

Family Promise

of South Sarasota County



Family Spotlight

The Ramahi Family

Following the passing of his spouse due to cancer, Mr. Ramahi decided to relocate from New Mexico to Missouri. Eventually, he returned to Sarasota, where he had family, with the hope that their support would help him start fresh for himself and his children. Initially staying with his mother in Sarasota, they faced the threat of eviction.

In dire straits, Mr. Ramahi sought refuge with Suncoast Partnership and secured emergency shelter through Harvest House. During his stay at Harvest House, he successfully found a residence through the Sarasota Housing Authority. Mr. Ramahi's case manager at Harvest House referred him to Family Promise, who played a crucial role in assisting him and his children in transitioning to their new home, facilitating the path towards stability once more.

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Mardi Gras Celebration



TICKETS SELLING QUICKLY!

The buzz is all about Mardi Gras and it's happening soon! A brand new event is coming to Venice in support of Family Promise of South Sarasota County's programs for families- Mardi Gras!

What can you expect at our first Mardi Gras?

In the News

Herald-Tribune



One of our families found themselves highlighted in the Herald-Tribune. Leanne Font, driven by her childhood dream of motherhood, faced unexpected challenges.

Raised in a large Cuban family in South Florida, her affinity for caring for her baby cousins hinted at her future aspirations. Tragedy struck when her brother Jesus passed away, prompting Leanne and her

You will indulge in the traditional Mardi Gras mouth-watering dishes prepared by Shuck N' Ale as well as some custom festive cocktails. You will experience the sounds of jazz and blues that accompany Mardi Gras from the Brown Campbell Blues Band and Nick Sperry of the Tin Can Brass Band.

You will test your knowledge with a few trivia questions and earn a prize. We have incredible raffles planned! Want to win a three-night, two-day vacation? How about a new Yeti cooler filled with over 14 bottles of liquor?

Schedule

2 PM - 6 PM Event & Drinks
3 PM - Food is served; Buffet is open
4 PM - Parade - grab your festive attire and join in!
5:45 PM Raffle winners chosen

Join us for Mardi Gras and enjoy a party for a great cause!

Tickets can be purchased online now. There may be walk-up tickets at the event, but there are no guarantees. **Seating is limited**, so don't wait. Click the link below to get your tickets!

You can also purchase Mardi Gras Extras such as raffle tickets, t-shirts, doubloons, masks and other items online ahead of time! Click the link below to get your Extras!

husband Amrin to move to North Port for support.

Fertility challenges led to in-vitro fertilization, and the couple struggled with soaring living costs, relocating to Englewood. Despite financial strains, the birth of twins brought joy.

Facing a pay cut and depleted savings, they sought help from Family Promise and Season of Sharing, receiving \$1,500 to cover July's rent. Grateful yet still navigating financial uncertainties, Leanne finds solace in her newfound role as a mother.

Leanne's story is a great example of how we can help working families facing a housing crisis.

Read the full article by clicking the link below.

[Read the Herald Tribune Article](#)

[Purchase Tickets](#)

[Purchase Extras
Raffles, T-shirts,
etc](#)

Special thanks to our Mardi Gras Sponsors!

Fleur-de-lis Sponsors

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From the Director



Jennifer Fagenbaum
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The idea of a Mardi Gras Celebration became a reality and has led to months of planning and collaboration with local businesses, artists, and community leaders. This event isn't just about beads and masks; it hopes to be a novel approach to channel our community's generosity towards a cause that resonates deeply with many. The challenges faced by families in housing crises in South Sarasota County extend beyond the lack of shelter, impacting children's education, health, and overall quality of life. With your help, we are building the necessary resources to help families not only survive but thrive.

On the day of the event, the Shuck N' Ale parking lot will be transformed into a lively spectacle, resonating with the vibrant sounds of jazz and laughter. I welcome each of you to join us to become immersed in the culinary delights from Shuck N' Ale, from a delicious shrimp boil to the sweet taste of the iconic king cake. Enjoy the incredible jazz and blues from the talents of Nick Sperry, of the Tin Can Brass Band, and the Campbell Brown Blues Band. There will be featured cocktails that represent the colors of Mardi Gras: purple for justice, green for faith, and gold for power. Guests will have the opportunity to adorn themselves in masks, beads, and join in the parade. There will be raffles that you don't want to miss! Up for grabs is a three-night, two-person vacation as well as a Yeti cooler with over 14 bottles of alcohol- vodka, tequila, whiskey, and wine to name a few. Our VIP area is almost sold out and seating is limited throughout the event, so don't wait- purchase your tickets today!

