



## Family Promise of Western New York

Dear Family Promise Supporter -

### **Thanks for considering our Adopt a Family Initiative!**

When families arrive at Family Promise of WNY, we immediately begin working on how they can successfully move out of our shelter and into permanent housing. Often families come to us with nothing and need to totally rebuild their lives. We ask our community to partner with that family to help them move not into just a house, but a home.

Here's how the program works:

1. **We share our “Adopt a Family” flyer with groups** in our community and ask them to consider partnering. The flyer will have a pretty complete list of the kinds of items we will be requesting on behalf of a family.
2. **Once a group commits to us**, that group identifies the size of the family they can support. The size can be anywhere from 2-6 people. Family Promise then puts that group on our schedule to await a match. Groups can choose a preferred month or timeframe for that match.
3. **While the group waits for a match**, they can begin by identifying a point person to work with us directly and can start collecting household items off the list on the flyer.
4. **Once the group is matched to one of our families currently in shelter**, they will receive a copy of that family's “wish list” – where the family has circled things they truly need. Please do not be intimidated by the large-ticket items like stoves and refrigerators and such – we can help find other donors for those if you are struggling to get them donated. Please also note that we can only accept NEW mattresses and will work with other sources if your group is unable to fundraise for that.
5. The group will also receive a picture of the family and ages/genders of the children.  
**PLEASE PROTECT THE PRIVACY OF OUR GUEST AND DO NOT SHARE THIS PICTURE ON SOCIAL MEDIA!** The picture is meant to be a connection point for those donating within that group.
6. **A representative from the group is welcome to come to Family Promise and meet with the family directly** to talk about the wish list and ask if they need any additional items.

7. **Finally, once the family has secured an apartment, we will work with the group to communicate a move-out date.** The group will then gather volunteers and arrange to transport the donated items directly to the family's new apartment. We can pay for the U-Haul if necessary!

That's it! Your group gets to directly help a family move into a safe and comfortable home. Our family feels loved by this community. It's a win-win!

If you have any further questions about this initiative, or if you would like to commit to adopting a family, please reach out to me at: [luanne.firestone@fpwny.org](mailto:luanne.firestone@fpwny.org) or 716-771-3007

Thanks in advance for your generosity!

Peace,



Luanne Firestone  
Executive Director