

# Home Sweet Home

Jessica is 14 years old and her mom lost her job during the COVID-19 pandemic. Jessica was about to start high school and did not have a place to call home. Your support helped Jessica and her mom find a home before school started. Your support provided a backpack for Jessica to start the school year. Now, Jessica needs our help again. By donating today, Jessica's mom can secure interview clothes, bus passes and job coaching.



## YES! I want to help Jessica and her mom.

- \_\_\_\_ \$50 provides food and clothing for kids like Jessica.
- \_\_\_\_ \$100 provides bus passes for Jessica, her mom and others while they look for a home.
- \_\_\_\_ \$250 provides employment assistance, rental assistance and clothes for interviews.

**Mail to:** Family Promise of Greater Orlando, 1000 Clay Street, Winter Park, FL. 32789  
**Or give online:** [www.FamilyPromiseOrlando.org/donate](http://www.FamilyPromiseOrlando.org/donate)

[www.familypromiseorlando.org](http://www.familypromiseorlando.org)

Family Promise  
of Greater Orlando  
1000 Clay Street  
Winter Park, FL 32789

Fall 2020

# Family Promise of Greater Orlando

Building Community, Strengthening Lives

## From the Desk of the Executive Director



Dear Loyal Donors  
& Supporters,

This has been quite an unprecedented time in our city, county and world. The COVID-19 pandemic continues to wreak havoc on the health, employment, housing and financials of so many families. Never in my lifetime have I seen our world look so morbid. Never in my lifetime did I foresee more families than ever needing the services that we provide.

You are the good that came from this pandemic. Your support has helped more families than ever before. Your support has helped house over 65 families so far in 2020. You have shown up every night delivering over 600 meals, since mid-March, to our families in the shelter program who have been living in hotels. You have gone out of your way to reach out and ask, "How can we help?" You have been the light in the gloom and doom of 2020. We are so grateful for you.

Yours Truly,  
Tia

## Backpack Drive

**You** helped every child in our program to begin the new school year with a backpack..whether virtual or in-person, our children needed supplies to start the school year off right.







### Hurricane Preparedness

Thank you so much to the **Church of Jesus Christ Latter Day Saints** for all of the hurricane supplies. Because of your amazing support, our families will be well taken care of should a hurricane hit.



### 2020 Isn't ALL Bad

You have helped house over **60 families!**



# The No Golf Challenge

Join us for our first (and hopefully last) Virtual Golf Tournament. Sponsor the event or participate in our Helicopter Ball Drop. The ball that lands in or closest to the hole wins \$1,000!

Go to [www.birdease.com/strokes](http://www.birdease.com/strokes) to purchase a ball. Winner will be announced on Friday, October 23rd.

### Virtual Silent Auction

Silent Auction goes live on Monday, October 19th and winners will be notified on Friday, October 23rd.

Go to: [www.32auctions.com/strokes](http://www.32auctions.com/strokes)



**Special Thanks To Our Individual Donors:**  
**Candace Gray & Erin Vertolli**

# Preventing Homelessness Before It Happens

Marco was living life to the fullest. Three healthy children, a beautiful wife and a safe place to live. Marco was a driver for Uber and was making more than enough between his job and his wife's job to provide for their family.

**Then, COVID-19 happened.** His wife was laid off from her job. Uber temporarily suspended all drivers. Life stopped for Marco. And so did their financial security. Gone in an instant.

Marco started to feel desperate and was trying to hide his stress from his wife as her blood pressure was high enough without his added concerns. Somehow in the short time of this financial crisis, he already owed his apartment complex over \$5,000 – a cost that seemed insurmountable now that they were both unemployed.

**Someone told Marco about Family Promise.** Family Promise won a grant that would provide for diversion services – assistance that would help people in their current situations and prevent them from falling into a homeless crisis. Marco knew that was what he needed to do. He needed Family Promise.



Marco and his case manager, Michelle.

He reached out to Michelle, the case manager. Michelle looked at his finances and looked at his debt. The money he owed his apartment was more than Family Promise could assist with. Marco felt even more desperate.



Your support enabled Marco and his family to stay in their apartment.

Several days later, Marco received a stimulus check that would cover all but \$1,500. Marco jumped in his car and headed back to Family Promise.

Marco excitedly entered and told Michelle the great news – **he had a solution.** He only needed \$1,500 and his family could remain in their apartment and their life could remain the same for his family of five. Marco's prayers were answered – Family Promise could pay the apartment complex the additional amount and Marco's family would avoid eviction and homelessness – what we call diversion. Through the grant received from Family Promise National and Synchrony Bank, Family Promise can provide funds to keep families from falling into a crisis situation.

Marco and his family remain stable. He and his wife are both back to working the jobs that they love and life can resume as normal. Prayers answered and lives stabilized making the 'promise' in Family Promise become a reality.