

Gratitude Expressed By Guests Who Graduated From Family Promise Programs

You provided more than food, shelter and transportation. There were encouraging and affirming words, laughter as you visited with us, and sometimes quiet when that was needed. You gave us time to gather our life back together.

Matt M., Guest, Coer d'Alene, ID

When I first learned I would be in a shelter, I automatically pictured a 'shelter'. But what I found were caring and concerned people who made the darkest time in my life so much brighter. The help and guidance I received is beyond words.

- **Dorothy O, Former Guest, Union County, NJ**

The Family Promise volunteers all take time out of their own personal lives to help those of us who are homeless. They do their best to make us comfortable, warm and well fed. The Day Center allows us to get the kind of assistance we need to find places to live, get to doctor appointments and meet personal needs. I don't know what my family would have done if it hadn't been for this program.

- **Raleigh R., Former Guest, Mpls, MN**

Thank you all so much for the effort and love behind everything all of you great people have done for us.... These are the moments that we will cherish forever. Now it is time for us to move on and pass to someone else the chance and opportunity to experience what a real family is. We will miss all of you very much. God bless your souls. This program really works to help build a better life, and teaches us the true meaning of love.

- **Brune, Guest, Boston, MA**



Family Promise Bartow

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P. O. Box 1343

Cartersville, GA 30120

familypromisebartow.com

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*Transforming the Lives of
Homeless Families Because
Every Child Deserves a Home*



Taking the child in his arms, Jesus said to them, *"Anyone who welcomes a little child like this on my behalf welcomes me, and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not only me but also my Father who sent me."*

Mark 9:36b-37

Why in Bartow

Shockingly, at the end of our 2015 school year, Bartow County had over 600 homeless children living in cars, tents, motels, or with friends and family. Because the Good Neighbor Homeless Shelter is nearly always at full capacity, they reluctantly turn away an average of 25 families a month who have nowhere else to go.

Local pastors, seeing the need to help, traveled to Dalton to visit Whitfield County's Family Promise. Information was then shared among key members of Bartow Collaborative, and with the cooperation and support of over 15 local churches of all denominations, Family Promise Bartow emerged.

About Family Promise

Family Promise, established in 1986, through its 189 Affiliates nationwide, provides temporary shelter, meals, and supportive services to homeless families by utilizing existing resources within local congregations and the community.

We bring people in need together with people who want to help by providing the framework that turns compassion into action. We address a major social crisis in a holistic, effective way with 75% of families we serve achieving long-term housing.



A Community Response for Homeless Families



A mother loses her job. A father is kept from working by an injury. A family is forced from their home by fire or natural disaster. Medical expenses soar due to a catastrophic illness. No transportation. Difficulty finding affordable housing.

These are some of the reasons why **families now make up 40 percent of the homeless population.** In response to this crisis, Family Promise of Bartow County brings the faith community together alongside social service agencies and other local resources to help families regain their housing, independence, and dignity.

If your church has not yet come alongside us, please ask them to consider doing so. We still need several more support congregations.

Our Volunteers

Volunteers are the heart of each Family Promise Affiliate and act as hosts while families are guests at their church. They become a personal support system to the families, preparing and serving home-cooked meals, helping with homework, and offering hope and friendship.

There's a wide range of volunteer opportunities to fit any schedule and commitment level. Our program also offers a great place for families to volunteer together, from grandparents to young children, in the safe, familiar environment of their own congregation.

Volunteering at the Day Center, where the Director provides case management, and is home base for our families during the day, is another option.

Our Host Congregations

- Euharlee Baptist
- Faith United Methodist
- Cartersville First Baptist
- First Presbyterian
- Grace Baptist
- Heritage Baptist
- NorthPointe Church
- Pine Log United Methodist
- Catholic Church of St. Francis of Assisi
- Sam Jones United Methodist
- Tabernacle Baptist
- Trinity Baptist
- Church at the Well

Our Support Congregations

- Church of the Ascension
- New Hope Baptist
- Oakland Heights Baptist
- Rowland Springs Baptist