

From our Board President

It may not feel like it just yet, but Spring is just around the corner! What a fitting season it is to share the news of positive changes and measurable growth at Family Promise of Central Connecticut.

At the top of our Board's agenda over the last several months was the search for a new full-time Affiliate Director. I am excited to announce that the search is over, thanks to the tireless efforts of personnel chair David McKee and his search committee. Our new Director will officially begin employment with us on Monday, April 16, and more details will be shared shortly. Having had the opportunity to meet with her personally, I can attest that her positive energy, extensive professional experience and compassionate heart will be a perfect fit for our affiliate.

We'd be remiss in not acknowledging Peg Kelly's extraordinary work as Interim

several months. While it was not a position she sought, we were beyond blessed to have Peg "at the helm" through this period of transition. Peg shepherded us through our first full winter at Family Promise, and kept us up and running even through busted Day Center pipes and pesky snow days! Peg was hugely instrumental in working with local and State Fire Marshals to devise (and revise) workable host congregation guidelines for our affiliate. Long after Peg returns to her role as volunteer at Family Promise, we will continue to benefit from her tenure as interim director.

Our long-time volunteers know that it has been some time since we've welcomed a

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Spring fundraiser is April 28

Circle Saturday, April 28 on your calendar as the date of the 2nd Annual Keep the Promise Family Promise of Central CT Spring Fundraiser/Silent Auction. Taking place from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., the event will be held at Trinity-on-Main, located at 69 Main Street. Tickets are \$20, or \$25 at the door.

Sleep out benefits Family Promise



Church of Christ, Congregational, Newington, held a sleep out in February raising \$2,000 for Family Promise.

Up Close:

Nate Fox



What is your title?

I am a Case Manager & Program Coordinator, which entails a little bit of everything, including working with our families on determining and then tackling their goals (such as the employment, housing, childcare, etc.), representing FPCCT at



Members of the Sweetest Key, an all-female Acapella group, entertained at Church of Christ Congregational, in Newington on February 11 and donated part of the proceeds to Family Promise.

the community level meetings (such as a weekly housing/homelessness "Coordinated Access Network" meeting), fielding and assessing potential family referrals,

supervising interns, supporting day-to-day operations of the Affiliate and the Day Center, driving guests to appointments, and whatever else may pop up.

What's your educational background?

I attended NYU for my undergraduate studies and obtained a degree in Metropolitan Studies, followed by my MSW (with a concentration in Policy Practice and a "focused area of study" in Urban Issues in Social Work) from UCONN.

Are you married? Do you have a family?

I have a lovely wife by the name of Claudine who I have been married to for 3 ½ years. No children yet (unless you count cats). I've lived in Hartford for 15 years now. Fun fact: we met in New Britain 10+

years ago, though neither of us has ever lived in New Britain, so it's been an interesting full circle to wind up working in New Britain all these years later.

How long have you been with Family Promise?

I've been with Family Promise since June of 2017.

What attracted you to this position?

It was actually a wonderful coincidence. I knew Kara (Russell) through my previous position at Center Church in Hartford (the Christ Church Cong. youth group would serve dinner once a month through our Sunday meal program), and sometime in March/April of last year she emailed me the position description asking me if I knew anyone who would be a good candidate for the position. Little did she know, my job at Center Church was coming to an end in a month or two (as it was a set three year position)! I've been doing work around housing and homelessness for the past eight or so years, so it felt like a great fit and a great opportunity to support an organization in its infancy. I replied and told her I might

know a guy, and (after a couple rounds of interviews) the rest is history!

Family Promise Board Profile



Danielle Morisse-Corsetti

Tell us about yourself.

I am a mother of three, an active church member at Kensington Congregational Church, a women's trauma specialist and a crossing guard! I am very close with my parents and siblings and their families. My husband and I are celebrating our 15 anniversary this year.

Where do you live?

I live in East Berlin.

Where did you go to school?

I have a Master's Degree in social work from Smith College School in Social Work and a BA in Clinical Psychology and Community Health from Tufts University.

What do you do for a living?

I am a psychotherapist, and owner of a private therapy practice in Rocky Hill, CT.

Intentional Living, LLC provides individual, and group therapy, as well as community education.

What are the names of your family members?

My husband is Dan. My three kids are Lucy, 12, Tommy, 10, and Leo, 5.

What is your Family Promise title?

I am a member of the Board of Directors.

How did you become involved with Family Promise of Central Connecticut?

I learned about Family Promise from my church involvement as a support congregation. As I learned more, I found a way to get to know the board members and was pleased to be invited to join the board.

What do you find most rewarding about your involvement with Family Promise?

I have been a social worker for more than 20 years and have always loved being able to be helpful in a way that is tangible and substantial. I love my work and being able to work with someone for a long time on their emotional process and inner goals.

What do you consider to be the biggest

achievements of Family Promise of Central CT's first year?

Working with a new organization is an amazing opportunity to watch such growth. I am so proud of the work that happened before my time to get our doors open, and I think our biggest achievement in this past year has been to learn how to work with the families that need our help.

Do you have a philosophy that guides you?

"Do not be daunted by the world's grief. Do justly now. Love mercy now. Walk humbly now. You are not obligated to complete the work, but neither are you free to abandon it." Like the Talmud says: "Do all the good you can, for all the people you can, in all the ways you can."

President's Corner

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new host congregation to our affiliate. But that's about to change! Our host recruitment committee has been hard at work spreading the good news about Family Promise, and at the

moment, we have not one but **TWO** congregations on the verge of committing as host churches. We'll be making those announcements as soon as they become official.

Speaking of growth, we've also been building an increasingly impactful relationship with our New Britain neighbors at Central Connecticut State University. You may recall that former Coach of the men's basketball team, Howie Dickenmann, served as honorary chair of our 2017 Walk Away Homelessness event. Since then, President Zulma Toro and members of the University's Community Engagement Office have worked with us to design an internship program for undergraduates in CCSU's Social Work program. We have also partnered with students in an upper-level social justice writing course to create a series of Family Promise of Central Connecticut "snapshot" essays, including former guests, volunteers and pastors, which will be used for publicity and congregation recruitment]

As a volunteer and as a board member, I am excited to witness the positive changes these new developments will bring to Family Promise of Central Connecticut. And I am grateful, as always, to our volunteers and donors who remain committed to our mission to combat family homelessness....one family at a time.



Community Round Up at Kensington United Methodist

Members of the Family Promise Board of Directors participated in a March 10 Community Roundup at Kensington United Methodist Church in Berlin.

Sponsored by Thrivent Financial, it featured musical performances, exhibits and children's activities.

Family Promise of Central Connecticut's
2nd Annual Spring Fundraiser

Keep The Promise

...because every family deserves a home

Silent and Live Auction
Entertainment, Food and Drink

April 28, 2018

Trinity-On-Main
69 Main St, New Britain, CT 06051
6:30 to 8:30 P.M.

Tickets: \$20 in advance; \$25 at the door

Family Promise of Central Connecticut, Inc. is a 501(c) 3 organization whose mission is to fight homelessness by partnering with local congregations to help families with children remain intact and become self-sufficient.

