



Family Spotlight

The Ericksen Family

Kristina and her son Braden reside in South Sarasota County. Kristina and Braden have called Venice home for almost three years. Kristina was working up until summer came and then struggled to find an affordable day care for her son, Braden. This resulted in a loss of income for the family as Kristina needed to secure employment that would allow for the flexibility of her son's needs. Kristina found herself in a position where she had to secure new employment.

New employment meant that she needed to recertify her income for their apartment. There was a hiccup in documentation where the employment verification showed a significant increase of income compared to the actual pay stubs Kristina received. The apartment complex was unable to redo the certification of income at the actual

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rate until the next recertification date. Kristina was unable to come up with the remaining funds and was served an eviction notice. Family Promise of South Sarasota County was able to assist the family with one month of rental assistance to help Kristina and Braden remain stably housed. Kristina has now secured two forms of employment to ensure she will remain stable in the future!

Giving Tuesday

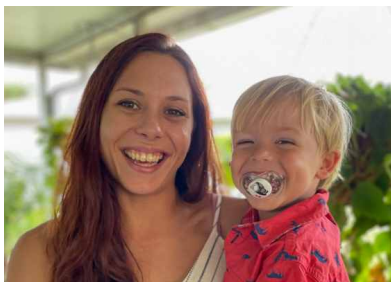


Thank you for your support on #GivingTuesday!

We can't thank you enough for the generous gifts we received on #GivingTuesday and for following #EmmasStory. Emma's Story shows how meaningful our work is to our families. We could not do it without your support!

The Stats

- Funds Raised: \$3,770
- 35 Donations Received
- 35% First-Time Donors
- 7% New Supporters
- Gifts ranged from \$25 to \$500



If you missed Emma's Story, check out our Facebook page and search for #EmmasStory.

[FPSSC on Facebook](#)

In the News

Herald-Tribune

Suncoast businesses, community groups discuss solutions to affordable housing crisis

The Herald Tribune recently published an article written by Jim DeLa, Community News Collaborative. DeLa summarizes the Affordable Housing Summit held earlier in November to discuss solutions to the affordable housing crisis.

DeLa helps explain what affordable housing means:

'Affordable housing' defined

According to the Florida Housing Coalition, affordable housing is defined as housing that costs no more than 30% of a household's gross income. For a single person making \$35,000 a year, that would mean if they spend more than \$10,500 a year – that's \$875 a month – on housing costs, they are considered "cost-burdened."

Interested in reading the entire article? Click the link below to go to the article on Herald Tribune's website.

[Read the Herald Tribune Article](#)

From the Director



Jennifer Fagenbaum
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As the holiday season approaches, our thoughts turn to gifts and time spent with loved ones. At Family Promise, we know the greatest gifts of all are family and a home.

But in the U.S., 1 in 6 families lives in poverty and 1 in 16 children goes to sleep each night without a place to call home. A single challenging life event like a job loss or chronic illness can destroy a family's fragile foundation, resulting in homelessness. When that happens, families lose more than a home, they lose the security and stability every family needs and every child deserves.

Theresa and her son, Isaiah, are one such family.

They were residing with friends while trying to get back on their feet, but their time was limited and only had a few days left before they had to leave. With a total loss of any hope of finding a rental they could afford; Theresa began preparing to purchase a van to live in with her son. But all that changed when Theresa and Isaiah were referred to Family Promise of South Sarasota County by her employer. Family Promise kept Theresa and Isaiah together and gave them the tools to rebuild their lives – Theresa honed her budgeting and planning skills and is now residing in one of FPSSC's Pathways Home units. Isaiah now has his own bedroom and the opportunity to thrive in school. Theresa works full-time as a cook. She is focused on getting stably housed and saving money.

"If it weren't for Family Promise, we would be sleeping in a vehicle," Theresa says. "Family Promise is more than shelter. Family Promise gives you the power to reclaim your life."

Stories like Theresa and Isaiah's are GIFTS made possible by people like you. Your support is a gift that keeps on giving and makes a lasting impact for a family in need. Please give families like this the GIFT of hope and home. Your gift can help change a life this holiday season! Please donate today!

