



## **Family Promise Mission Statement**

Our mission is to fight homelessness in Hendricks County by coordinating immediate shelter and needs assistance programs alongside longer term compassionate support services for families in all areas of life.

### **BACKGROUND**

While Hendricks County might be one of the most rapidly growing areas in the country, this growth doesn't mean everyone in our community has a roof over their head. **Approximately 236 school-aged children in Hendricks County are homeless right now.**

A group of concerned citizens began meeting in 2010 to address this problem and find a solution. This group, now called Family Promise of Hendricks County, is an affiliate of the national Family Promise organization. Family Promise has a proven track record of successfully addressing both the short-term needs and long-term solutions. Across the country, **nearly 80% of families that Family Promise serves find permanent housing.** We began serving families March 1, 2015 and look forward to impacting the community, one family at a time!

### **HOW DOES IT WORK?**

Family Promise of Hendricks County needs 13 or 14 congregations to be host congregations. These churches welcome the persons screened and selected by the agency for one week approximately four times each year. The families (no more than 14 total persons) would come to a host congregation at 6 pm each evening until 7 am the following morning for one week. FPHC provides cots and transportation. The hosts provide areas for sleeping, eating, homework, and just visiting. Sheets and blankets would be supplied by FPHC. They hosts provide dinner, breakfast, and a sack lunch. At 7 am the families are taken to the Resource Center of Family Promise. School age children are taken to school, pre-school children are cared for by parents, parents either go to their job or work with Family Promise persons to search for a job, housing, education opportunities, etc. Showers and laundry facilities are provided at the Resource Center. The same routine takes place each day.

St. Malachy does not have the space to be a host congregation. However, the parish can be a support Congregation by assisting with meals and other volunteer tasks needed by the Resource Center. We have done that thanks to all who signed to help with meals. We have also provided some hygiene items for the families. We will continue to explore more ways to be part of this ministry. If you are interested in taking a more active part, please email Mike Nygra, [nygra@sbcglobal.net](mailto:nygra@sbcglobal.net).

### **Resource Center**

After two years of searching, Family Promise of Hendricks County has a home! Our Office/Resource Center will be located at 360 N. State Road 267, Avon, IN 46123 (immediately north of the Avon-Washington Township Public Library.)