

# Family Promises

## FAMILY PROMISE OF THE LEHIGH VALLEY NEWSLETTER

SERVING CHILDREN AND FAMILIES  
EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

3RD QUARTER, 2022

# Welcome Board Officers

Fiscal year 22/23 began on July 1. That means it is time to thank our outgoing board officers. Thanks to Loretta Leeson, President; Dr. Larry Karper, Vice-President; Kathy Kling, Secretary and Keshia Macenat; Treasurer. We could not do what we do without you. We also want to welcome our new board officers.

**President - Dr. Laurence Karper, MD** is a psychiatrist in Bethlehem, Pennsylvania and is affiliated with Lehigh Valley Hospital-Muhlenberg and is the Vice-Chair for Acute Services of the Department of Psychiatry. He received his medical degree from Robert Wood Johnson Medical School and completed his psychiatry residency at Yale. He has been in practice for more than 25 years. His focus has been the treatment of chronic persistent mental illness and the prevention of chronic homelessness.

**Vice-President - Alle Parker** is a Campus Pastor and Executive Pastor at Life Church, which has seven locations spanning from Reading to Easton, including Church On Line. As a Campus Pastor, he and his wife have led the Life Church location in Macungie since its opening in 2015 and as an Executive Pastor, he oversees Campus Pastors, Church On Line, Campus Operations, Human Resources, and Kids, Youth, and Young Adult Ministry for all Life Church locations. Life Church Macungie has been actively involved with Family Promise since its inception in the Lehigh Valley and is one of the original host sites. In addition to Family Promise, Alle also serves on the Boards for Child Evangelism Fellowship and Elevation Community Center. He and his wife Jessica have been married for twenty-one years and reside in Alburts with their twin eighteen-year-olds, Emma & Noah, fourteen year old son Caleb and two dogs, Sam and Mocha.

**Secretary - Mireille Meyerhoefer MD, PhD** is a psychiatrist in the Lehigh Valley. She received her medical degree from the George Washington University and completed her residency training at the Johns Hopkins University Hospital. She has served as the president of the Lehigh Valley Chapter of the Pennsylvania Psychiatric Association and continues to be an active member. She is also a member of the American Neuropsychiatric Association. She completed her PhD at the University of Buffalo and her research focused on drugs of abuse. Currently her clinical interests are in neuropsychiatry and inpatient psychiatry.

**Treasurer - Keshia L. Macenat** brings professional experience in staffing, sales, training, and customer service. She currently is a Financial Center Manager with Bank of America. She shares a passion for operating as a business owner, fostering a team environment, and instilling a client-focused culture to make clients' financial lives better. Keshia received her Bachelor's Degree in Social work from Rutgers University. She is married with two children, enjoys spending quality time with her family, and making a difference and educating those in need.

# WELCOME





# Sip Dip And Mingle For A Great Cause

Join us for a sunset gathering of friends, volunteers, and area businesses at Stone Farm Cellars & Vineyard's wine or Hop Hill Brewing Company's craft beer tastings, a sampling of summer appetizer and dessert dips and assorted fun activities. The event will support children and their families who are experiencing homelessness in the Lehigh Valley achieve sustainable independence.

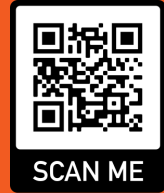
**August 25, 2022 – 5:00 to 8:00 PM**

**Stone Farm Cellars and Vineyards**

5831 Vera Cruz Road, Center Valley PA

**Tickets: \$25 Pre-Event**

**Sponsorship Opportunities Available**



## The Reason I Support Family Promise

I enjoy volunteering at Family Promise because I love to see the families get back on their feet. Family Promise gives them that opportunity. As a volunteer, I enjoy serving the community in the Lehigh Valley. I am retired and it is something I have always wanted to do. I also serve as an overnight volunteer at my church, Life Church Macungie, where I first heard about Family Promise. The families I have met are really enjoyable to talk to.

— Bernadette

I always knew when I retired that I would like to volunteer my time to help others. I enjoy working with Family Promise because of the cause it supports. In the short time I have been volunteering in the office, I have been touched to learn of all the families and children that need assistance and housing. It has opened my eyes to learn how our community reaches out to help others, and I am proud to be a part of this effort.

— Barb



## Save the dates

**AUGUST 25, 5-8**

**SIP, DIP AND MINGLE STONE FARM CELLARS AND VINEYARDS**

5831 Vera Cruz Rd  
Center Valley, PA 18034

Tickets will be \$25 and you will receive 5 wine samplings. We will get a percentage of the tickets sold plus a percentage of any wine purchased. We are asking people to bring a homemade dip and these will be judged and of course winners will receive wine. Susan will get everybody a flyer in the very near future.

