

Newsletter

Fall 2016

Family Promise of Sussex County

Join us for this year's Open House for great food, updates on our programming and agency offices. Meet our staff and Board members and have an opportunity to learn more about how you can get involved and make a difference. We look forward to seeing you there!



- Join us at -

Family Promise of Sussex County

Thursday, October 20th, 2016

From 4:00-6:00 pm

19 Church Street Newton, NJ, 07860

RSVP to FPSC@familypromisesussex.org
or (973) 579-1180





Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing II Program

Family Promise of Sussex County launched the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing programs earlier this year. In 2016 year-to-date, we have worked with 37 families to assist them in achieving housing stability through the Rapid Rehousing programs and another 8 families were able to regain stability and remain in current housing through our Homeless Prevention program. These programs provide financial to families experiencing a housing crisis. Participants are required to engage in goal setting, financial management, budgeting and other life skill training seminars to ensuring future success and self-sufficiency. For more information, contact LeeAnn Trott, Housing Specialist, at (973) 579-1180



Looking for volunteer opportunities?

Call our office today to discuss how you might be able to put your unique talents to work helping those in crisis or email us at info@familypromisesussex.org

The Men's Day Program continues to provide showers and laundry resources to our local male residents who are experiencing the crisis of homelessness. The program provides opportunity for these individuals to also work with our Housing Specialists to search for employment and housing opportunities. Our supportive staff will assist participants in accessing additional resources to meet substance abuse, mental health, medical, dental and other individual and person needs. The program is open on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 8:30—2:00.

Call us at 973-579-1180 or stop by the agency office located at 19 Church Street, Newton, NJ to schedule an appointment.

We are excited to announce that we have begun partnering with The Housing Partnership to bring additional services to Sussex County for families being faced with potential foreclosure.



The Emergency Shelter Program at Family Promise of Sussex County provides a unique opportunity for your church or community organization to support the needs of families facing a housing crisis. Hospitality, dinner and overnight shelter services are provided in various host churches and community centers throughout Sussex County. Want to learn how you can become a part of this valuable resource? Email our office today for more information at info@familypromisesussex.org.



Join us in welcoming our student interns...

~James Francis, Rutgers University,
Master of Social Work Program

~Jessie Kozmoski, Weidner University,
Master of Social Work Program

~Dylan Bucenec, Ramapo College,
Bachelor of Social Work Program

We are very excited to announce that our Emergency Shelter program has moved to a Tuesday through Tuesday format. This change will allow families residing in our shelter to have a complete weekend to enjoy the activities provide within the community that is hosting them.

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***Thank you to all of the special people  
who take time out of their busy days to  
provide for our families!***

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Our 2017 Emergency Shelter Schedule is posted and filling up fast! Please call the office to secure your dates for hosting shelter guests at your church or community center during 2017. Our staff will assist you with securing the weeks that meet your schedule needs.



Board Briefing

What is the Board of Trustees of Family Promise of Sussex County? Like most nonprofits, our organization is governed by a board of directors. The Board currently consists of eleven members, all volunteers for three year terms. Overall, the Board provides legal, fiscal, and moral leadership and governance, in contrast to the Executive Director who is hired by the Board to manage all aspects of the Family Promise program.

What do Board members do? Specifically, the Board's responsibilities include advancing Family Promise's mission, establishing goals, developing policies, and ensuring compliance with federal and state laws pertaining to nonprofits. The Board approves, monitors, and oversees financial matters, including the annual budget and audit. Tasked with ensuring adequate funds to achieve the mission, the Board is increasing its role in donor cultivation and fundraising. In addition, the Board endeavors to project a positive, accurate image of Family Promise in the community. In fulfilling its roles, the Board coordinates and collaborates with the Executive Director and her staff. Evening meetings are held at the Day Center on the third Thursday of each month.

Who can serve on the Board? It is an honor and a privilege to serve... we welcome committed individuals to join our team! Board member recruitment is on-going; optimally, our Board should have 12 to 14 members. We are especially seeking individuals who can contribute their unique skills, such as law, financial, and fund development expertise. We always appreciate getting recommendations of potential Board candidates. Anyone seeking more information about serving on our Board should contact the Family Promise office at 973-579-1180.

What's new with the Board this fall? New members, new committees, and new direction!!! Over the past few months we have welcomed new members Dolores Fliss, Kevin Lopez, Diane Rude, and Julie Schuldner, each bringing new ideas, energy, and enthusiasm! The ongoing restructuring of Board committees will make us a more efficient and effective Board. As the programs of Family Promise have been growing under the highly capable and creative management of Executive Director Chris Butto and her staff, the Board is charged to lead our affiliate to the next level... to new heights. A special training session scheduled this fall with a representative from Family Promise National this will better equip us to tackle increased fund development, so essential to the success of our expanding programs. Our Board is a team that is gearing up, gung-ho, galvanized, and giving from the heart!

