



Family Promise Metrowest

a community response to families who are homeless

Spring 2016

From Our Director

Dear Friends,

With the change in season and birth of spring, we also have many changes to announce here at Family Promise. We welcome new staff and Board members and wish those well who have moved on to new endeavors. We congratulate one of our families who have moved on to transitional living while we embrace a new family into our shelter.

We are also excited to see the growth in our Steps to Success program that was initiated in September 2015. This comprehensive approach to employment encourages families to reach for their highest earning potential by offering subsidies for training and education as well as barriers such as day care and transportation. The approach is working as 100% of our families are currently employed while 67% have pursued additional training including college level courses.

Our most recent initiative is to address the issue of affordable housing in our area. Through a collaboration with the Natick Affordable Housing Trust and Keefe Technical School, we are thrilled to announce that we are building a two family home in Natick that will be designated for our families. We thank Wellesley Village Church for their recent grant that supports our efforts with this new project.

Finally, we look forward to our Annual Walkathon on Saturday, April 9 on the Natick Common. This event is our major fundraiser for the year yet it is also a celebration for everyone in our network whose contribution has made Family Promise the success it is today. Be sure to join us and take pride in all we have done together.

With warm regards to all,

Sue

Donate



For weekly updates on what's happening at Family Promise Metrowest, check out our facebook page and be sure to "like" us while you are there.



Staff

Sue Crossley

Executive Director

Carole Brodrick

Director of Development

Amanda Elkin

Program Coordinator

Pam Green

Office Manager

Judy Mongiardo

Network Coordinator

Eliz Portal

Transitional Housing Case Manager

Martha Williams

Shelter Program Case Manager

Board of Directors

Sue Crossley
Executive Director

Bob Murray, *Chair*
Jim Roberts, *Treasurer*
Lecia Shronce, *Clerk*
Donna Angelico
Kim Cohen
Kathy McGraw-Bentley
JoAnne Marshall
Morgan Molloy
Ghazala Alam MD
Maureen Wooster

7th Annual Walk Away Homelessness



[Check out our new Walkathon Website!](#)

Get your walking shoes on and plan to join us on the Natick Common! We have lots of fun planned for the morning as we come together to celebrate the work we are doing as a community to help families who are homeless. This year we are proud to have 3 Platinum Sponsors: **Needham Bank, DCU and WROR 105.7 FM radio**. Check out our [Walkathon Website](#) to see all our sponsors. We have some wonderful prizes for this year's raffle. For every \$100 raised, you receive 1 raffle ticket for the following prizes.

- 2 Roundtrip Jet Blue Tickets for a domestic flight
- 2 Boston Red Sox Tickets
- Gift Certificate to Marathon Sports

To avoid long lines Saturday morning, we are going to have early registration and t-shirt pick-up on Friday, April 8th, 4pm-7pm at Marathon Sports, located in Wellesley at 255 Washington St. As an added BONUS, you will receive 20% off anything purchased in the store when picking up your t-shirt! Thank you **Marathon Sports** for your support.

Register by March 25th to guarantee a t-shirt!



Wellesley Village Church Supports our first affordable housing initiative

Family Promise Metrowest is honored to be chosen by Wellesley Congregational (Village) Church as the first recipient of a service award from their recent capital campaign, **For Such a Time as This**. The \$65,000 award was presented during the March 13 worship service. Thank you Village Church for your generous support! .

Board of Director Changes

We extend our sincere gratitude to Rev. Adam Tierney-Eliot for his years of service on our Board of Directors. We will miss his participation on the Board, but look forward to a continued relationship with both Adam and his congregation from the Eliot Church.

We are also pleased to welcome Ghazala Alam, MD as our newest Board member. Ghazala established her Primary Care Practice in Chelmsford MA, and has been running it very successfully since 1998. She is the recipient of several awards in clinical excellence, and is recognized as an outstanding physician in her area. She has been the lead for the ICB Wayland-FPM collaboration, making ICB one of the most effective and active FPM participant congregations. Ghazala lives in Andover MA and is married with two children.



