What’s the best gift you’ve ever given?

Prince’s favorite gift is the 24 inches of his hair he donated in his sister’s memory. Prince began growing his hair nine years ago when his sister became ill. During the course of her illness, the family faced another crisis — homelessness. Family Promise helped them find stability and a home.

Tragically, Prince’s sister passed away. Prince decided to cut and donate his hair nine inches to help children in need. For Prince, donating his hair was the best gift he could give.

Each story is a gift made possible by people like you. Your support gives families like Prince’s the resources to achieve lasting independence.

Give the gift of hope and home at www.familypromise.org/
BestGift2019

A MESSAGE FROM THE CEO

Dear Friends,

What’s the greatest gift you’ve ever received? For me, it was a song. As a young child, my daughter Colette learned to play “Lucy—A Jazzy Piece from the Holiday Classic A Charlie Brown Christmas” for me on the piano. Yes, I love that song, but it was the fact that she learned such a complex piece of music just to make me happy that made it so incredibly special.

I think all of us would answer this question similarly, citing gifts from the heart.

That’s why the gifts I’ve seen at Family Promise this year are so meaningful. In this issue, you’ll read about Clayton Homes, the nation’s leading builder of manufactured housing. In addition to supporting Family Promise’s homelessness prevention program, A Future Begins at Home, they’re giving three very special gifts. Thanks to Clayton, formerly homeless graduate families in Colorado, Florida, and South Carolina will celebrate the holidays in their own homes thanks to A Future Begins at Home.

A Colorado family was the first to receive a home. Sara and her children found Family Promise when her son’s health issues interfered with work and the family faced homelessness. They entered the shelter program, and Family Promise worked with Sara on employment and budgeting skills and helped the family regain stability and find housing.

“This is something my kids deserve, but I couldn’t do it by myself,” says Sara, who is grateful for Family Promise’s support and guidance.

“Communities take a step toward eradicating homelessness and giving families the chance for a better future.”

Two more families in South Carolina and Florida will also celebrate the holidays in their own homes thanks to A Future Begins at Home.

“A Future Begins at Home” by addressing the root causes of homelessness and the affordable housing crisis simultaneously, communities take a step toward eradicating homelessness and giving families the chance for a better future,” says Family Promise CEO Claas Ehlers.

FAMILY PROMISE

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Family Promise is a national nonprofit, tax-exempt 501(c)(3) organization addressing the crisis of family homelessness in the U.S. Through a comprehensive set of solutions involving prevention, shelter, and stabilization, Family Promise empowers families experiencing or at risk of homelessness to reclaim and maintain their independence.

Very best regards,

Claas Ehlers
First Giving Day a Success!

A “Night of Giving” gala celebrated the culmination of Family Promise’s first national Giving Day on Friday, October 25.

Attendees learned about Family Promise’s new homelessness prevention program, A Future Begins at Home, and raised support for families in need. Family Promise Affiliates across the country participated in the one-day online event, raising over $500,000.

“The goal of Giving Day wasn’t just to raise money for families in need, but to raise awareness of a crisis that affects one in 19 children in the U.S.,” says CEO Cara Bradshaw. “Every child deserves hope for the future.

This happens when families have support, stability, and the opportunity to develop the tools and skills necessary to achieve lasting independence.”

You can watch a short video about how Family Promise and the local community are working to end family homelessness at www.familypromise.org/givingdaygala

Family Promise Receives Top Charity Rating for 7th Year

Family Promise has an increasingly valuable voice in advising how businesses and communities can best address the needs of low-income families. Already active on advisory committees for the Federal Reserve Bank of NY and Sesame Street in Communities, CEO Claas Ehlers was recently named to the Community Advisory Board of Atlantic Health System’s Overlook Medical Center in Summit, NJ.

“Family Promise is a family affair for Linda Walker and her daughter, Stacy McIntyre. Linda got involved with Family Promise’s flagship emergency shelter program in Union County, NJ, 30 years ago. From the beginning, she appreciated how each family’s unique needs were addressed.”

“Family Promise is willing to listen to families,” she says. “There’s no one answer or solution that fits everyone.”

A Future Begins at Home, a program that helps families avoid the trauma of homelessness, was introduced at Family Promise’s Giving Day Gala.

Why I Give

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT:
LINDA WALKER and STACY McINTYRE

Family Promise is a family affair for Linda Walker and her daughter, Stacy McIntyre. A mother of two young children back then, Linda would bring her family to volunteer. She appreciated the opportunity for them to make a difference together.

“Family Promise helps people of all ages understand they can make a meaningful impact,” she notes.

In fact, Family Promise made such a strong impression on Linda’s daughter Stacy in her youth that she’s now a volunteer and part-time coordinator at Family Promise of Union County.

“I’m inspired by the families that Family Promise serves, and also by Family Promise’s work, vision, and innovative programs,” says Bird.

When Linda visits Stacy’s family in Indiana, all three generations find time to volunteer together.

“Family Promise makes a difference together. Greater Indianapolis and volunteers with their own family. Like her own mother did, Stacy wants to teach her children the value of community and giving back.”

“Family Promise helps people of all ages understand they can have an impact.”

Family Promise Announces New Board Members

Family Promise welcomes two new members to its national board of trustees.

Sarah is a former principal of Hewitt Associates (now ADP), a provider of human resources consulting and outsourcing solutions to the Fortune 500. She is the former chair of the board of trustees at the Titon School in Titon, NH, and currently serves on the board of directors of YMCA Camp Huckins in Osippee, NH.

“I’m inspired by the families that Family Promise serves, and also by Family Promise’s work, vision, and innovative programs,” says Bird.

Susan Hardwick, CFO of American Water, serves on several community boards and has received multiple public service and leadership awards. In 2016, Harwick was named CFO of the Year by Indianapolis Business Jounal.

“The Walker and McIntyre families are proof that people of all ages can make an impact for families in need.”

“Family Promise helps people of all ages understand they can have an impact.”

Family Promise offers an increasing voice in advising how businesses and communities can address the needs of low-income families.

The board is an important source of guidance in our effort to build healthier communities,” says Overlook President Alan Lieber. “Claas’ insight on how to enhance our delivery of health care to the underserved will be invaluable.”

Hardwick says, “I find organizations that work to prevent issues rather than correct them are most sustainable, and I’m thrilled to be part of an organization focused on long-term housing solutions.”

WELCOME TO OUR NEWEST AFFILIATE!

Family Promise of Roane County (TN)