



of Greater Houston County



*Volume 12 Issue 1  
Winter 2024*

*January, February,  
March*

*In this Issue:*

*Director's Corner*

*Peaches to  
the Beaches*

*Steven Cade Visit*

*Meet the Board  
President & Vice Pres.*

*We've Got  
Great News!*

*Meet the Cornwells  
After School Program*

*Thank you for your  
In-Kind Gifts*

*Wish List*

*Thank you, Donors*

*Keep in Touch*

**This newsletter is  
created by FPGHC  
volunteers.**

**THANK YOU  
FOR SHARING IT**



**FP has earned a 4 star  
rating for Nine  
consecutive years**



## **Director's Corner**

**Nicole Rosser, MPA  
Executive Director**

## **3STEP Program**

The families we serve are those striving for self-sufficiency. Today more than ever, countless families

have a limited income and face economic hardship which can result in homelessness. Permanent housing is always the goal for our guests and our program is designed to meet qualifying families where they are and provide the support needed to break down personal and community barriers which may prevent them from accessing permanent, safe, and affordable housing.

The current housing crisis is affecting so many families; not just those considered low income as defined by HUD. The average family graduating from our program secures housing at rental rates between \$1,000 and \$1,200 monthly, but it can be significantly higher. Most landlords require tenants to make 3 times the monthly rental rate to qualify to rent a house or apartment. The last family of four to graduate from our program secured an *apartment for \$1,400 along with the security deposit of \$1,400 and utility deposits of \$200. From homelessness to \$1,400 rent in 90 days is a huge step.* This mom has been at her for job for 15 months and makes \$16 hourly with some overtime.

Here is the break down:

1. Eviction due to increased rent rates, job loss or low salary, or change in family dynamics
2. Access Shelter
3. Continue working current job and/or find employment with a higher salary
4. Save money
5. Attend a Financial workshop
6. Identify and secure permanent housing

(Continued on page 2)

**DIRECTOR'S CORNER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1**

Challenge 1—The eviction on record and getting approved for safe affordable housing (most require an additional month's rent because of the eviction)

Challenge 2— Having a qualifying income of 3 times the amount of rent

Challenge 3—Sustaining after the move with other expenses such as car payment and insurance, groceries, medical expenses, childcare, etc.

Challenge 4—Lack of adequate pay

While we applaud all of our families at graduation, we all have the same concern in 2024 that did not plague us in 2018; Can the family sustain? What happens when the kids need new shoes and clothes, or the car has to be repaired, or when the adults have to miss work because of a sick child at home?

**HOW CAN YOU HELP?**

If you, or someone you know has rental property and would like to partner with FPGHC to help our "WORKING" families, we would love to invite you to our campus to talk about our new 3STEP program for graduating families. If our families could move into safe, affordable housing and be part of the 3STEP Program they would have a much better chance of sustaining, thus minimizing overutilization of community resources, the shelter cycle and lower eviction rates.



The 3STEP Program is to give our families a hand up, not a hand out. It is a Win/Win for the community, for parents, and most importantly for children.

Example:

Monthly Rent: \$1,000 and Deposit is \$1,000

**3STEP Program**

Security Deposit \$1,000 and first month's rent of \$800

January–March \$800 rent, April–June \$900 rent, July–December \$1,000 rent

Shelter is temporary.....Permanent housing is always the goal.

Our first meeting will be April 8, 2024. Property Managers, Leasing Managers, and Landlords, we hope you will join us at the table.

**NOTE:** All families recommended for this program will undergo background checks, drug screening, will have saved required \$ in the program, and most importantly have full time employment which supports the amount of rent. Our goal is to place 3 graduates in the 3STEP Program in 2024.

Please contact our office, 478-988-9457 for more information.

Let's work together as a community to minimize the shelter cycle for children.



# **Peaches** TO THE **Beaches**

## **ANNUAL YARD SALE**

THE SECOND FRIDAY AND SATURDAY IN MARCH

**341**

SM

### ***Family Promise***

will be participating in Georgia's Biggest and Longest Yard Sale

**MARCH 8TH AND 9TH 2024  
AT CROSSROADS UNITED METHODIST  
1600 MAIN ST (RTE 341), PERRY GA**

### ***How can you get involved?***

Donate items to sell (No Clothes)

Larger items can be brought to our storage unit or we can arrange to pick them up

Help load the truck on Thursday March 7<sup>th</sup> (PM)

Volunteer to unload items to the sale site (AM early)

Volunteer to assist with sales during event hours Friday and/or Saturday

To Volunteer in any capacity or coordinate donating your items

Contact: **DIANE SOUTH** at **860-908-6687**

or Family Promise Office at 478-988-9457



Family Promise Guests and Volunteers were recently privileged to attend a private music session with Grammy nominated Country Music Artist, Steven Cade, as a part of his "Giving Guitars Tour". The songs he shared were mixed with emotion and story

telling, accompanied by the smooth sounds of the guitar. It was a time of great fellowship as we enjoyed listening to the original compositions of this talented artist.



We were also blessed with a guitar from the "Giving Guitar Foundation", founded by Steven Cade. We look forward to using it in our After School Program for fun and music therapy.

