



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Family Promise of Brevard Partners with HUMI to House Families

Initiative is part of Family Promise's national effort to engage communities in addressing family homelessness holistically.

Brevard County, FL Family Promise of Brevard is proud to announce their selection as a pilot in a national partnership between Family Promise and Help Us Move In (HUMI), a Washington state-based nonprofit working with communities to fund and create programs helping families facing housing crises. The model is based on the shared beliefs of the two organizations that a combination of case management, opportunity, and community can empower the families we serve toward self-sufficiency. The mission of the partnership is simple: to ensure children are Homeless No More.



Family Promise of Brevard is one of ten Family Promise Affiliates selected, from Florida to Oregon. Each will receive a \$20,000 Homeless No More Challenge Grant from HUMI over the next two years (\$10,000 per year) to launch a program aimed at sustainable prevention and rehousing for families experiencing homelessness. The grants are not hand-outs: each Affiliate must raise an initial \$10,000 before HUMI awards their \$10,000 grant. Further, the Affiliate is then expected to engage the community and match the funds with another \$20,000 each year. This double challenge match is designed to reinforce a self-sustaining habit of contributions from the community going forward.

Family Promise of Brevard will establish a Working Group consisting of a board member, staff representative, Family Promise regional director, HUMI representative, and other interested parties to manage the program within the community. The Affiliate will identify families to receive assistance using the best practice requirements they employ for their client intake process and determine how much temporary assistance each family needs to successfully move into and support a stable home. The funds are restricted to rental assistance, housing arrears,

and move-in expenses, including security deposits. The goal of the Challenge Funds is a 50/50 balance between preventing family evictions and assisting families with move-in costs.

“We are thrilled to partner with HUMI,” said Family Promise of Brevard’s Executive Director, Tara Pagliarini. “This is an outstanding opportunity to engage the community in helping to end family homelessness by 2020, so that any episode of homelessness is brief, rare and non-recurring. This past school year, over 2,400 students were coded as homeless in Brevard County. This partnership with HUMI will make a major impact toward preventing families from becoming homeless in the first place and stabilizing families once they regain their housing.”

The program has multiple benefits:

- Supplements existing rehousing/prevention programs
- Helps families who may not qualify for existing programs
- Creates community awareness and engagement on the issue of family homelessness
- Builds lasting relationships with landlords
- Puts children and families into homes



Help Us Move In Executive Director Sarah Scherer is enthusiastic about the two organizations working together. “Since 2001, we have helped over 1,700 children move into permanent housing. HUMI is very excited to partner with Family Promise and multiply the impact for vulnerable families across the United States to become HOMELESS NO MORE!”

The Affiliates selected for the initial pilot are: Verdugos (CA), Greater Denver (CO), Northern New Castle County (DE), Brevard County (FL), Grand Rapids (MI), Morris County/Union County (NJ), Salem (OR), Fort Bend (TX), Greater Roanoke (VA), and Washington County (WI). The goal is to expand the program to 25 next year, using best practices identified in the pilot.

About Family Promise of Brevard

Family Promise of Brevard’s mission is to address homelessness by providing families the support and resources they need to put themselves on a path towards long-term stability. They have been operational since 2013 serving low-income and homeless families in Brevard County. To learn more about their organization and HUMI, please visit www.familypromiseofbrevard.org and <http://www.helpusmovein.org/>.

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