Volunteer: FPYV relies on over 1,400 volunteers a year to do all of the programming that we provide. Contact your volunteer coordinator at your partner church (list on page 6) for ways to volunteer with FPYV! We are also currently looking for volunteers for these positions:

*Weekend volunteer drivers
*Mentors (adults and children)
*Children volunteers on Tuesday evenings

Donate Kindly: FPYV makes it a point to furnish our transitional apartments as well as any apartments that our families move into. With this in mind, FPYV is always in need of furniture, kitchen appliances and home décor. Give us a call and we can arrange to pick-up items from your home or other location. Additionally, FPYV accepts donations of diapers, hygiene products, and children’s clothes. Check out our Facebook page on Mondays to find our up-to-date and most urgent needs list.

Donate Financially: Attached in this newsletter is a self-addressed and pre-stamped envelope to FPYV. Any amount you can donate will help a family experience homelessness achieve and sustain independence.

Thank you to Our Sponsors!

Find Us Online and Like Us On Facebook!

Who Are We?
Family Promise of Yellowstone Valley is a nonprofit organization that partners with 27 Billings area congregations and over 1,400 volunteers to help homeless families achieve and sustain independence.
A Letter from Lisa

Friends of the Family -

What's Happening at FPYV?

School District 2 has worked with Family Promise of Yellowstone Valley for a few years now to provide the children in our network opportunities to have fun and learn all summer long! It is too often that children living in poverty don’t have much to talk about when they are asked what they did over the summer. With this program, we know our children have plenty to say! They picked out books at Reading Rocks, learned how to bake cookies, went on a trip to Pompey’s Pillar, watched movies, and made new friends! A big thank you to Sue Runkel for scheduling events with us.

Additionally, thanks to scholarships through Faith Chapel, many of the kids in network were able to go to camp this summer. Going to camp provides children a great chance to meet new people, try new activities, and see places they haven’t yet been to. Some of the parents in network had never been away from their children for that long and found camp to be a learning experience for them as well. Thank you Faith Chapel for making this possible for our kids!

This is the first year that FPYV used a garden plot at Amend Park Community Garden. It has been a learning lesson but nonetheless a very exciting and fun adventure for all involved. We started with summer squash, tomatoes, kale, cabbage, peppers, and carrots. With a little bit of help from other gardeners at Amend Park, our garden has become a huge success with flourishing produce. HRDC’s zoo event in June was so much fun for the families at FPYV! All of our families were able to attend and they got to see the animals, get their faces painted, have a nice dinner, learn about different animals, and spend a relaxing evening with family.

Thanks to the Magic City Singers, the families staying in emergency shelter were able to attend the Disney Dazzle show in May—complete with a limo ride and new outfits. It was an amazing opportunity for the families! As the show began, we could see anxious parents begin to relax. The kids loved singing and dancing along to the familiar music. Thank you Magic City Singers for providing this opportunity to our families!

William (Ken) and Liam

William entered Family Promise in 2015 as a single father with a toddler, Liam, and all their possessions in a backpack. He had many obstacles ahead of him and didn’t know where to start. He said at the time, “I feel like I am making all the wrong decisions right now and I want to know how to make the right ones.”

William worked hard in the program and Family Promise pushed him to new heights. Since entering the program William has made leaps and bounds. He worked diligently at his place of employment and since then has been promoted to management. At the beginning of this year, they secured their own housing and are thriving. The work he did in the program is astounding!

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When asked to look back at the time spent in our network he said “the program was hard and at times I wanted to quit. But they helped me through that, which was really good because now I have a place, plenty of food, and more than enough clothes. And if I would have quit then, I would still be in the situation I was in before.”

As hard as the program was, William saw his work pay off and he didn’t want to stop there. William has come back to take advantage of our new Wrap Around and Break the Cycle of Poverty Program. In our Wrap Around Program, he has continued to work hard on maintaining a functional budget, improving life and leadership skills, and obtaining a driver’s license. The growth we see in William is amazing and the hunger he has to keep improving is inspirational to us all.

Give Local

Yellowstone Valley

Give Local Yellowstone Valley Region was hosted on May 3rd by the Billings Community Foundation in an effort to bring the Billings community together to support local nonprofit organizations. Give Local is a nation wide crowdfunding event that uses technology and social media to reach new audiences. FPYV launched a very successful social media campaign for the event. Regardless of technological glitches beyond our control, Family Promise of Yellowstone Valley made $805.21 at this event! Thank you to everybody who was patient with the system and donated to our organization. You all really came through to support us! We look forward to beating our totals next year!

Fundraising Success

Beach Blizzard

Beach Blizzard was hosted in February at the Northern Hotel and it was the most successful Beach Blizzard to date! Raising over $125,000, Family Promise can provide the needed life skills classes, transportation, case management, and summer activities for families in our program. Thank you to all who attended and helped with this event. Your dedication to our program is astounding! Planning will begin for Beach Blizzard 2017 in the fall of this year. Contact us if you have any ideas, questions, or want to help!

Give Local

America!