

Double the Love

For the sixth year in a row, the generous Hall family has stepped up to challenge us to raise \$15,000. They are committed to and believe in the Family Promise Mission. In their words: “Our family philosophy is ‘We believe all people are entitled to food, shelter, and education.’ Family Promise helps ensure all three of these criteria are met, so it is the perfect fit for our family to donate.”

Thanks to the generosity of our wonderful supporters, we more than Doubled the Love and raised over \$30,000. To celebrate the success and thank our donors, an event was held at Lieu Antiques and Interiors with delicious food and drinks, including a mobile coffee cart from Basileia Coffee.



A Message from the Executive Director

As the seasons begin to change and we move past a winter that certainly made itself known, I find myself leaning into the joy and renewal that spring brings. There's something about this time of year that reminds us—we can start again, we can breathe again, and there is always hope just ahead.

And while the seasons shift, one thing at Family Promise never changes—our people.

Our volunteers, our donors, our sponsors, our Board, and our staff—you are the steady heartbeat of this work. Day in and day out, you show up with compassion, generosity, and a willingness to stand in the gap for families who need us most.

Because of you, last year we were able to walk alongside 97 families—most led by single mothers—and help them move into safe, stable housing. That's not just a number. That's children sleeping in their own beds, parents catching their breath, and families beginning again.

In this issue, we want to give you a small peek into what it really takes to be part of this village—this “tribe” that comes together to support our families. It's not always easy, but it is always meaningful. And we would truly be nothing without you.

Thank you for walking alongside us, for believing in this mission, and for continuing to show up in ways big and small.

And please remember—there is always room for one more.

One new face. One fresh idea. One more giving heart.

Together, we continue the work of making sure that every child has a place to call home.

Blessings,



Heart of Our Mission

At the heart of every strong community are people who quietly and consistently show up, and for Family Promise one of those people is Jim O'Neil.

From the earliest days of Family Promise of Southern Chester County, Jim has been a constant and reliable presence, helping to build the foundation of support that so many families depend on today. A lifelong member of St. Pat's in Kennett Square, Jim brings a deep sense of responsibility to his volunteerism—one that is rooted in action rather than attention.

Over the years, Jim has contributed in ways both big and small, always stepping in where needed and never asking for acknowledgment. He shares this commitment with his wife, Jean, and together they deliver food each month to homebound clients through KACS, extending care and connection to neighbors throughout the community.

Jim also holds a unique place in Family Promise history as the first person to get behind the wheel of the Moving Promises van. It's a fitting milestone for someone who has quite literally helped carry the mission forward.

What sets Jim apart is his consistency. His contributions may not always be visible, but they are deeply felt, woven into the everyday work that sustains and strengthens Family Promise. We are grateful for Jim's years of dedication and the quiet, dependable way he continues to make a difference.

Mike O'Neil, Jim's son, had this to share: "What stands out most about my dad is his consistency. He cares deeply, and he acts on it. The work he's done with Family Promise reflects the kind of person he's always been, generous, steady, and committed to making things better for others. He's also someone who really doesn't like attention, so if you see this, make sure to tell him you read the newsletter and how great he is."



A Message from the Board President

Spring is in full swing and if you are like me, you look forward to the prospect of warm weather following a cold and snowy winter. Spring also reminds me of renewal. Each calendar year nature goes through its predictable cycle of growth, maturity and rest before restarting all over again.

When families come to us looking for assistance it seems like they arrive in what feels like winter; cold, uncertain and heavy with hardship. But just as no winter lasts forever, neither does this chapter define their future. Their journeys are unique, but similar in that our families are looking for what we all are looking for, shelter, consistency, dignity and belief in a brighter future for themselves and their children. For our families, the early stages of rebuilding are often fragile. A parent getting a job, a child adjusting to a new school, the family learning to trust again after hardship and disappointment; these are like the first buds on a tree. They are small, easily overlooked, and vulnerable to setbacks. But most importantly, they are powerful signs of life returning and with it, a chance to bloom and thrive once again.



Just as every garden is unique, so too is every family's journey. Some bloom quickly, while others take more time and care. While unexpected challenges can test progress, these challenges do not erase the growth that has begun, in fact, they often strengthen it. The most resilient gardens survive storms, just like the resilience our families show as they work towards a more stable, secure, and hope filled future.

As Board President, I am reminded that the work of Family Promise can be measured in transformations. A child sleeping in their own bed for the first time, a parent cooking a meal in their own kitchen, a family opening the door to a place they can finally call home. These are the blossoms of spring in human form, and they signal the start of something beautiful, enduring and full of possibility for those among us who are working hard for a better, more long lasting future.

Thank you for your support of Family Promise and the compassion you have for our Mission. Growth is always possible, even after surviving the harshest of conditions, and our families successes are living proof of this now and in the future.

Happy Spring!!

Community of Promise Keepers

We are incredibly grateful for the generous partners who stand beside us, helping to provide comfort, stability, and hope to the families we serve. These “Community of Promise Keepers” go above and beyond, turning compassion into action in meaningful ways.

