

**Family Promise of Cobb County**  
**2325 Roswell Road, Building 400**  
**Marietta, GA 30062**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 8, 2015

**Contact:**

Camilla Worrell

Executive Director

[cworrell@familypromisecobbcounty.org](mailto:cworrell@familypromisecobbcounty.org)

(678) 594-3150

**Family Promise of Cobb County and Kirkwood Presbyterian Church USA Dedicate Kirkwood Promise House as Transitional Residence for Families Escaping Homelessness**

Family Promise of Cobb County (FPCC) and Kirkwood Presbyterian Church USA dedicated the Kirkwood Promise House, which will serve as transitional housing for a family who was once homeless, on Sunday, May 31, 2015.

“God has beautifully orchestrated this project in ways beyond our own imagination,” said the Rev. Catherine Renken, pastor of Kirkwood Presbyterian Church. “We had no idea how exactly we were going to use this property when bought it. We hadn’t outgrown our current building, our pockets were not overflowing, and we didn’t know about the needs in our community for affordable housing. But when it came time to vote on whether to purchase the house, the congregation was unanimous. And when the connection was made with Family Promise, everything became to fall into place. We are overjoyed to be a part of God’s plan to provide a home for families in our community.”

The need and the opportunity began coming together in west Cobb County last year, when Kirkwood Presbyterian Church USA received an offer to purchase the former Purdy family residence next to the church on Acworth-Due West Road. When church members approved the purchase, they didn’t know exactly how they would put the home to use, but they were certain that the Lord would provide an answer.

Meanwhile, Family Promise of Cobb County (FPCC) was working to fulfill its mission statement of helping homeless families with children “achieve adequate and consistent income, stable housing, and lasting independence by mobilizing our local interfaith community to provide temporary emergency meals, shelter, compassionate hospitality, and professional services.”

The 1969 ranch house is now completely remodeled inside and out so that it can serve as FPCC’s first transitional house in metro Atlanta. Volunteers from Family Promise and Kirkwood joined members of Team Depot, employees from four local Home Depot stores, to work on the house, and Home Depot provided all supplies free of charge, including paint, flooring, appliances, kitchen cabinets, and bathroom fixtures.

“Family Promise of Cobb County greatly thanks the Kirkwood family for providing this transitional home to future FPCC clients as they journey toward freedom from homelessness,” said FPCC Executive Director Camilla Worrell. “We also deeply appreciate the contributions of The Home Depot and the efforts of the volunteers from Kirkwood, Team Depot and Family Promise who helped transform the empty Purdy family house into a home that will again be filled with hope, love, and the promise of a better future.”

FPCC’s Host congregations assist families with children by providing lodging, meals, and caring hospitality for one week, four times each year on a rotating schedule. Additional support congregations assist the FPCC network by providing volunteers, meals, and funds.

Local congregations that serve as FPCC host congregations are: Acworth UMC, Annunciation Episcopal, Christ Episcopal Church, Covenant Presbyterian Church, East Cobb UMC, Pilgrimage United Church of Christ, St. Andrew UMC, St. Benedict’s Episcopal, St. Catherine's Episcopal Church, St. James Episcopal Church, Mt. Zion UMC, Smyrna Church of the Nazarene, Transfiguration Catholic Church, Unity North Atlanta Church, and Zion Baptist Church.

FPCC, which opened in January 2014, is a non-traditional shelter where homeless families spend one week with local area faith based congregations. The local organization is an independent affiliate of Family Promise, a national organization founded in 1988. This interfaith organization was founded with the mission of addressing the immediate needs of homeless families with children. To find out more about Family Promise of Cobb County and to donate to this cause, please visit [www.familypromisecobbcounty.org](http://www.familypromisecobbcounty.org).

Kirkwood Presbyterian Church is at 618 Acworth-Due West Road, across from Due West Elementary School. Chartered in 1986, Kirkwood provides a welcoming environment for all who wish to worship, study God’s word, and serve their community. For more information, see [www.kirkwoodpc.org](http://www.kirkwoodpc.org). Video of the remodeling process is available at [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VyRpbF\\_cjlo&feature=youtu.be](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VyRpbF_cjlo&feature=youtu.be).

###