We have had the pleasure of getting to know Ghazala through her past participation with Family Promise and look forward to having her play an integral role in our future.

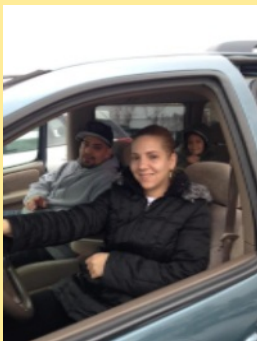
A portion of this grant will be used to fund our first affordable housing project, a two-family home on Bacon Street in Natick. This initiative is a result of a collaboration with the Natick Affordable Housing Trust which is a housing committee tasked with the development and provision of affordable housing in Natick. In addition, Keefe Regional Technical School will be providing students from their Carpentry, Plumbing and Electrical Programs to build the home. According to John Brochu, Director of Career and Technical Education, *"This is a great opportunity for our students to take on a live project that will benefit families in our area. It is also the first duplex being built in the history of our school."*

We are truly grateful to our partners and excited about this new beginning for Family Promise Metrowest as we address the issue of affordable housing.



Architectural rendering of the Bacon St. Home

Family Updates



Congratulations to Yari and William, who recently got their driving licenses and who are now the proud new owners of a family car! (A big THANK YOU to Scott and Margery Shepard of Wellesely who donated their used vehicle.)

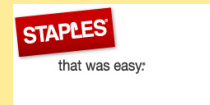
Yari just started a new job at Paparazzi. Destiny is in afterschool 5 days a week at Brown Elementary. FPM is paying for extended day at Headstart for Jaylianis. This family is anticipating moving into their own apartment soon!

Tacha and her family have been very busy. Jeremiah celebrated his

[Click here for Host and Support Congregations](#)

Community Partners

Champions



First Birthday and had a wonderful celebration. Adeyah is going to Tobin Afterschool 5 days a week. Tacha finished a 2 week intensive course at MassBay and has just started a new full-time job.



Jen and Julius are doing great. Jen is working hard at Wendy's and continuing to save. She recently past her learners permit exam and will be working towards getting her driving license.

Our newest family Mimi, Ezra and Isaiah, joined us this past month. Mimi is working full-time while Ezra is working closely with Amanda, our Steps to Success Coordinator, exploring career options.

Transitional Housing Program



Carlos continues to work full-time while Daisy is a stay at home mom during the week and on weekends, she is working part-time. Maximus is a happy, healthy baby and Amber is very excited about starting kindergarten in September!

Jane is working part-time as a Certified Nursing Assistant and is attending classes in her second semester at Mass Bay Community College. Her goal is to get into an LPN Program next year. Yusuf is working full-time as a Certified Caregiver and is exploring options to get more educational training. Joviah continues to attend preschool.

Bility continues to work full time as a Teacher Assistant. She is also exploring her options at Mass Bay so she can continue her Early Child Education. The entire family is excited and grateful for the car that was donated to them!

Jackie and her three children Jahneay, Damari, and Rodd are doing great. Jackie continues to work full-time and her kids go to school. Jackie still receives

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WELLESLEY BANK
CHARITABLE FOUNDATION

Cheerleaders

Avis Budget Charitable Foundation
David Allen's Ameriprise Balance
Mathworks
Metrowest Medical Center
Perpetuart
Wellesley Hills Jr Women's Club

Friends

Bose Corporation
Boston Interiors
Brookline Savings Bank
CA Inc. Matching Gifts Program
Comcast
Container Store
Dion's Fine Wines, Spirits and Craft
Beers
DCU for Kids
Digital Federal Credit Union
Dunkin' Donuts
Energy Fitness and Gymnastics
Fidelity Charitable Gift Fund
Framingham Rotary
Framingham Union Aid
Goulston & Storrs
Hologic
HP Your Cause, LLC
Microsoft
Middlesex Savings Bank
Natick Dental Partners
Natick Rotary Club

case management services through Family Promise.

After working diligently with Amanda for the past few months, Tiffany is thrilled to have started a new job as an executive assistant for a real estate company last week. We share Tiffany's excitement knowing this position is the first step in a long term, sustainable career.