Sincerely,

Jennifer Fagenbaum, Executive Director

[Click Here to Donate Today](#)



We'll be sharing our team members and our Board members with you so you can get to know who is working so hard to protect children from becoming homeless. We work tirelessly to provide the best care, programs, and plans for our families.

Who is Shantel Berry?

My name is Shantel Berry and I am the Open Doors Coordinator here at FPSSC. I have been with Family Promise for nearly two years. I was born and raised in Denver, Colorado. I moved to Florida in the spring of 2018. I am a proud parent of four children and I have two beautiful grandchildren. When I am not at work you can find me in my house caring for my plants, reading a good book, or watching a documentary. One day I would love to travel to Spain, Australia, and Africa.



STATISTICS 2015 - PRESENT

BRIDGE HOUSING

110 families
186 children

137 families
245 children

DIVERSION &
EARLY INTERVENTION

RENT ASSISTANCE

232 families
452 children

14 families
25 children

PATHWAYS HOME

OTHER SERVICES

419 families
600 children

36 families
57 children

HOME GOODS PANTRY

CHILDREN SAFE AT HOME	1,577
FAMILIES STABLY HOUSED	960
TOTAL PEOPLE SERVED	2,757

The Promise welcomes NEW members this month! Thank you!

Become a Monthly Supporter. Join The Promise.

THE PROMISE

MONTHLY DONOR CLUB

Thank you!

MATTHEW BRITTON
TONY & SARAH CALABRO
CATHERINE CARCATERRA
MICHAEL CORNELL
JOE DUNN
JENNIFER FAGENBAUM
RACHEL FRANK
SALLY FRIBERG
JESS FRONCKOWIACK
SUSAN HANKS
KAMBER HENSON
BARBARA HUCKSAM
SUSAN HYLAND
DOUGLAS KASL
PAULA KNOTT

ANDREW LEISENRING
DEBBIE LEUZZI
JUDITH MALTON
KIMBERLY NELSON
JAMES NICELY
KELLY OLLIVER
BETH PIEL
MARLENE RENZ
GAIL & ROGER RITTER
COLLEEN ROCA
JOHN RUTHMAN
DAVID & JACQUELINE SHIPPS
JAKE TATE
KIM ULRICH
MADALYN WILSON

Mark Your Calendar



12/12/2023 - 3:30 PM - **Volunteer Training**, Held at 720 Shamrock Road, Venice

12/12/2023 - 5:30 PM-6:30 PM - **Coordinator Meeting** - Meeting for Host and Support Coordinators

2/10/2024 - 2 PM - **SAVE THE DATE - Mardi Gras: A Family-Friendly Celebration**, Held at Shuck N' Ale

Volunteer Corner



We are currently planning our first Mardi Gras: A Family-Friendly Celebration event. The event will take place at Shuck N' Ale. The event is on Saturday, February 10, 2024 from 2 pm to 6 pm.

We will need several volunteers to help! We are still in the planning stages, so I don't have exact details yet for the event. I'll likely need volunteers starting around 12:30 PM and wrapping up by 6:30 PM.

Some of the jobs are:

- Set up and break down
- Admission- tickets, shirts, raffles, etc. Children's
- activity table
- Servers (food and bar)
- Table attendants (cleaning up and tending to the VIPs in the VIP area)

If you are interested, click the link below to register and we'll follow up as the event gets nearer.

[Volunteer Information & Sign Up](#)

Mardi Gras: A Community Celebration



MARDI GRAS

A Community Celebration

February 10, 2024
2 PM - 6 PM

Shuck N' Ale
658 Tamiami Trail South
Venice, Florida

Cajun-inspired buffet, live music, dancing,
and fun for the whole family!

SAVE THE DATE!



\$10,000 Noble Neighbors Sponsor



\$5,000 Community Crusader Sponsor



We're securing our **2024 Housing Hero Annual Sponsorships!**

There are great benefits and recognition for your business.

You can be a Housing Hero too!



BECOME A HOUSING HERO!

JOIN FOR 2024!



Family Promise
of South Sarasota County

ARE YOU A COMMUNITY PARTNER WHO:

- Believes in the mission of FPSSC?
- Wants to assist FPSSC to ensure we are able to continue to help the families that need our support ?
- Wants affordable housing and financial stability for their employees?

