



ANNUAL  
REPORT

2020



## Donor Spotlight

### Claire Zilber & John Menninger

This year we would like to feature Claire Zilber and her husband John Menninger. Claire originally got connected to Family Promise through her synagogue, B'nai Havurah. Through B'nai Havurah, Claire volunteered to cook meals for families at other host congregations and also adopted families over the holidays to purchase Christmas gifts for them.

This past year, Claire and John made the decision to take their support a step further and become monthly donors to Family Promise, donating \$250 each month to support families in need. Claire says she "became really concerned about the families when COVID 19 hit." Claire is passionate about keeping children safe and housed along with supporting a smaller Denver nonprofit that is making the work happen every day.

We are incredibly grateful for donors like Claire Zilber and her husband John Menninger who make our work possible!

## Family Success

### Bre and daughter Amiah

Bre first came to Family Promise at 18 when she was pregnant with her daughter Amiah in 2019. She was being evicted from the apartment she lived in with her mother. Expecting Bre and her mom arrived at Family Promise and were in our shelter program for 3 months. Mom and Bre had a rocky relationship throughout and in the end they moved out of shelter going their separate ways.

Bre got re-connected to Family Promise in 2020 while staying at a temporary motel, with support from Byron, a past Family Promise client who now is a dedicated volunteer. Bre and Amiah came back into shelter and she immediately hit the ground running. While in the shelter program, Bre was able to complete her GED and says that Family Promise staff helped her along the way by watching Amiah and allowing her to focus on school.

Bre immediately felt like Family Promise was unique because of the family atmosphere, the staff's help with everything, and their genuine care for her and her daughter. Bre said, "At Family Promise, people actually care about you, you're not a nobody!"

From shelter, we were able to help Bre get into her own apartment with Amiah, and provided furniture and other move-in essentials. Bre is now thriving, living on her own and working on a degree in Criminal Justice.

She would like you to know this:

"Family Promise is the best program, I wouldn't be where I am at without them."



Baby Amiah  
then and now

## What's New?

### FAMILY PROMISE HOUSE

In August we were provided with the opportunity to shelter families out of an 11-bedroom home in the Capitol Hill neighborhood, that we started renting for a low cost from Colorado Vincentian Volunteers. This house has allowed us to shelter up to 4 additional families at a time, while still maintaining social distancing precautions to keep families and staff safe. We will continue to utilize the space until June of 2021.



FP House

### EXPANDED SHELTER CAPACITY

In response to the increased need of shelter due to the COVID-19 pandemic, we began sheltering 20+ families between FP House and in extended stay hotels. This allowed us to assist most vulnerable families during the pandemic. This will continue through 2021.

### BRIDGE HOUSING PROGRAM

In February of 2020, we started our Bridge Housing Program to provide temporary housing for families, through master-leased apartments, while they seek long-term housing stability. This program has beneficial in bridging the gap for families who have been paired with a housing subsidy but are waiting for it to come through.



**273**  
Families  
Served



**1,000+**  
Volunteers



**915**  
Individuals  
Served



**50,000+**  
Meals Provided



**137 Children**  
Prevented from  
Homelessness



**45+**  
Partnerships with  
Congregations



**73 Days**  
Average Length  
of Shelter Stay

#### OUR COMMUNITY PARTNERS:



Holy Shepherd  
Lutheran Church



St Philip Lutheran Church



ST. TIM'S  
EPISCOPAL CHURCH



unity  
Spiritual Center  
Denver



Jefferson  
Unitarian  
Church



FIRST CHRISTIAN  
REFORMED CHURCH  
DENVER, COLORADO



Calvary Baptist Church  
*Open to all. Closed to none.*



HOLY CROSS  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
WHEAT RIDGE, CO

# Director's Message

Dear Family Promise community,

2020 was a year that will never be forgotten. It tested us all, and while there was a great deal of heartbreak, divisiveness, and overall sadness, it also highlighted the strength and resiliency of our Family Promise community. Our donors, volunteers, and partners stepped up to assist those in need. They truly lived out our mission by giving to provide shelter, meals, and supportive services in a time when all else was uncertain. Our clients, the population hit the hardest by the COVID-19 pandemic and the economic fallout, felt the love and support of our community, even if from afar.

Family Promise of Greater Denver was tested, like so many other nonprofits were, to show our true agility and strengths. We were flexible, creative, and courageous to ensure vulnerable families received the support they needed to survive the pandemic. While 2020 was hard, we had some great successes.

Our 2020 successes:

- In February we launched our new Bridge Shelter program. This program kept 16 families safe and healthy through master leased apartment units as they transitioned into their permanent homes.
- We sheltered more families at one time than ever before! In November and into 2021, we've sheltered an average of 20 families at any given time. More than doubling our traditional shelter capacity of 8 families!
- We adapted our staff and volunteer base to a virtual world to ensure safety for all! This new normal has allowed us to evaluate our systems and processes to ensure we are making the greatest impact in our community.

While we are proud of the successes we experienced, despite a world pandemic, 2020 heightened the vulnerabilities of the families we serve. It also highlighted the gross inequities we face as a nation surrounding race, class, gender, and much more. Families living in a housing crisis are disproportionately people of color. We recognize this is a result of systems that were created to oppress and harm people of color. As an agency, we are working to create an inclusive, diverse, and equitable environment to ensure every family served has the resources they need, the opportunity to share their voice, and the ability to thrive in our community.

Family Promise of Greater Denver could not and does not do this important work alone. It is made possible by the staff that work every day to ensure families have the support they need to succeed, the volunteers who give their time and heart to our mission, the generous donors who make the hard work possible, and the community partners who lift up the work and voices of those without.

