

**For Immediate Release**  
**For more information contact:**  
Jim Cain, Executive Director  
(515) 277-7051  
[jcain@familypromisedm.org](mailto:jcain@familypromisedm.org)  
[www.familypromisedm.org](http://www.familypromisedm.org)



## NEWS RELEASE

### SUMMER CELEBRATION RAISES FUNDS FOR DES MOINES FAMILIES EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

*Event celebrates success of helping 33 adults and 72 children experiencing homelessness in 2020, while silent auction raises funds to assist more in the future.*

*Des Moines, Iowa* — After a year hiatus due to the pandemic, Family Promise of Greater Des Moines will resume its annual Summer Celebration and Silent Auction to support families experiencing homelessness. The event will take place on Friday, July 23 from 7 p.m. – 9 p.m. at the Giovannetti Shelter in Urbandale.

“The last year has been difficult for most people, but especially for our guests experiencing homelessness,” said Jim Cain, Family Promise of Greater Des Moines executive director. Since March of 2020, guests were required to shelter-in-place at the Day Center, located at Westminster Presbyterian, instead of the typical rotation between host congregations whose volunteers provide support, shelter and meals during their week of hosting. The change in format posed challenges for Family Promise guests, staff and volunteers.

Despite those challenges, the organization still assisted 27 families with shelter and meals during the pandemic while helping them to find stable housing and employment. “We found ourselves inspired by our guests’ resilience in the face of adversity, and that is something to be celebrated,” Cain said.

Attendees of the Summer Celebration will enjoy food, live music by the One Woman Symphony and the opportunity to bid on great items in a silent auction. In addition to raising funds to help more families in the future, the celebration will highlight accomplishments of the organization’s current and past guest families in finding income and transitional or permanent housing over the last year.

“We emphasize that our families are *experiencing* homelessness, they are not permanently bound to it,” Cain added.

During 2021, Family Promise of Greater Des Moines supported 33 adults and 72 children, approximately 30 of which were under the age of five.

Anyone interested in attending the Summer Celebration may purchase tickets or donate at [familypromisedm.org](http://familypromisedm.org). Presenting sponsors for this year’s event are Sammons Financial Group and R&R Realty Group.

###

#### **About Family Promise of Greater Des Moines**

Founded in 2002, Family Promise of Greater Des Moines provides shelter, case management services and support to more than 20 families annually, including more than 50 children and 30 adults. **The mission of Family Promise of Greater Des Moines** is to mobilize our community to help homeless families achieve stable

housing and income through compassionate care, hospitality and professional support. A network of 14 faith-based congregations assist in fulfilling our mission by providing clean and safe overnight shelter and nutritious meals for one week every three months. During the day, guests are transported to the Day Center at Westminster Presbyterian Church, where they can take showers, do laundry and receive support and guidance in their employment and housing searches.