

MARCH 2023

FPSL HAPPENINGS

OFFICIAL NEWSLETTER OF FAMILY PROMISE SALT LAKE



FROM THE DIRECTOR'S DESK

by Rev. Brian Diggs

It is often stated, "It is not what you know, but who you know." That couldn't be truer for Family Promise Salt Lake. Who is it that we know, you might ask. Don Adamson, the Executive Director of HomeAid Utah! That's who.

HomeAid Utah is one of nineteen affiliates across the country. Their mission is to help people experiencing or at risk of homelessness build new lives through construction, community engagement, and education. FPSL is pleased to announce that HomeAid Utah has been working hard at our main building.

In the Spring of 2022, HomeAid Utah replaced the aging roof at the FPSL day-center. This year, they are totally remodeling the three transitional housing units (apartments) located above the day-center! The project began in the fall when 50 plus employees from St. Mark's Hospital, under the direction of The Fuller Center for Housing – Salt Lake, completed an eight-hour day of demolition. All three units were stripped bare and readied for the remodel. Our friends at HomeAid are supplying and installing all new flooring, cabinets, appliances, doors, trim, and paint. In short, the units will soon be completely remodeled and ready for families to use in the FPSL Transitional Housing Program. The only cost to FPSL is a 10% "pay it forward" fee. In other words, FPSL pays 10% of the total cost of the completed project! And what's more, a generous donation from a FPSL board member has been donated to cover that 10%. The official ribbon cutting will take place on March 22nd at 11am. The address is 814 W 800 S, Salt Lake City, UT 84104. Light refreshments will be provided. We would love to see you there!

Having completed my second year as Executive Director at Family Promise, I am so thankful for the generous investors we are blessed to have. We have come a long way since emerging from the pandemic. I firmly believe in the work of FPSL and know that growth only happens in partnership with our funders, volunteers, and staff.

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PROGRAM GROWTH & VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

On November 6th, 2022, FPSL reopened its Emergency Shelter Program with some major changes. The biggest was reversing our model. Previously, thirteen area churches in the valley took one-week turns sheltering 4 families. Volunteers from those churches and supporting congregations acted as volunteer staff. But every Sunday morning, the families packed up and moved to the next church in the thirteen-church rotation. Now, instead of FPSL families rotating from church to church each week, the volunteers serve at a static site setting. In other words, children are not moving week to week and are offered more stability. This is all a part of FPSL emphasis on Trauma Informed Care or TIC.

One of the blessings of this new model is the addition of a permanent overnight host. Mr. Brett Johnson of First United Methodist Church stepped up in a big way! As the permanent overnight host, families now experience even more stability. His consistent presence offers the families in emergency shelter a familiar face. Moreover, having a permanent overnight host has taken the burden off the church coordinators to find volunteers to sleep over. And even more incredible, Brett has taken a paid position as the FPSL van driver. Each morning he faithfully drives the children who need rides to school and picks them up when the final bell rings.

This new model has also brought about additional blessings. Now that churches are not sheltering families in their own buildings (with the exception of our static sites), FPSL Executive Director, Brian Diggs, has been working hard to increase the number of churches and organizations who volunteer in effort to double our capacity by the end of 2023. This would mark the first increase in the Emergency Shelter Program since the inception of FPSL.

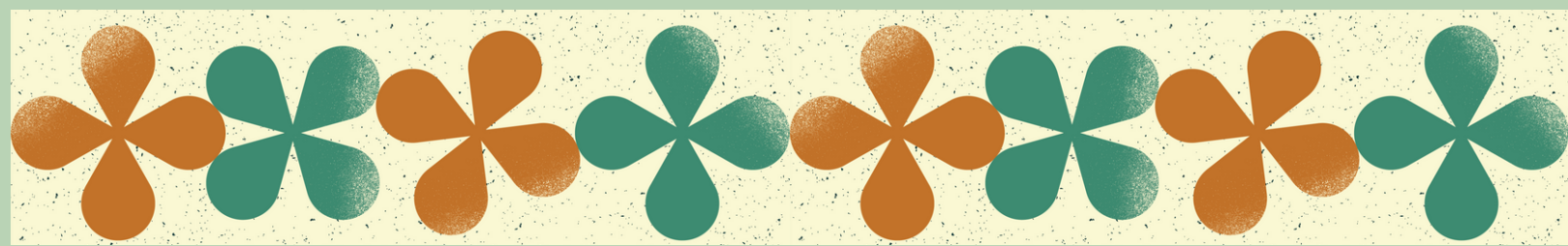
If you know of churches, civic organizations, or clubs that might be interested in volunteering with FPSL, please reach out to our offices at 801-961-8622 or brian@familypromisesaltlake.org





BOARD MEMBER SPOTLIGHT

Kim Hannay is the CRA Officer from Optum Bank with decades of experience serving her community. She is passionate about providing opportunities and support to vulnerable populations through her work in affordable housing, small business support and job creation. You can often find her at Jr. Achievement City mentoring a 5th grader, teaching single mothers remanded to drug treatment houses, or at local jr. high or high school working to increase financial literacy. Kim says the best part of her job is meeting, working with, and learning from people in the community who have rolled up their sleeves to help others. Originally from Arizona, Kim loves the sunshine, and any outdoor activity she can enjoy with her husband Steve, their 4 children, 4 bonus (in-law) children, and 7 grandkids. Said Kim with regard to her spot on the board, "As a mother, I know the importance of stability in a family. Having a permanent place to call home is integral to that stability. Family Promise Salt Lake is a real leader and providing sustainable housing for children and their parents."



NEWS

Pictured left are Lisa, Michele, and Brian. They are a part of the growing staff at FPSL. In late January, all three traveled to sunny Arizona to attend a two-day regional Family Promise gathering. Participants learned about the different shelter models and practices affiliates use to serve unsheltered families. Family Promise of Phoenix is one of the largest and robust affiliates in the country.





YOU ARE INVITED TO A

RIBBON CUTTING

celebrating the completion of
three transitional units at

FAMILY PROMISE SALT LAKE CITY

22 MARCH, 2023 | 11:00 AM
814 W 800 S
SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84104

**please dress appropriately for the weather
light refreshments will be served**



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