Thank you for your role in this work, we are only successful together. I know that with our combined efforts, we are ending homelessness, forever, one family at a time.

**Warmly,**

**Courtney Jensen**  
Executive Director



## OUR STAFF

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### Mia Barnes

Social Work Internship Student

### Amanda Sablowsky

Social Work Internship Student

## OUR BOARD

Jessica Kroll - Board Chair

Bruce Garfield - Chair

Nora Ali - Vice Chair

Alan Lang - Treasurer

Morgan Caruthers-Fletcher - Finance and Operations Committee

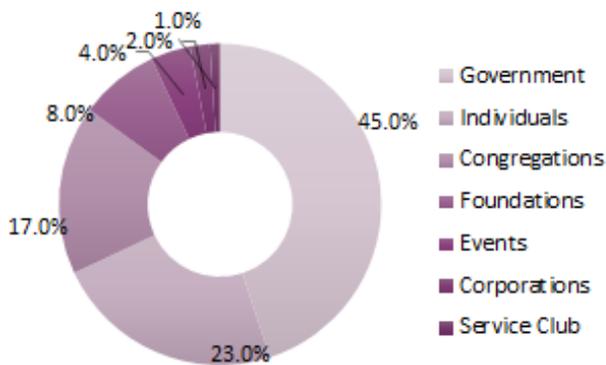
Scott Moore - Governance Committee

Mario Reza - Governance Committee

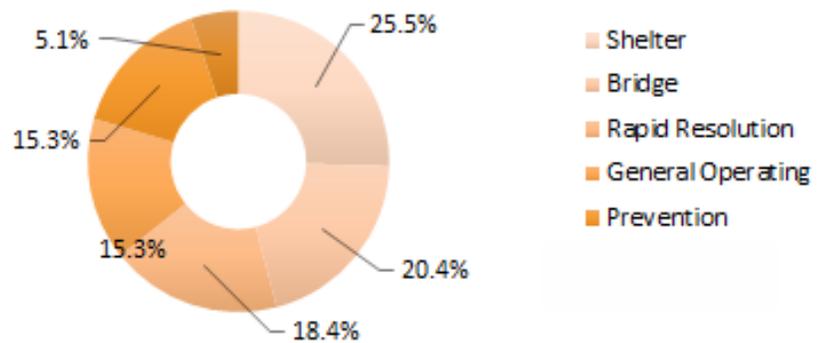
Theda Bruns, - Development Committee

# 2020 Financial Overview

## Income



## Expenses



## Programs

### PREVENTION

Forty percent of Americans are just one unexpected \$400 expense from financial distress. Preventing families from spiraling into homelessness is an essential part of the Family Promise mission. We provide one time rental assistance to ensure families stay housed and prevent the trauma of homelessness.

In 2020, Family Promise saw a stark increase in housing instability due to COVID-19. Luckily, the eviction moratorium prevented many families from entering into homelessness. However, the looming threat of the eviction moratorium coming to an end in 2021 has meant that Family Promise has needed to prepare for even more families potentially losing their homes in the next year.

### SHELTER

Hospitality is a powerful word and it is at the heart of the Family Promise shelter program. At Family Promise, we provide not only shelter services, but also comprehensive and targeted services through: food assistance, transportation assistance, individualized case management, housing navigation, employment services, and more! Additionally, we serve families of all compositions, often providing their only shelter option in Metro Denver.

Since the COVID-19 pandemic hit, this past March, we have been sheltering families out of extended stay hotel rooms, through a partnership with Extended Stay America, and out of the FP house. Thankfully, we have been able to serve even more families through this new model as we were through our previous congregational model.

### STABILIZATION

Family Promise of Greater Denver offers comprehensive, ongoing services to families post-shelter. The Home Program provides stabilization case management, Compadres mentoring relationships, and tenant based rental assistance (TBRA). Once housed, families often face additional barriers to sustainability. For these reasons, we strongly believe in the work of Home. We aim to prevent future episodes of homelessness for all of the families served by wrapping families with ongoing services through deep relationship.

### CASE MANAGEMENT PROGRAMS

#### RAPID RESOLUTION

This program helps families experiencing homelessness identify quick housing options, with the goal of diverting families from the shelter system and into short term or permanent housing. Services may include family mediation, relocation, transportation assistance, and rental assistance.

#### COMMUNITY CASE MANAGEMENT

This program helps families navigate a variety of community resources, including housing, benefits, employment, child care, food, and transportation.

### DONATE

If you would like to donate to one or more of these programs, please visit the link below:

[www.classy.org/give/184343/#!/donation/checkout](http://www.classy.org/give/184343/#!/donation/checkout)

Our mission is to form relationships with families at risk of or experiencing homelessness by providing shelter, meals, and a spectrum of supportive services as they obtain permanent stability.

We are ending homelessness one family at a time!

**2020**

**86%**

**OF FAMILIES OBTAINED OR MAINTAINED STABLE HOUSING BY ENGAGING IN AN FPGD PROGRAM**

**PREVENTION**

**63** Families Served

**89%** Remained housed 2 months after assistance

**COMMUNITY CASE MANAGEMENT**

**70** Families

were provided with resource navigation to ensure stability

**RAPID RESOLUTION**

**93** Families Served

**89%** exited to more stable housing

**SHELTER**



**56** Families Served

Upon Leaving Shelter,

**74%** Housed

**65%** Improved Financial Stability

**71%** Employed, participated in an educational program, or received disability

**BRIDGE HOUSING**

**13** Families Served

**92%** exited to stable housing

**HOME**

**46** Families Served

**88%** Stably Housed

**80%** Employed or received disability