As the final touches are being put into place, the excitement and anticipation surround me. I am so grateful to our event sponsors, listed in the above article. This celebration carries the potential to be a pivotal moment for Family Promise of South Sarasota County. It transcends the boundaries of a mere celebration; it is a golden opportunity to unite our community around a shared purpose, poised to leave a lasting impact on the lives of those in need. I hope to see you there!

[Purchase Tickets](#)



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.

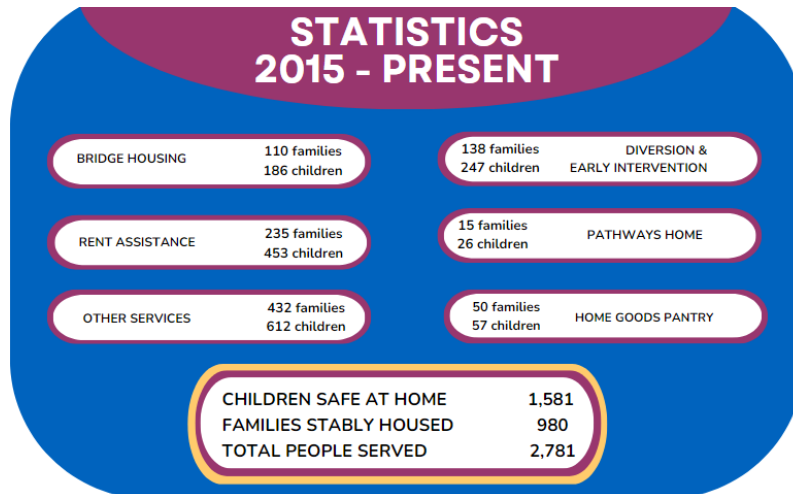
Who is Stacy Graison?

Stacy Graison grew up in Venice and recently returned home. She has a Bachelor of Science from the University of Florida (Go Gators!) and a Master of Science from Lesley University. She also recently obtained a Certificate in Applied Data Science from MIT.

She resides in Venice with her daughter, her mother, and their two cats, Bellatrix and Ruthie. In her free time, Stacy enjoys being outdoors, watching movies, reading, anything animal-related, and spending time with her family and friends. My role at FPSSC is full of creative projects and every day is different - and it all supports helping our families!

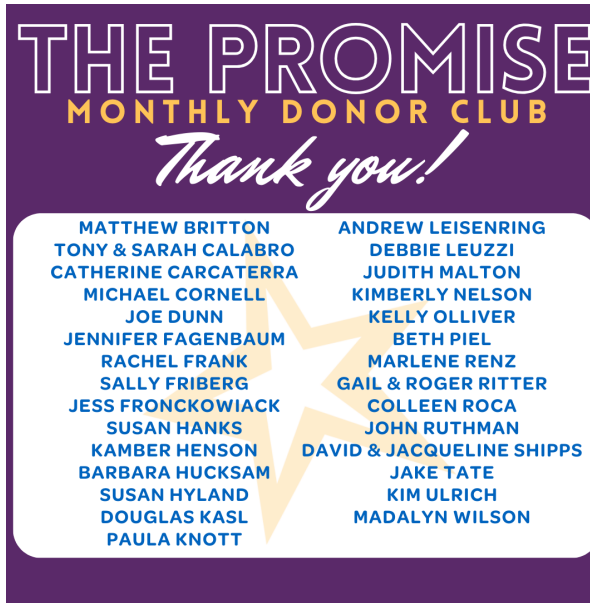


By the Numbers

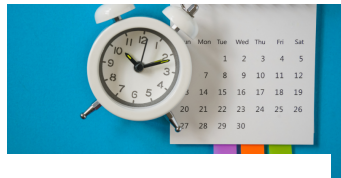


The Promise Needs You!

Become a Monthly Supporter. Join The Promise.



Mark Your Calendar



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

2/13/2023 - 3:30 PM - **Volunteer Training**, Held at 720 Shamrock Road, Venice

2/13/2023 - 5:30 PM-6:30 PM - **Coordinator Meeting** - Meeting for Host and Support Coordinators

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

[Volunteer Information & Sign Up](#)

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)



We're securing our **2024 Housing Hero Annual Sponsorships!** There are great benefits and recognition for your business. Click below or contact us at 941-497-9881 for more information.

[Become a Housing Hero](#)

Wish List

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

Shampoo	Toilet Paper
Conditioner	Paper towels
Mens/Womens Deodoran	Windex
Paper plates	Brooms
Tissues/Kleenex	Toilet Brushes
Comet Bleach Powder	Plungers


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:

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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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THE MORE YOU SHARE, THE MORE WE CAN HELP!



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Contact Family Promise of South Sarasota County

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