

*Family Promise of Albany County*

## DIRECTOR'S LETTER

# Highlights from 2020



 Family Promise  
of Albany County

### What A Year!

Family Promise of Albany County is very pleased to wish everyone a happy 2021! In the spirit of the new year, I want to shift the tone of my letter. Usually, the “Letter from the Director” is meant to shed light on some of the nuances of need in Laramie. To welcome the new year, I want to share some highlights from 2020, celebrate some of our successes, and tell you about the future of FPAC services.

While the impact report will show you hard data it will not tell you the individual stories of each of our clients. Every guest we host faces struggles and barriers unique to them. FPAC is in a privileged position in which we can help navigate these struggles. An example that comes to mind is Derek\*. Derek was a single father who is raising five kids. Like many people this year he lost his job due to COVID-19. When Derek applied, we were fortunate to have an opening in our shelter program although need was high at the time. Any time we take on a new client we try and ensure that they have the capacity to achieve their independent living goals. The longer we host a client the more people we must turn away. Luckily, Derek was able to keep his five kids in school, find an apartment and a job within three weeks. Fast turnarounds like Derek’s help us support more families and show how a little support can go a long way.

While we moved through the year, we had several changes in administration. Both our previous Director and Family Advocate moved on to new positions within the Laramie non-profit community. While we were sad to see them go, we were lucky to have a smooth transition in both cases. Clients continued to work with the new team as we settled into our positions. Throughout this process, we were able to prevent six evictions through our PATH program and five families were able to graduate from our shelter program. This included a family of thirteen people who managed to move into a new home just days before Christmas. Despite the changes, FPAC’s structure is strong. It is made durable by the broader community network that works to support our families including host churches, volunteers and coordinators, partner agencies, a stellar board, and even graduated families who give back.

FPAC’s foundations are what give us hope for the new year. While we are continuing to grapple with the realities of COVID-19 we have also found new opportunities to combat homelessness in Albany County. By hosting families in hotels and maintaining a strong relationship with our host congregations it has been possible to shelter more people. We have also won several grants which allow us to put more focus on prevention, paying for things like rent and utility relief, application fees for income-based apartments,

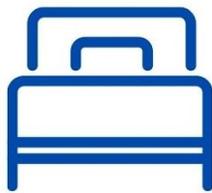
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emergency vehicle maintenance, vital document recovery, and other expenses related to sustainable living. FPAC is still small but we are growing. **We are proud to continue supporting families in Albany County and we sincerely thank you for continuing to support.**

- Coletan Nutter  
Executive Director

*\*All names mentioned in this letter have been changed to protect the identities of our clients.*

### Impact Highlights for 2020



**3620**

Bednights  
Provided



**21**

Families  
Sheltered



**36**

Children  
Sheltered



**104**

Children  
received diapers  
from pantry