





Family Promise of Ontario County Transforming Lives, One Family at a Time

Our Mission

To empower families threatened with or experiencing homelessness to access shelter, support, and a path to permanent housing through a community-based response.

Our Vision

We envision a community that supports every family in Ontario County to have a safe place to call home and the tools to thrive.



Family Promise is the leading national organization preventing and ending family homelessness, emergency shelter to help families experiencing homelessness access housing, and stabilization programs once families have secured housing.

The scale and complexity of family homelessness in Ontario County continues to grow at a rapid rate. Unfortunately, resources remain extremely limited.

According to the Ontario County
Department of Social Services, family
homelessness here has increased by more
than 300% since 2020. The McKinney
Vento data for the 2022-2023 school year
reported a total of 389 students in Ontario
County that experienced homelessness,
a staggering 39% increase over the prior
year.

As it stands today, there are zero homeless shelters in Ontario County for families with children. Family Promise of Ontario County and the Molly & Ed Shill Cares Foundation are committed to changing the narrative of this story by developing a long-term plan that will provide shelter, case management, compassion, hope, and a path forward for families in need within our communities.

This work begins with the first phase of a multi-year plan by opening the first family homeless shelter in Ontario County at 495 North Main Street, Canandaigua, NY.



This old cobblestone property was purchased by the Molly & Ed Shill Cares Foundation to donate the property to Family Promise of Ontario County to be used as a family homeless shelter. Once open, this shelter will provide shelter and intensive case management for up to 7 families with a maximum capacity of 30 individuals at a time.



Todd BernhardtExecutive Director
Family Promise of
Ontario County

We are currently raising the funds needed to complete renovations, purchase equipment and furniture, establish an endowment fund, and build capital for operational cost associated with running a shelter.

We are extremely grateful for the generosity of the many foundations, individual donors, congregations, civic groups, and business partners that support our mission. These are aggressive goals to meet the needs of a complex problem.

To accomplish our goals, we will need the financial support of our community. We hope you will consider joining the fight to end family homelessness in Ontario County.

Kind regards,

Todd Bernhardt

Todd BernhardtExecutive Director, Family Promise of Ontario County



Family Homelessness in Ontario County is a Growing Problem **And We Need Urgent Action**

FAMILY HOMELESSNESS

On any given night in Ontario County, there

25 FAMILIES with 120 INDIVIDUALS in need of shelter



since 2020

of Social Services

Source: Ontario County Department

STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

408

Ontario County students experienced homelessness during 2023/24 school year.



Source: McKinney-Vento

NUMBER OF FAMILY HOMELESS SHELTERS AVAILABLE IN **ONTARIO COUNTY:**

EVICTIONS

623

Evictions in Ontario County in 2023.



35% increase since 2019

Source: NYS Unified Courts System **Eviction Dashboard**

2024 Ontario County **Fair Market Rent**

Studio = \$938

1 Bedroom - \$1,050

2 Bedroom - \$1,307

3 Bedroom - \$1,580

4 Bedroom - \$1,741

Household Basic Needs Survival Budget

1 Adult/1child

\$28.55/hr \$47,688

1 Adult/1 child in child care

\$23.84/hr \$57,096

2 Adults/2 children in child care \$37.01/hr \$74,016

2 Adults/2 children in school \$47.57/hr \$95,013

Sources: US Housing Data, United Way ALICE report

Please consider joining the fight to end family homelessness in Ontario County.





ONTARIO COUNTY HOUSEHOLDS LIVING BELOW BASIC NEEDS SURVIVAL BUDGET:

It's difficult to believe that families in Ontario County are experiencing something no one should ever have to face—homelessness.

This is why the Molly & Ed Shill Cares Foundation is Partnering with Family Promise of Ontario County on the Sheltering Families, Building Futures campaign. Our goal is to raise \$5 million, which will allow us to open and staff Ontario County's first-ever homeless shelter for families.

We believe that no family should ever have to face homelessness alone.

This shelter, located at 495 North Main Street, Canandaigua, will be the safe haven struggling families deserve. It will be the start of something



Molly Branch Shill and Ed Shill



transformative—a place where broken spirits are mended, where hope is restored, and where futures are rebuilt.

Your generous support will provide shelter—and change lives. It will provide critical services that help families rebuild their futures—job assistance, counseling, educational support, and more.

Will you join us in making this dream a reality?

Thank you for your compassion, generosity, and belief in the power of community. Together, we can bring hope where it's needed most and create a future where every family has a place to call home.

With gratitude,
Molly Branch Shill and Ed Shill

From Homelessness to Home Ownership

Ashley and her seven children, ages one through seventeen, had been doing well enough in a rental apartment in Geneva, where they'd lived for several years. She was working full time, looking toward her firstborn's high school graduation, and working to procure a Section 8 subsidized mortgage which would allow her to purchase a home – and dramatically improve her children's lives.

She was just about to submit the application when everything came crashing down. Ashley came home from work to find her apartment flooded, the ceiling and walls soaked, and water everywhere.

"One of the landlord's workers had been working in the bathroom, and he didn't reconnect a fitting properly," she said. "Water poured in for ten hours, and when I got home the place was a disaster."

The landlord blamed Ashley for the damage and served her with a notice to vacate the apartment. Overnight, the family went from secure housing and plans for home ownership to legal peril and homelessness.



This is when Family Promise of Ontario County stepped in with housing and support for the family.

"When I got the call from Jasmine that you were admitting our family into the program," Ashley said, "I felt like a prayer had been answered."

Ashley found an ideal home in a nearby town. She and the kids moved in and for the first time celebrated Thanksgiving in their house!

Shelter Plans 495 North Main Street, Canandaigua, NY.





- The goal is to serve up to 7 Ontario County families at a time with a maximum capacity of 30 individuals at a time.
- The facility will be staffed 24/7.
- FPOC staff offices will operate out of the shelter.
- Families work closely with their case management team to help them work towards their goal of securing sustainable housing.



Our partners in transformation of 495 North Main Street, Canandaigua into Ontario County's first family homeless shelter.







Your Generosity Builds More than Walls — it Builds Futures.

Support our Sheltering Families, **Building Futures Campaign** with a Donation Today.

Family Promise of Ontario County

How We're Working to End Family Homelessness in Ontario County

1986

1988

2003

The First Interfaith Hospitality Network opened to provide shelter, compassion, and case management for homeless families in need in New Jersey.

2025

The Interfaith Hospitality Network model went National. There are now more than 200 affiliates of Family Promise across the US. The Interfaith
Hospitality
Network
rebranded to
become Family
Promise.

2024

2023

2018

First Homeless Shelter in Ontario County.

The Shill Cares Foundation purchased a property in Canandaigua with the intention to donate to FPOC to open the First Homeless Shelter. Anticipated opening date is fall of 2025.

Family Promise of Ontario
County formed a partnership
with the Shill Cares
Foundation and developed
a long-term strategic plan
to expand capacity to better
meet the needs in the
community.

Family Promise of Ontario County opened their doors to provide shelter and case management to homeless families.

2026 – 2029

Needs for additional shelters will be explored for future shelter locations.

Exploration for a second FPOC Family Homeless Shelter in Ontario County begins.









CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

We are raising \$5 million to make family homeless shelters in Ontario County a reality

Your generous donations will help make a big difference for families right here in Ontario County. There are several ways you can get involved in helping us shelter families and build futures.

Join our Campaign Today.
Visit us online at familypromiseontariocounty.org
to support Family Promise of Ontario County.



Family Promise of Ontario County 185 North Main Street Canandaigua, NY 14424