You can learn more about Steven Cade and his foundation at: <https://stevencade.com> or [www.instrumentsforinspiration.org](http://www.instrumentsforinspiration.org)

L-R: Steven's wife, Kellee Cade; Nicole holding the donated guitar, Steven Cade, and Perry Mayor, Randall Walker

## Meet the new President and Vice President of the FPGHC Board



Dana Chatman

With the beginning of 2024 there have been some changes on our Board of Directors. Board member and secretary Dana Chatman is the new President of the Board. Board member Amy Holbeck is the new Vice President of the board. Both of these ladies have been serving with FPGHC for several years as Coordinators at their respective churches, working hands on with our families. Dana Chatman retired in 2014 as the Detachment 7 Commander of JSTARS and is now a Real Estate Agent. Amy



Amy Holbeck

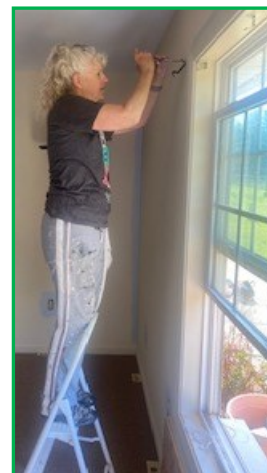
Holbeck is currently the Brigadier General and Chief of Staff with the Air National Guard at Robins Air Force Base. We are honored and blessed to have these talented ladies leading our team of volunteers.



**We are pleased to share that we had 2 families in December and 2 families in January to graduate and move into permanent housing. Congratulations to all 4 families!**

**We are so proud of you!**

**Meet Volunteers Larry and Judy Cornwell**



*We want to take a moment to say THANK YOU to Larry and Judy Cornwell.*

*This amazing couple has been supporting Family Promise of Greater Houston County since 2013. They generously donate their time and resources in support of this ministry. They gift our families with their Christmas Wishes Organization during the holidays and they volunteer to paint and complete other small projects on the Family Promise campus.*

*Larry and Judy we want you to know your love and dedication for this program has not gone unnoticed. We greatly THANK YOU for sharing your time and talents behind the scenes, making life a little easier for our families and staff.*



*Perry Kiwanis Club and Zaltana Club donated the proceeds from the "Pancake Breakfast with Santa" Event to FPGHC. We are so grateful for this generous donation!*

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!**



**Whether you support Family Promise with your financial gifts or In-kind gifts or your volunteer time, know that we are most grateful for your support. You are appreciated!**



*The Civic organization, Ladies of the Circle of Perfection, blessed us with many needed supplies for our families. Thank you for your support of Family Promise!*



*The Warner Robins Senior Center made and donated Quilts to our guest families. Such a wonderful gift for this time of year! Thank You for our kindness.*



*Piney Grove Baptist Church, Kathleen, donated Diapers, Pillows, and other supplies to Family Promise. God Bless You for your thoughtfulness!*



*Donation of needed supplies from Harvest Church. Thank You from the bottom of our hearts! You are a blessing!*

**Mops**  
**Toilet Paper**  
**Trash Bags - Tall Kitchen**  
**Trash Bags - 35 gallon**



**March 10**



**March 17**



**March 31**



**FAMILY PROMISE OF  
GREATER HOUSTON COUNTY**

**Location:**  
2097 US Highway 41S  
Perry, GA 31096-9543

**Mailing Address:**  
PO Box 8434  
Warner Robins, GA 31095-8434

478-988-9457 office  
478-218-2726 FAX

**Executive Director**  
Nicole Rosser

**Board of Directors**

Dana Chatman, President  
Amy Holbeck, Vice President  
Tasha Folds, Secretary  
Brandi Daniels, Treasurer  
Ronnie Shivers, Asst. Treasurer

Yolanda Franklin  
Mike Jackson  
Rayton Sianjina

**Advisory Board**

Pauline Abbott  
Sheldon Shelton

**Family Promise of Greater  
Houston County, Inc.**

Is a 501(c)(3) non-denominational, non-profit, organization for families in transition and part of a national organization founded in 1986. The Family Promise Network provides shelter, meals and support services to families without homes through the support of local congregations and other community organizations.



**Combined Federal  
Campaign Member**  
90951



**Kroger Community  
Rewards Organization**  
Number: SU460



**Individuals:**

Jan Kirchoff  
Annette Anderson

**Club 247:**

Darcy Hatin  
Jeff & Dianne Douglass  
Dave & Carolyn Schomer


**Congregations:**

The Assembly  
Harvest Church  
Andrew Church, Kathleen  
Trinity United Methodist  
All Saints Episcopal  
Mt. Calvary Lutheran  
Westminster Presbyterian  
Word in Season Ministries  
First Christian Church, Perry

**Gift in Kind Donations:**

Harvest Church  
New Hope Church, Perry  
Piney Grove Baptist, Kathleen  
Parrish Construction  
Ladies of the Circle of Perfection  
Warner Robins Senior Center  
Perry Kiwanis Club  
Perry Zaltana Club  
Janet Foskey

**Keep in Touch:**

 478-988-9457



Family Promise of Greater Houston County



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familypromisehoustonco.org