



PROGRAM COMPONENTS

Family Promise is a nonprofit 501(c)3, non-denominational organization for families in transition. There are over 206 Affiliates in 43 states. There are more than 6000 congregations and organizations, with 180,000 volunteers making up these Affiliates. Additionally there are 39 more Affiliates developing.

The Family Promise Network Program brings shelter, meals, and support services to families without homes. Family Promise Networks are a cost-efficient, effective, and replicable community response to family homelessness. Because they make use of existing community resources, they can be implemented quickly, without major start-up costs. There are **six basic** components to a Network Program.

- 1. Host/Support Congregations:** The hosting of families rotates weekly among the Host Congregations in the Network. In turn, each host congregation provides lodging, three meals a day, and caring hospitality up to 4 times a year. The ideal number of Hosting Congregations is 13. The Support Congregations may not have the physical space available to Host, but provide much needed volunteers, supplies and finances.
- 2. Day Center:** Guests use a local Day Center from approximately 7:30 AM to 5:00 PM, where the Family Promise Network Director, a professional social worker, provides case management services. There, guests pursue employment, tend pre-school children, shower, and do laundry. The day center provides guests with a mailing address and a base for housing and employment searches. Many guests are employed during the day, while older children attend school.
- 3. Transportation:** The Family Promise Network van transports guests to and from the Day Center. Some Networks have an additional vehicle to carry bedding and personal belongings to the next Host Congregation. The vehicle is also used to collect any donations made to the Network.
- 4. Fundraising:** Since the Network is a 501(c)3 the organization is financed through donations, grants and fundraising. The 1st year annual budget is \$130,000 - \$140,000.
- 5. Social Service Agencies:** Family Promise works in collaboration with other Social Service agencies. Local social service agencies refer families to the Network and may also help guests find or provide housing, jobs, and other needed services.
- 6. Volunteers:** Volunteers are essential to our success and provide a wide range of services like cooking and serving meals, playing with children or helping them with homework, interacting with guests with respect and compassion, and providing overnight security. The Network depends on its success through its volunteers.



Family Promise Fact Sheet

Since its inception in 1986, **Family Promise**, (formerly Interfaith Hospitality Network) has:

Established and supported 206 Family Promise/Interfaith Hospitality Network affiliates in 43 states, and is currently developing 39 others across the United States.

Enabled over 6,000 congregations of all denominations and organizations to work together in outreach ministry each year.

Enabled over 180,000 people to volunteer in Network programs annually.

Provided shelter, meals, and comprehensive assistance to over 15,000 homeless family members in 2003, 60% of who are children and one half of those were age 5 or younger.

Helped 74% of the guests families find permanent housing in 2015.

Helped 12% of the guests secure shared housing.

Assisted more than 6,000 adults in job search or job training programs annually

Received the 1988 New Jersey Pride Award in Social Services from then Governor Kean.

Received the 1988 President's Annual Points of Light Award, the country's highest recognition from volunteerism. Family Promise was one of 21 recipients chosen from over 4500 nominees.

Selected by the United States Information Agency as a model program to represent American volunteerism to representatives from 12 foreign countries

Demonstrated through its many thousands of volunteers that Americans do care about the homeless. The Interfaith Hospitality Network program gives people who want to help, a way to help.



Summary of Program Benefits

For Guests

- Safe, homelike shelter where families can stay together.
- Guests cite the caring of volunteers as one of the most important benefits; “I never knew so many people cared.”
- Intensive case management by Network director to assist in finding housing and jobs and meeting other needs.
- Guest families secure long-term housing.

For Volunteers

- Opportunity to help homeless families directly; to make a difference.
- Opportunity to do outreach within their own congregation or a nearby location.
- Wide range of volunteer activities to vary schedules and levels of commitment.
- Opportunity for families to volunteer together.

For Congregations

- Opportunity for outreach (within the congregation’s own facilities) focusing on the needs of people in the community.
- Opportunity for participation in the community interfaith project.
- Increased sense of community among members as they share the effort.

For Community

- Cost-efficient mobilization of community resources.
- Does not duplicate services already in the community; works with social service agencies to provide counseling, job training, help with housing search, etc.
- Does not institutionalize shelter as a solution to homelessness.
- Becomes a catalyst for other community initiatives, such as job counseling, parenting workshops, transitional housing, etc.

2016 National Program Services Report

Total individuals served	67,843
Percent of guests who are children	60.0% (42% are age 5 or under)
Average length of stay (days)	61.0

Housing Status at Exit

Percent of families securing permanent housing	63.0%
Percent of families securing transitional housing	11.0%
Percent of families securing shared housing	13.0%

Family Composition

Two-Parent Families	28.0%
Female Headed single Parent Families	63.1%
Male Headed Single Parent Families	6.5%
Other Family Composition	2.3%