Become a Housing Hero



Wish List

We are out of some supplies and our families are in need. Please drop off or mail:

Toilet Paper	Dental Floss
Drain Cleaner	Kleenex/Tissues
Scrub Brushes	Dryer Sheets
Walmart Gift Cards	Hair Conditioner

Scan code to order directly from our Amazon Wish List



Family Promise
of South Sarasota County

Please drop off/send items to:
FPSSC, 850 Cockrill Street, Venice, FL 34285

Thank You for Your Support

Our programs are supported in full or in part by:

**GULF COAST
COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**



**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION**

of Sarasota County



**United Way
of South Sarasota County**



Bank of American Client Foundation, Bank of America, N.A. Trustee

Jerome & Mildred Paddock Foundation

Venice-Nokomis Rotary

Wells Fargo Foundation



Louis & Gloria Flanzer
**PHILANTHROPIC
TRUST**

The Louis & Gloria Flanzer Philanthropic
Trust is not affiliated with any descendants
of Mr. & Mrs. Louis Flanzer

Match your gift!! Every dollar matters. Right now, your personal donation of \$5-\$500 may be eligible for matching funds through the Louis and Gloria Flanzer Philanthropic Trust, doubling your impact to FPSSC!* This is a wonderful opportunity to expand our ability to help families that are at risk of becoming homeless. Our affordable housing projects are a critical piece to building stability for families in South Sarasota County. We can do this!

Through the end of this year, click to donate to FPSSC through the **Flanzer Trust for Family Promise of SOUTH Sarasota County** to make your donation double. We are grateful for our partners at the Flanzer Philanthropic Trust!

*Restrictions apply – please review the Trust’s terms and conditions to see if your contribution qualifies!



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|---|---|
| Harold C. & Jacqueline F. Bladel Foundation | New World Celts - Venice |
| Boldt Family Charitable Fund | Osprey Nokomis Chamber of Commerce |
| Boone Law Firm | Jerome & Mildred Paddock Foundation |
| BrewBurgers Pub & Grill | Paradise Grill |
| The Bridge Church, Inc. | Plantation Community Foundation |
| British Open Pub | PNC Foundation |
| The Al & Nancy Burnett Charitable Foundation | Potenza Charitable Foundation |
| Cadence Bank | Publix Super Market Charities, Inc. |
| Kathleen K. Catlin Foundation | Quinn Charitable Foundation |
| Christ United Methodist Women - Esther Circle | Robles Law Firm |
| Church of the Holy Spirit Osprey, Inc. | Evalyn Sadlier Jones Foundation |
| The Church of the Nativity | Sarasota County Government |
| Community Foundation of Sarasota | Sertoma Club of Venice |
| James M. Doss Foundation | Sisterhood for Good, Inc. |
| Emergency Food & Shelter Program (EFSP) | South Venice Baptist Church |
| Emmanuel Lutheran Church | Thompson Thrift Development, Inc. |
| Evangelical Covenant Church of Venice Isles | Unitarian Universalist Congregation of Venice |
| Family Promise National | United Way of South Sarasota County |
| First Baptist Church of Venice | Venice Golf & Country Club Foundation |
| Louis & Gloria Flanzer Trust #5858 | Venice Nokomis Rotary |
| Fox Lea Farm, Inc. | Venice Police Department |
| Grace Community Bible Church | Venice Presbyterian Church |
| Grace United Methodist Church | Venice Print Center |
| Grace United Methodist Women | Venice United Church of Christ |
| Gulf Coast Community Foundation | Venice Yacht Club |
| Annette J. Hagens Memorial Foundation | VFW Auxiliary 8118 |
| Knights of Columbus | The WaWa Foundation |
| Roberta Leventhal Sudakoff | Wells Fargo Foundation |
| May Family Foundation | Adele A. & Harold J. Westbrook Foundation |
| Network for Good | |

Take Action Year-End Giving

The greatest gifts of all are family and a home. Help us give the gift of hope and safety this holiday season.



Connect and Share!



Contact Family Promise of South Sarasota County

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