**OCTOBER 8**

**CORNHOLE**

location still to be determined.

**OCTOBER 19**

**BOSCOV'S FRIENDS AND FAMILY**

will be from 8 a.m. to 11 p.m  
Will need volunteers to man the table, \$5 gets you a 25% off coupon Contact the office or your host coordinator to purchase yours.

**JANUARY 21, 2023**

**BINGO**

at Jordan UCC from 11 – 2.  
Details to come

**APRIL 1, 2023**

**HOMECOMING 23**

at the Hyatt Place  
Aster Event Center.  
Anyone want to serve on Homecoming committee?

# Saturday BBQ

For the first time since opening in 2018 we are serving 5 families. We are at capacity with 4 families in rotation and 1 in our apartment. We only have two weeks not sponsored until the end of the year which is amazing. We are so proud of our host and support congregations. We love it when we see our families giving back. Recently our families have enjoyed cooking for all the families and the volunteers. They have been seen preparing Saturday morning breakfast and Saturday evening barbecues. It is so great to see the way these families are coming together to improve their situation. Just look at some of these pictures. Looks delicious.



Our families have been enjoying fresh vegetables thanks to the Allentown West Rotary. Lots of fun planting. They can't wait for the fresh tomatoes to start coming in.



Great day with Calvary Moravian Church. They brought their reading room to some of our youth. The girls loved the crafts and books! Thank you for sharing your ministry.



# Life Church Serve Day

Thank you Life Church for choosing Family Promise of Lehigh Valley for one of your Serve Day locations. Our Day Center received a much needed sprucing up. Volunteers pressure washed, weeded, trimmed hedges and organized donations. We are so grateful!



Thank you American Advertising Federation - Greater Lehigh Valley for working with us on our Awareness Campaign. They have helped prepare marketing materials for us. We are so lucky to have been chosen by them for the Volunteer Center of the Lehigh Valley Challenge.



Holy Family Manor stopped by with Goodie Bags for our families. As you can see they were especially appreciated by the children.

# Getting the Most Out of Summertime Fun as We Get Ready for School

Summertime is a great time for children to excel in academics or sports; a time to discover new interests and make new friends. It is a time of vacations to wonderful new places to explore and learn. Theater and music camp, soccer camp, and even ski programs on glaciers are just a few of the places that I heard children are going this summer. Sadly, this is not the case for many low-income children. In fact, it is well documented that summer is a time when many low-income students often fall behind academically and socially compared to their wealthier peers.

At Family Promise our staff works with congregations and area organizations like the Freedom School to ensure our children have beneficial activities in which to take part in over the summer. We need your help. Please consider volunteering to provide a Summertime or School Readiness Program or making a donation to Family Promise of Lehigh Valley that will allow us to continue to coordinate and administer summertime and back to school opportunities for our young friends.

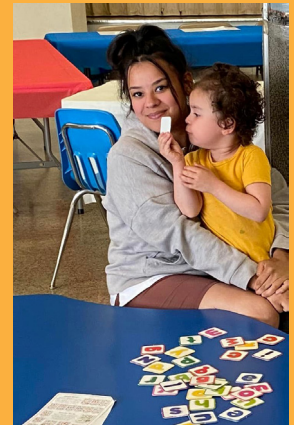
## Trexler Trust Grant



We are honored to have been awarded a grant in the amount of \$15,000 from the Harry C. Trexler Trust. We are so pleased that they recognize our commitment to "Every Child Deserves a Home" in the Lehigh Valley

## Testimonial

This amazing family recently graduated our program and moved into an apartment. While in the program she was able to secure childcare, secure a job, and save money. "I want to thank each and every one of you for helping me and Jaylani through the rough patch that we had. I am so thankful for the knowledge and help you all gave me. I am so excited to grow and reach even more goals. You all are truly a big blessing. From the bottom of my heart you all are so appreciated. Thank you again!" — Joscelynn



**Last month we had an amazing response to our donation request. Thank you all.  
This month we could use:**

**Gas gift cards • Laundry detergent • Body Wash • Dish Soap  
Juice boxes • Individual snacks**



Stay Social with Family Promise of the Lehigh Valley Follow us on:



@fplehighvalley.org

1346 W. Hamilton Street | Allentown, PA 18102 | info@FPLhighValley.org | www.FPLhighValley.org

**PLEASE CONSIDER DONATING TO FAMILY PROMISE OF LEHIGH VALLEY,  
YOUR DONATION WILL HELP US STRENGTHEN OUR ABILITY TO HELP  
CHILDREN EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS AND THEIR FAMILIES.**