnerable stage of development. This group offers support and fun educational experiences that provide laughter and normalization to the children living in these stressful situations.
- *New Staff and Interns*: Over the past year we have hired additional professional staff and have worked with several Bachelor and Master level programs from various universities and colleges to support our program growth and agency needs.
- *Work* continues in the Day Center with the new laundry facility almost complete, renovations to the second and third floors including bathrooms and office space. The new windows have been ordered and doors are being installed. We're looking forward to giving tours at this year's Open House in the fall. Thank you to everyone who has provided support, labor and financial donations to make this all possible.

All of these changes help to provide additional layers of services and support to our agency and existing Emergency Shelter program and provide homeless individuals and families with options to meet their specific needs.

-Chris Butto
Executive Director

Rapid Rehousing II Program

We are now seeking eligible candidates for our Rapid Rehousing II program, which seeks to place homeless individuals into stable housing through assistance with a security deposit, utility deposit, moving costs, and up to six months of rental assistance. In addition, case management and seminars are available to assist and educate with credit repair, budgeting, and money management to ensure success and self-sufficiency.

-Contact: LeeAnn Trott
Housing Specialist

Landscaping At The Day Center

In addition to all the repairs being done on the inside, we've given the grounds a facelift too! Thank you Chris Butto, Theresa McDevitt, James Francis, and Katie Terwilliger for all your hard work!

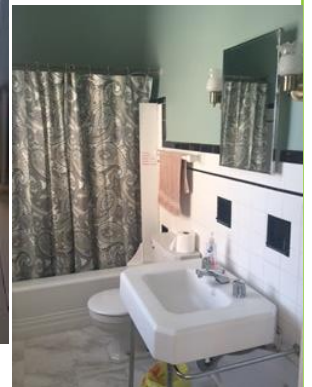
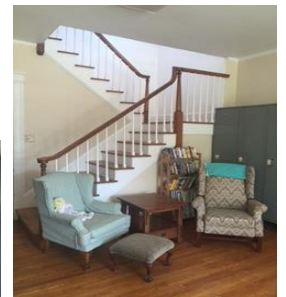
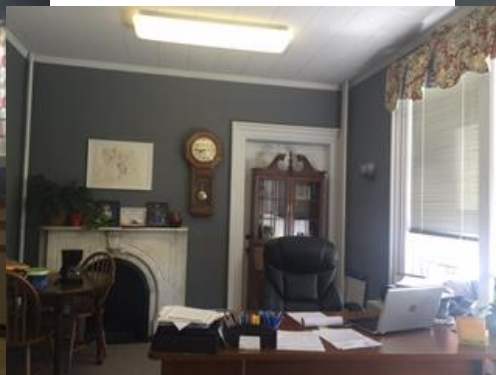


The Edwards-Dutcher House

Before



After



Emergency Shelter Program at Family Promise

When someone says the word “homeless,” what images come into your head?

When I ask that question during outreach programs, I get numerous answers: a bum, poor, dirty, shabby clothing, a person sleeping on the sidewalk or in a box, and a person walking down the road with all of their belongings in a shopping cart. These words are typical descriptions that many people would envision when hearing that someone is homeless, and although there are areas of the state that you will find these depictions, in Sussex County, NJ, the demographics are a bit different. An illness, job loss, rent increase, a vehicle that breaks down, and domestic violence are just a few of the reasons that someone may find themselves and their families facing eviction and/or homelessness.

In Sussex County, NJ the average age of a homeless person is just 6 years old. When people hear this, they question, “how can that be?” No one can picture a six-year old bum, living on the street, while carrying his/her belongings.

Family Promise of Sussex County’s Emergency Shelter Program offers a warm, safe place for families to stay together while taking part in efforts to gain stable housing and becoming self-sufficient once again. Along with the Emergency Shelter, our program provides home-cooked meals, served family style each night, where guests and hosts stay each evening.

-Theresa McDevitt

Case Manager

Men’s Day Program at Family Promise

Family Promise of Sussex County maintains a Men’s Day program for homeless and at risk men in Sussex County. We have a substantial homeless population, those living in the streets, woods, in cars, and other places not meant for habitation. Some find themselves bouncing from friend to friend, with no assurance that they will be housed the next day. Many are week to week in rooming houses, depending on various funding sources that are not always stable. There are no shelters for homeless men in Sussex County, subsequently men are dependent on the possibility of temporary vouchers, usually only good for a few nights, until they can receive housing assistance if eligible. Many men, young and old, including Veterans, fall through the cracks and don’t have the resources or knowledge of where to go to get assistance.

The Men’s program offers referrals, advocacy, employment guidance, the use of phones and computers and other casework, Tuesdays and Thursdays, to help these men through the process of gaining stability. We also offer laundry and shower facilities, every Thursday, and personal care items when needed. Through the efforts of our volunteers, Beth O’Conner and Jutta Akromas, we also supply a bag lunch each Thursday for Men’s Day participants.

The goal of the Men’s Day program is to offer some comfort and assurance to these men that they can become stabilized. There are many issues that cause and perpetuate homelessness, we attempt to help them through the steps they need to take minimize these barriers, and offer them the potential of permanent housing through our Rapid Rehousing program. In recent months, three previously homeless men have moved into their own leased apartments through our programs and with our funding.

