



### **Guidance from Thomas Clanton of Family Promise**

Due to the ongoing health crisis, Family Promise of Pickens County has been thinking of innovative ways to serve the homeless community in our area. The staff has been conducting contactless intakes, installing safety and cleaning equipment in the day center, and providing case management for those in need.

In order to host more homeless families during this time, we have brainstormed some ideas that could help create additional lodging space. We are looking for any church or community member with an apartment or home that they would be willing to donate for a short period to host families. We are also looking for a static church or community center space that an organization would be willing to allow us to use as a host site. If this space is available, Family Promise will coordinate with all host and support congregations to recruit the volunteers and the equipment needed for hosting. We are also in desperate need of prepaid gas cards and restaurant gift cards. Families during this time need to be able to drive to and from work to maintain stability and make progress. Also without the meals provided by host congregations, restaurant gift cards will provide an extra layer of support for our clients. These small resources could make a big difference in the success of families in our program.

These are a few examples of ideas and needs we have at Family Promise. In addition to these needs, we would like to encourage you to engage your church community in providing suggestions and ideas of their own. What are some innovative ways to care for homeless families during this time? What are some needs that can be met in creative ways? In a time where we are unable to engage with each other physically, use these suggestions to create excitement within your congregation for the work that Family Promise is doing. We ask that coordinators share this message with their congregations. Ask if any members can supply for the needs of Family Promise. Encourage suggestions on innovative ideas that can spur the work of our organization forward. Thank you for your continued work with Family Promise and we look forward to hearing and supporting the exciting solutions that your congregations provide.

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