Merle Tanis, Board President



Community Outreach

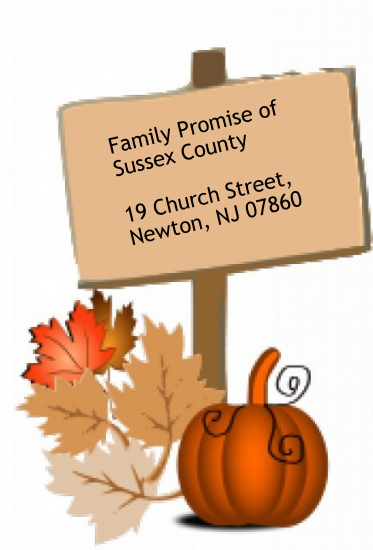
Summer and fall are busy times of year for outreach activities at Family Promise of Sussex County. Our summer season started on June 21 with the 2016 Lakeland Golf Classic held at Newton Country Club. Two rounds of golf were played, one in the morning and another in the afternoon, with all participants attending the dinner auction that evening. Our staff and Board members attended the event to assist with the planned activities during the day's events.

In August, we participated in Children's Day at the Sussex County Fair. Each year, the fair invites local agencies to set up a table and engage with the community, especially the children. This event, which is set up in the Performing Arts Tent, is always a ton of fun. Each agency provides a different activity for the children. There are performances happening on stage and lots of entertainment, education and fun. This year, for our activity, we decided to have the kids make Back-pack Danglers: two long strings of beads, attached to a keyring so that the children can attach them to their school back-packs. Kids choose their own beads, so that they can color coordinate them to their back-packs. For younger children, our "team" pre-made some danglers for them to choose from.

We attended the Back to School Fair at Project Self-Sufficiency. Participants at the event made their way around to agency booths, learning about area resources and listening to speakers at break-out sessions. Again, lots of fun and education for everyone who participated.

Our next community outreach event will be Project Community Connect which will be held at Sussex County Community College on October 19 from 12:00 - 7:00 pm. This event will include social service, employment and housing agencies from throughout Sussex County, as well as Sussex County Community College. The event will also include health screenings and free flu shots. Lunch and dinner will be provided.

Our outreach events are an important part of the work we do in providing community education about agency resources and the ongoing needs of our clients. If you have an event that you think would benefit from our participation, please call our office to discuss.



2017 Planning and Upcoming Events!!!

*Family Promise of Sussex County
will be celebrating 20 years of service in 2017!*

*Watch for upcoming details about our
celebration soon to be released!*

A Family Tree With Deep Roots.....

Our agency office, the Edward-Dutcher House, is an Historically Registered structure built in 1869. William Dutcher, owner of the Merriam Shoe Factory, bought the property in April of 1883. It remained in the Dutcher family for 40 years. During the 1920's the house was occupied by New Jersey Senator Blasé Cole and his family.

The property eventually returned to the Dutcher family when the deed to the house was purchased by Mary Pierce Dutcher and her dentist husband, Dr. D. L. Spurgeon. Dr. Spurgeon practiced dentistry on the first floor of the house. You can still find heavy metal doors that were once used to block x-ray radiation leading into downstairs offices. During this time the Spurgeon family lived on the second and third floors of the building. The property was later used as a Red Cross outpost before being purchased by the Newton Presbyterian Church.

Over the past year we have spent a great amount of resources making needed upgrades to the building, replacing windows, making repairs to plumbing, electric, ceiling, floors and walls, replacing doors and rebuilding porches. We are very proud of our beautiful and invite you to come by to take a tour.

Are you at-risk or currently experiencing a housing crisis? We're here to help. Call the Family Promise of Sussex County Office at 973-579-1180. Our Intensive Case Management Services will provide the support and advocacy to get your family back on track to housing stability.

Need to contact our programs staff?

LeeAnn Trott, Housing Specialist: Homeless Prevention and Rapid Rehousing Programs

ltrott@familypromisesussex.org

Theresa McDevitt, Housing Specialist: Emergency Shelter Services

tmcdevitt@familypromisesussex.org

Walter Knowles, Housing Specialist: Men's Day Program

wknowles@familypromisesussex.org

Or call 973-579-1180
between the hours of 8 AM & 4 PM
Monday through Friday