-Walter B. Knowles

Housing Specialist

Seminars

Life Skills Seminar

Our Life Skills seminars cover topics include money management, resume writing, credit repair, savings, nutrition, and others. Each session provides guidance to clients in working towards and achieving housing and financial stability. Seminars run for 14 weeks and are offered Wednesday mornings from 9:00 am - 10:00 am and on Thursday evenings from 5:30 pm-7:00 pm. Come and experience the benefits of working with our trained housing specialist in setting short and long term goals and experience the benefits of working in a group format which provides networking and social support. Local area professionals are invited to guest host the seminars. Please call the office at 973-579-1180 with any questions or to register.

This program is run in conjunction with our Youth Group program to support family needs with childcare concerns.



Youth Seminars

Our youth seminars provide fun, educational, supportive services to children living in homeless situations and those at-risk of becoming homeless. During these difficult times, children need to have a place where there is no pressure, and they can just be a kid. Our youth groups provide a place to interact with other children experiencing the same or similar situations. Participants explore fun science experiments, creative writing, and art projects, all while having fun social interactions. Seminars are split up into age groups (Wee Little Ones, School Age, and Teenagers) where activities are geared towards their specific developmental stage. Topics focus on Science, Math, Life Skills, and Reading. If you are facing a housing crisis and want a fun, relaxing place for your children, please call us for dates and times, or to register for a class.

Auction

Thank you to all who attended and donated to our annual dinner auction. This is our main fundraising effort for the year, and the proceeds provide direct support to our clients. For more information on how to be a part of our next auction, please contact us at the day center: (973) 579-1180



Thank You!

Family Promise of Sussex County would like to extend a big thank you to our many generous volunteers. Whether it's time, lunches, or supplies, we couldn't do it without you!



Board President's Perspective...

Our Family Promise Day Center is being transformed! Over the past year, disintegrating front steps have been repaired, leaking pipes were replaced, hazardous wiring and smoke detection devices were brought up to code, the downstairs kitchen floor was replaced, and modern countertops were installed. Plaster walls and woodwork on all three floors have had holes and cracks filled, been sanded, and painted. Years and years of ancient dust has vanished. To provide a second bathroom for our many guests, a shower stall has been installed and other improvements made in the second floor front bathroom, and a small second floor room is being converted into a laundry room for guest use. This month all windows on the first and second floors are being replaced with energy efficient windows. In addition, there are projects yet to be started, such as replacement of the unstable back entry steps. Restored according to the Newton Historical Organization's protocol, our historic 1860's building is becoming fully modern and functional, thus giving us three whole floors of usable space for our guests and ever expanding programs.

How have all these needed improvements been possible? How has so much amazing progress happened in such a short time? The answer is that we have been truly blessed with a highly capable staff and many volunteers generous with their time and expertise. Chris Butto, our Executive Director, appreciated the beauty and potential of our Day Center building when we first took her on a tour just over a year ago. During her first month on the job, she began to map out a strategy, recruited volunteer labor, and sought the means to make it possible. Chris has diligently pursued grants to cover major expenditures, and her foresight, leadership, and efforts are greatly appreciated. With thanks to many wonderful groups of local volunteers, highly critical repairs came first. The contributions of all volunteer groups have truly made a difference and are greatly appreciated. Realizing our great need and embracing the challenges of restoring our historic building, a group of Habitat for Humanity of Sussex County volunteers decided to take on Family Promise as their major endeavor this year. Our Day Center has become their special project and personal commitment. For many months now, this dedicated group of Habitat men have devoted countless hours of personal time and energy to restoring our building. Their camaraderie and joy in their labors have been an inspiration to us all.

As time permitted, our Family Promise staff has caught the spirit and joined right in, for dress down days have actually become building workdays! The entire Board of Trustees joins me in saluting staff, the Habitat for Humanity workmen, and all volunteers who have been instrumental in renovating our Day Center. On behalf of our Emergency Shelter guests, Supported Housing and Men's Day Program clients, and all those yet to enter our doors seeking help, we extend a hearty thank you to all who have transformed our building into a larger, safer, cleaner, more efficient, more usable, and very beautiful facility! Reflecting on the renewal of our building, I cannot help but see a parallel with the many clients we serve. Just like our broken building, these people come to us in need of TLC. Realizing their potential, staff and volunteers expend creativity, energy, resources, and love to not only mend their scars, but strive to restore them to fully functional lives. We endeavor to assist our clients in meeting housing, employment, and life skills needs, and in the process restore their beauty, dignity, and self-worth. Our renovated building can now better serve the needs of our clients and the programs that rehabilitate them.

Don't miss our Open House this October! It will be our pleasure to take you on a guided tour of the entire building for a firsthand look at all the awesome improvements!

-Merle Tanis, Board President



Habitat For Humanity being honored at our 2016 Auction.



Are you Facing Eviction or Homeless?

Family Promise of Sussex County may be able to help.
If you are a Sussex County resident and have a steady income please contact us to inquire about our services including:

- Rapid Rehousing
- Homeless Prevention
- Emergency Shelter
- Men's Day Program



Happy Spring!



FAMILY PROMISE OF SUSSEX COUNTY

PO BOX 154
NEWTON, NJ 07860

RECIPIENT
SUSSEX COUNTY
NEW JERSEY