



Homeward Bound

Happy New Year!!!

Host Congregations

Covenant Presbyterian Church

Faith Lutheran Church

First Congregational Church/

Light of the Soul UCC

First United Methodist Church

Holy Cross Catholic Community

Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

Lutheran Church of the Good Shepherd

Our Lady of the Snows Catholic Church

Saint Albert the Great Catholic Church

Saint John's Presbyterian Church

Saint Paul's Episcopal Church

South Reno United Methodist Church

Sparks United Methodist Church

Temple Sinai--Reform

Trinity Episcopal Church

Unitarian Universalist Fellowship of
Northern Nevada

Support Congrega- tions

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day
Saints (North Reno Stake)

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day
Saints (Reno Stake)

Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day
Saints (Sparks Stake)

Holy Cross Lutheran Church

Lord of Mercy Lutheran Church

Northern Nevada Muslim Com-munity

Our Savior Lutheran Church

Reno Friends (Quaker) Meeting House

Saint Anthony Greek Orthodox Church

Saint Luke's Lutheran Church

Saint Paul's United Methodist Church

Spanish Springs Presbyterian

Well Ladies and Gentlemen here we are after another year of working with the *Family Promise IHN Program* and all the folks that it brings together — guests and host volunteers, clergy, community leaders, Jews, Christians, Muslims, orthodox and reform, Catholics, Protestants, Non-denominational, all forms of political beliefs and doctrines, all ethnicities, all socio-economic backgrounds... And its all for one purpose — to provide a safe place for those here in our towns who have found themselves in a less than desirable position when it comes to having a permanent home for their children.

This past calendar year we have seen a total of 25 families; 42 children and 38 adults. Of the 25 families 18 (about 72%) have made it into safe and affordable housing at the time of their exit from the IHN program. Three families were referred to other shelter operations for various reasons and four families are starting the New Year with us at this time. All the families that succeeded with your help left with an income compared to almost all of them being unemployed and penniless when we met them.

One common theme explained by all the families that have succeeded with Family Promise has been their appreciation of all the volunteers who offered help whether it was a meal, a few moments of chaperoning children so the parents can take a two minute 'mental health' break, or guests were provided '*just an ear to listen.*' The fact is that with us folks get to feel early on that all of you care and no one is judging them for who they are or how they came to us. (Continued on page 3).

Past Family Update

I wanted to take a few moments to let everyone know how a particular family has done since we first met them at the beginning of August . Dan and his son Logan we first heard of when Dan knocked on our door late one morning seeking shelter for Logan. Dan came to Reno from out of state to stay with some friends and then it started to get a little crowded and the friends landlord was not too appreciative of additional folks in the home. Fearing his friends would be evicted he sought aid at another agency on East Forth Street near Valley Road in Reno. These folks were kind enough to give Dan our address and he walked over with Logan. Only problem was they gave him the address of our OLD Day Center of West Seventh Street—at Faith Lutheran Church. There Dan was given our current address and he made his way back towards us. (We're less than a mile from where he started but the walk from Sun Valley to downtown to Faith Lutheran Church to us? About 8 miles total round-trip).

After hearing all this we thought, “Seems determined. Why not?” So we gave Dan and Logan a try. Glad we did! Within a few days Dan had his Certified Nurses Assistant documentation transferred from Oregon to Nevada and started working for a temporary agency. They found him a position as a temp with a major regional health care provider and with saved money the family was able to find an inexpensive residence three and one half blocks from the Day Center. The pair moved into their new home just before Thanksgiving. The temporary employer has been impressed enough with Dan that they have contacted the agency Dan works for and through them has offered Dan a full-time, full benefit position with them. Logan is doing very well in school and about once a week they each drop by to say hello because they live so close.

We visited them over the holidays and they send their thanks and their love to all who helped them get on their feet and provided them with the means to stay together as a family and have a wonderful holiday together.

Coordinators Meeting

This January 26th (Thursday evening) at 5:45 PM there will be a Coordinator's Meeting at Faith Lutheran Church, 2075 West 7th Street, Reno. Please RSVP at rduffy@familypromisereno.org so that we may have a good idea on attendance.

If any Coordinator or Volunteer reading this has a specific item or issue they would like to address please email or call us directly to discuss the item and we can set things up or maybe take care of a concern early.

Happy New Year (Continued)

(Continued from page 1) Also this year we managed to overcome to a degree potential financial hardships. At the beginning of the year we weren't sure if we would continue through the full year due to several large grant opportunities that are now discontinued or on a hiatus indefinitely. Through the efforts of every volunteer and staff member from the Board of Directors to the Congregations and folks in the community who are not even members of any organization or Congregation that supports us, we have managed to remain open to serve families with children without a place for those kids to sleep at night. Donations and previously unknown or unattained grants were researched and found and we have stayed healthy enough to remain afloat.

The upcoming year will of course hold in store a combination of both good and bad times for all of us. But thankfully and with Grace one thing that we know our future guest families can count of is that with the aid and dedication from all affiliated with Family Promise of Reno/Sparks they will continue to have a chance at being offered a safe place. A place where they will not only be given a bed and food for their children, but a place to be reminded and feel that they have dignity and that they will be loved unconditionally regardless of who they are, what they look like, how they speak, or what brought them to our doors.

Thank you everyone and may all of you be Blessed this upcoming New Year!

Host Schedule 2012

This years hosting schedule is almost completed as right now we have only **FOUR WEEKS** open for the whole year and they are in the second half of the year. The open dates are;

July 15th through July 22nd,

July 22nd through July 29th,

August 26th through Sept. 2nd,

AND

November 18th through the 25th

(Thanksgiving week).

Some congregations have picked a few weeks and others have picked five and six weeks to

host next year. If your congregation has picked only a few weeks, and you think you may be able to grab a week or two extra to help even the load please contact Ray at the Day Center to discuss coverage. I know it would be appreciated by all.



**Interfaith
Hospitality
Network[®]**

an affiliate of Family Promise[®]



Interfaith Hospitality Network

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Building Communities.
Strengthening Lives.

Our Mission;

“Family Promise of Reno/Sparks is a community wide program that provides transitional shelter and comprehensive assistance for families in the Reno/Sparks area in a manner that offers hope, pre-serves dignity, and promotes self-sufficiency”

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Wish List Items

Diapers—all sizes.

Car seats/booster seats in safe, good condition.

Toilet paper.

Shampoo & conditioners.

Bath soaps/gels.

Shaving cream & razors.

Gift & fuel cards.

HE (high efficiency) laundry detergent.

Pots and pans and dishes for exiting guests.

Towels and washcloths.

Pillows.

Backpacks.