

NEWS RELEASE

County of Warren, New Jersey



Warren County Declares Family Promise Week

(WASHINGTON TWP., NJ – October 11, 2017) – The Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders has proclaimed Oct. 22-29 as “Family Promise Week” in honor of a local organization that has been a frontrunner providing shelter, prevention and re-housing programs since 2008.

“They do a wonderful job in keeping families whole,” Freeholder Director Richard D. Gardner said of the organization Family Promise of Warren County. “You never know when a family is going to be in crisis,” Gardner said, but Family Promise is always there to help.

Headquartered in Oxford, the agency’s mission is to help homeless and low-income families achieve sustainable independence, and to enable communities to work together to address the needs of homeless families. Family Promise provides shelter, meals, and comprehensive services.

The organization will hold an open house on October 25 from 12 to 6 p.m. to celebrate Family Promise Week.

“The resources that you pull together is an outstanding

accomplishment,” Freeholder Edward J. Smith said to the organization’s representatives.

Freeholder Jason J. Sarnoski said it is not uncommon for the freeholders to get calls from people seeking assistance with housing, and County officials know they can work with Family Promise when help is need. Family Promise representatives “work constantly and put in a lot of extra hours to make sure that everyone has somewhere to sleep and some kind of hot meal to eat,” Sarnoski said.

The proclamation was accepted by Bob Frankenfield, Executive Director of Family Promise of Warren County, who noted the organization has provided 56,000 meals and 19,000 nights of housing since its inception.



Family Promise of Warren County Executive Director Bob Frankenfield displays the poster of a Warren County girl being used nationally by 206 organizations as they celebrate Family Promise Week, as Freeholder Jason J. Sarnoski, Freeholder Director Richard D. Gardner, and Freeholder Edward J. Smith prepare to present him with a proclamation declaring Oct. 22-29 as Family Promise Week in Warren County.

However, Frankenfield displayed a poster of a young Warren County girl who he said is this year's poster child for 206 Family Promise organizations around the nation. She and her family were homeless, and then her brother was diagnosed with leukemia, he said, adding, "This is who we're helping."

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**FAMILY PROMISE WEEK
OCTOBER 22, 2017 THROUGH OCTOBER 29, 2017**

WHEREAS, on behalf of the citizens of Warren County, New Jersey, the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders is pleased to recognize the week of October 22, 2017 through October 29, 2017 as Family Promise Week; and

WHEREAS, this acknowledgement is part of a nationwide effort to help raise awareness for children and families who are homeless, regain their sustainable independence; and

WHEREAS, Family Promise of Warren County and the Interfaith Hospitality Network (IHN) is one of 200 independent and self-supporting agencies across the country uniting the faith, civic and business communities and individual volunteers to help children and their families who are homeless; and

WHEREAS, housing is the foundation for a stable community and life and Family Promise of Warren County believes that housing is a basic right; and

WHEREAS, 50.7% of Warren County households pay more than the recommended 30% of their income on rent, making them vulnerable to homelessness; and

WHEREAS, Family Promise of Warren County has been a frontrunner providing shelter, prevention and re-housing programs since 2008, assisting over 100 families in the shelter program, over 500 households with the prevention and re-housing programs and providing linkages to over 6,000 households seeking housing assistance; and

WHEREAS, this acknowledgement offers an opportunity to raise awareness in municipalities, organizations, businesses, and with groups, individuals and the faith community regarding homelessness in our own backyards.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders does hereby proclaim the week of Sunday, October 22, 2017 through Sunday, October 29, 2017 as Family Promise Week.

***Richard D. Gardner, Director
Edward J. Smith, Deputy Director
Jason J. Sarnoski, Freeholder
Warren County Board of Chosen Freeholders***