Colledge

TIRE & AUTOMOTIVE
SERVICE CENTER

Keeping families safely on the road is essential to maintaining employment, school attendance, and daily stability. Colledge Tire & Auto has been an invaluable partner, servicing our vehicles and stepping in to repair cars for families in need. Their commitment ensures that transportation challenges don't become barriers to progress.



Behind every successful program is a mountain of materials—and Kennett Copy & More has been there for us every step of the way. From flyers to essential documents, their consistent support in printing our materials helps us stay organized, professional, and ready to serve our community effectively.



In a beautiful act of kindness, students and staff from Devon Preparatory School delivered a special early Easter dinner to our families. Their thoughtful gesture brought not only a delicious meal, but also a sense of celebration, care, and connection during the holiday season.



Delivering on the “Promise of Food,” Landhope Farms continues to nourish our families through generous donations from their stores. Their ongoing support helps ensure that families have access to fresh, reliable food—bringing both relief and dignity to those working toward stability.



Through Pizza Across America, Mezzaluna generously donated 20 delicious pizzas to our families—spreading comfort, smiles, and full bellies. Their support created a joyful shared experience, reminding our families that their community is thinking of them and cheering them on.

New Beginnings & Next Chapters

Hi, I'm Jess, and I'm so excited to join the Family Promise community as the new Volunteer, Development, and Fundraising Coordinator.

I bring over 15 years of experience in financial services, where I developed strong skills in relationship-building, organization, and thoughtful, data-driven planning. More recently, I've had the opportunity to explore a more creative side of my work through event and balloon design—something I truly love—as a way to bring people together around meaningful causes and celebrations. I enjoy blending creativity with practical planning to make every interaction feel personal and impactful.



Born and raised in Delaware, I now live in Kennett Square with my husband and our two young children, who keep life busy and full of joy. We love spending time together at Rehoboth Beach or exploring beautiful Southern Chester County. Throughout my career, one constant has been my connection to community. Whether through volunteering, supporting local initiatives, or organizing events, I've always been drawn to work that builds relationships and fosters a sense of belonging. In this season of life, that feels more important than ever. As a mom, I understand how vital stability, support, and community are for families, and I'm passionate about helping create that for others.

At Family Promise, I'm excited to engage with our volunteers and donors, help strengthen connections in the community, and support fundraising efforts that make a real difference for local families. I look forward to meeting many of you at the Evening of Promise on Thursday, May 7—thank you for being a part of this wonderful mission!



We are thrilled to congratulate Daniel on his high school graduation, an incredible milestone and the beginning of an exciting new chapter as he heads off to college to study Civic Leadership and Policy Studies at the University of Delaware!

Daniel has been part of the Family Promise community since before he could even drive, and over the years, he has made a lasting impression on all of us. He brings a fresh, young perspective paired with an infectious enthusiasm that lifts every room he enters. Whether he's lending a hand at events, connecting with families, or jumping in wherever help is needed, Daniel does it all with kindness, energy, and a genuine desire to make a difference.

It has been such a joy to watch him grow, not only in age but in character and compassion. He is truly a wonderful young man, and we feel so lucky to have had him as part of our Family Promise family.

Daniel, we are so proud of you and all that you've accomplished. We can't wait to see where your journey takes you next. Wishing you every success and happiness in college and beyond, you will always have a home here with us!




SAVE THE DATE!

Family Promise of Southern Chester County presents

11th Anniversary: An Evening of Promise
Thursday, May 7 | The Creamery : Kennett Square

Ticket Price includes: 1 Cocktail, 1 Entree, Face Painting
Cash Bar – Silent Auction – Family Friendly

Sponsorship Opportunities Available
Tickets Now on Sale

Visit our website: www.familypromisesc.org
Call: 610-444-0400

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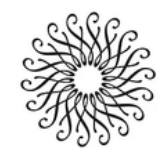
Friends of Family Promise

Fred Wissemann

Mike and Lisa Bell

Anonymous

Marsha Cope



LONGWOOD
GARDENS





of Southern Chester County

SPRING 2026 NEWSLETTER

Network of Congregations

Family Promise was built on a unique model, utilizing the resources of congregational partners in our community to provide meals and overnight accommodations for families until they find permanent housing. Our volunteers are the heart of the organization. Here in Southern Chester County, we are proud to have over 900 dedicated volunteers and 26 caring congregations in our network.

THANK YOU!!!!!!

Apostolic Church of Oxford
Assumption of the BVM
Avon Grove Church of the Nazarene
Avondale United Methodist Church
Bethany Presbyterian Church Mendenhall
Christ Church at the Grove
Christian Life Center
Cornerstone Presbyterian Church
Doe Run Presbyterian Church
Episcopal Church of the Advent
New London United Methodist Church
Kennett Friends Meeting
Oxford Presbyterian Church

Oxford United Methodist Church
Presbyterian Church of Kennett Square
St. Christopher's Episcopal Church of Oxford
St. Cornelius Catholic Church
St. Michael Lutheran Church
St. Patrick Catholic Church
The Barn Vineyard Church
Toughkenamon Presbyterian Church
Unionville Presbyterian Church
United Methodist Church of the Open Door
West Grove United Methodist Church
Westminster Presbyterian Church
Willowdale Chapel

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As always, thank you so much for your unwavering support and dedication to Family Promise and the families that we are called to serve.