Welcome Martha and Bob



We wish Tina well as she leaves for a new venture and welcome Martha Williams as our new Shelter Case Manager. Martha brings a wealth of experience as a social worker working with children and families along with a MSW. Even more important, Martha has been

volunteering with our families in the day center since last August and is very familiar with our organization and the families we serve. We are thrilled to have her now as part of our staff having seen her passion for our mission and commitment to our families.

We also welcome Bob Arruda as a new van driver for our families. Bob has been an educator, teaching skills in photography and Photoshop on the secondary and higher education level. For the past 30 years, he also has shot stock photography on many subjects and has done assignment photography for the advertising, corporate and editorial markets. Not to mention that Bob is very handy around the office helping us keep up with our maintenance challenges!



- Philips Lifeline
- Ponca Hills Enterprise, Inc.
- Robert Hunsicker Foundation
- Roche Bros./Sudbury Farms
- South Natick Newcomers
- The Fuller Foundation
- The Village Bank
- Timothy Le Pain, Ameriprise
- Tobey Grey
- Tobin Family of Schools
- Webster First Federal Credit Union
- Wellesley Rotary Club
- Whole Foods

2014 Annual Report is Here!

Click to download your copy.

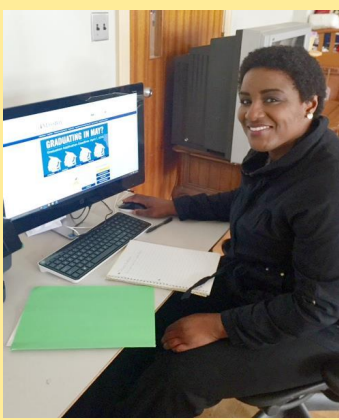


ACT NOW!

Are you a Thrivent Choice® policyholder? If so, eligible members are able to recommend where some of Thrivent Financial for Lutherans' charitable outreach funds go and FPM is eligible!

Thrivent Financial members have until March 31 to direct any remaining 2015 Choice Dollars®. After that date, Choice Dollars® will expire. Program details can be found [here](#).

Steps to Success



Congratulations to Tacha for her successful completion of her MassBay course in Microsoft Office! Many thanks to [Wheatridge Ministries. Foundation](#) , [Foundation for Metrowest](#), [Natick Rotary Club](#) and the [Staples Foundation](#) for

their support of our families as they pursue higher education and sustainable job opportunities through our Steps to Success program.

[Volunteer Training Dates](#)

[Needed Items](#)

[Volunteer Opportunities](#)

Special Host Week Thanks

Family Promise is first and foremost a shelter program whose foundation is the network of 50 congregations from 12 towns who provide an extravagant welcome of shelter, meals and hospitality to our guest families 52 weeks a year. Each host congregations is paired with one or more support congregations who together fill the myriad tasks to make each host week possible from meals, to shopping, to overnight hosting and laundry.

One cannot overestimate the power of this interfaith cooperation. For Holy Week, the busiest time of the year for our network churches, Temple Shir Tikva, Wayland, graciously offered to host our guests for two weeks collaborating with their support team: the Islamic Center of Boston, Wayland; Congregation Beth El and the Presbyterian Church, Sudbury.

Partnerships such as these not only make a difference in the lives of the families we serve, but stand as a witness to the wider community of what power there is when diverse faiths unite in their shared common vision of serving those in need. Thank you to every volunteer from these congregations and the wider community who share your gifts to give our parents and children a loving home.

Clean out your closet and help us raise funds!

Items collected help fund:

Family Promise Metrowest



Bring your items to our **Donation Drive** event:

May 6 thru May 9

Savers:

**500 Conchituate Road , Framingham or
222 East Main Street , Marlboro**

Please mention that you are with Family Promise
Metrowest when you drop off your items.

For questions, please contact:

Pam Green

508-318-4820

admin@familypromisemetrowest.org

We are collecting:

-  Clothing
-  Shoes
-  Accessories
-  Books
-  Linens
-  Household Items*

** Small items only.
No furniture.*

