



NEW BEGINNING

Building community, strengthening lives



Family Promise of Cobb County's Newsletter



Hosting Schedule

Director's Corner

I want to thank all the volunteers who make it possible for our families to feel so supported while they are going through this difficult time. You work so hard, and feel so strongly about our charge to care of our guests. You all have given over 4,000 volunteer hours so far, worth an estimated \$90,200. The difference you are making in the lives of the adults and children in our care cannot be measured in money.

As we continue to grow and our families find success and graduate, the question becomes how do we begin to relate to our graduate families? One of the most beautiful parts of FPCC is that you, as volunteers, get to connect with families. Those connections aren't really meant to be temporary – they are meant to last to the benefit of the volunteer and the family. That won't always be the case, of course. Some families aren't open to volunteers, and everybody connects differently because of personalities. Either way, it is important to understand the helpful and healthy ways to engage families after they leave the program.

Please see the lists below as examples of ways to engage families. Being helpful is doing something for someone they can't do on their own. *It becomes less helpful when we do something for someone that they can do themselves.* Please be careful. Love openly, but also be wise. Listen to your gut. If you aren't sure about something, feel free to talk to Family Promise staff about how to move forward. Please also keep in mind that the following lists are general examples – not specifics. Each person is different and will respond differently to the help they receive.

Helpful connecting:

- Calling to ask how a family is doing
- Inviting a family over to dinner for a special occasion
- Running errands together
- Arranging "play dates"
- Being a listening ear
- Helping to connect a family with community resources
- Helping a family move into a new apartment

Activities that encourage less helpful connection:

- Giving a family money or paying for rent, utilities, etc.
- Purchasing groceries
- Buying gifts (excluding special occasions)
- Babysitting on an excessive basis





MASSEY AUTOMOTIVE SUPPORTS FAMILY PROMISE OF COBB COUNTY

For every vehicle sold \$100 is donated to Family Promise of Cobb County. To date, Massey Automotive has donated \$---- to FPCC through this program. If you have a car you are interested in buying, please consider using Massey Automotive. They offer fantastic service, and you can support our charity.

What's better than a donation to FPCC? A gift with even more impact! You can double or triple your gift to FPCC—at no extra cost to you. You may not be aware that many companies will match their employees' (and sometimes even employee spouses') donations to nonprofit organizations—including universities—to significantly expand the value of an individual's charitable gift. Please check with your company to see if they will match your donation to FPCC.

“One Family, One Song, One Promise”

The One Family Musical Concert will be held Friday, September 12, 2014 at Transfiguration Catholic Church. The event starts at 7:30 and will feature FPCC network congregation musical groups. \$20 for premium seating and \$10 for regular. Contact your church Volunteer Coordinator for ticket purchase or you can purchase your tickets online at www.familypromisecobbcounty.org



THANK YOU TO ALL WHO VOTED

Eileen Hilburn (St. James Episcopal Church) nominated FPCC for a SCANA Energy Facebook contest. Because we are a network of people who love this charity, FPCC won \$1000 from SCANA. Thanks to Eileen for nominating us and to all of you who voted.



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

My name is Debbie Sivret. My husband, John, and I are members of Christ Episcopal Church-Kennesaw and we have 6 grandchildren. When I first heard about Family Promise at my church, I knew I wanted to learn more about it. I attended a core group meeting in January, 2013 and realized this is something I always wanted to be a part of...*helping homeless families and making a difference in the lives of others.* Shortly after that initial core meeting I became a team member of the Communications Committee (since I had a background in creating newsletters). In September, 2013 our first newsletter was released to all hosting congregations and their parishioners. In addition to the newsletter, Vice President Eileen Collins and I began to manage the website which I thought would be easy. Wow was I fooled! So I started to teach myself WordPress from scratch and with lots of learning experiences we will soon redesign our website to give a WOW experience to the visitor. Doing the behind the scenes work as a volunteer has been very rewarding for me. But it doesn't stop there.

After the first core group meeting with FPCC I decided to become a Volunteer Coordinator at my church. I attended every core group meeting and enjoyed watching the organization blossom. After months of preparation, scheduling our first host week was so fulfilling due to how many of our parishioners wanted to help. We have hosted twice now, in February and again in May. This experience is the most worthwhile thing I have ever done. FPCC is not my only volunteer position. At church I am also a member of our Parish Growth Committee, Youth Council and ECW (Episcopal Church Women). If you want to become a FPCC volunteer, contact your church's Volunteer Coordinator or call our Executive Director, Camilla Worrell at cworrell@familypromisecobbcounty.org. You won't regret it.

Volunteer Training Dates: 8/21/2014 and 9/8/2014; 7:00 pm at the FPCC DayCenter
For more information email training@familypromisecobbcounty.org