



**Molly & Ed Shill**  
Cares Foundation

# Sheltering Families, Building Futures





## 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 2023-2024 school year reported a total of 408 students in Ontario County that experienced homelessness, a staggering 28% increase from 2020/21.

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 Bernhardt**  
Executive 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 Bernhardt**  
Executive Director, Family Promise of  
Ontario County



Many Ontario County families have turned to us in their time of greatest need, and we've been there to help. Yet, countless more families are still in need of our support.

Today, we are committed to extending our reach even further.



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

### FAMILY HOMELESSNESS

On any given night in Ontario County, there are  
**25 FAMILIES** with  
**120 INDIVIDUALS**  
in need of shelter

▲  
*300% increase  
since 2020*

Source: Ontario County Department of Social Services

### STUDENTS EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS

**408**

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

▲  
*28% increase  
from 2020/21*

Source: McKinney-Vento

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

**0**

### EVICCTIONS

**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.*

 **Family Promise**  
of Ontario County



**Molly & Ed Shill**  
Cares Foundation

**ONTARIO COUNTY  
HOUSEHOLDS  
LIVING BELOW BASIC NEEDS  
SURVIVAL BUDGET:**

**35%**

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



**Molly & Ed Shill**  
Cares Foundation

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

**A**shley 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.



Molly & Ed Shill  
Cares Foundation



FamilyPromise  
of Ontario County

- ▶ 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.

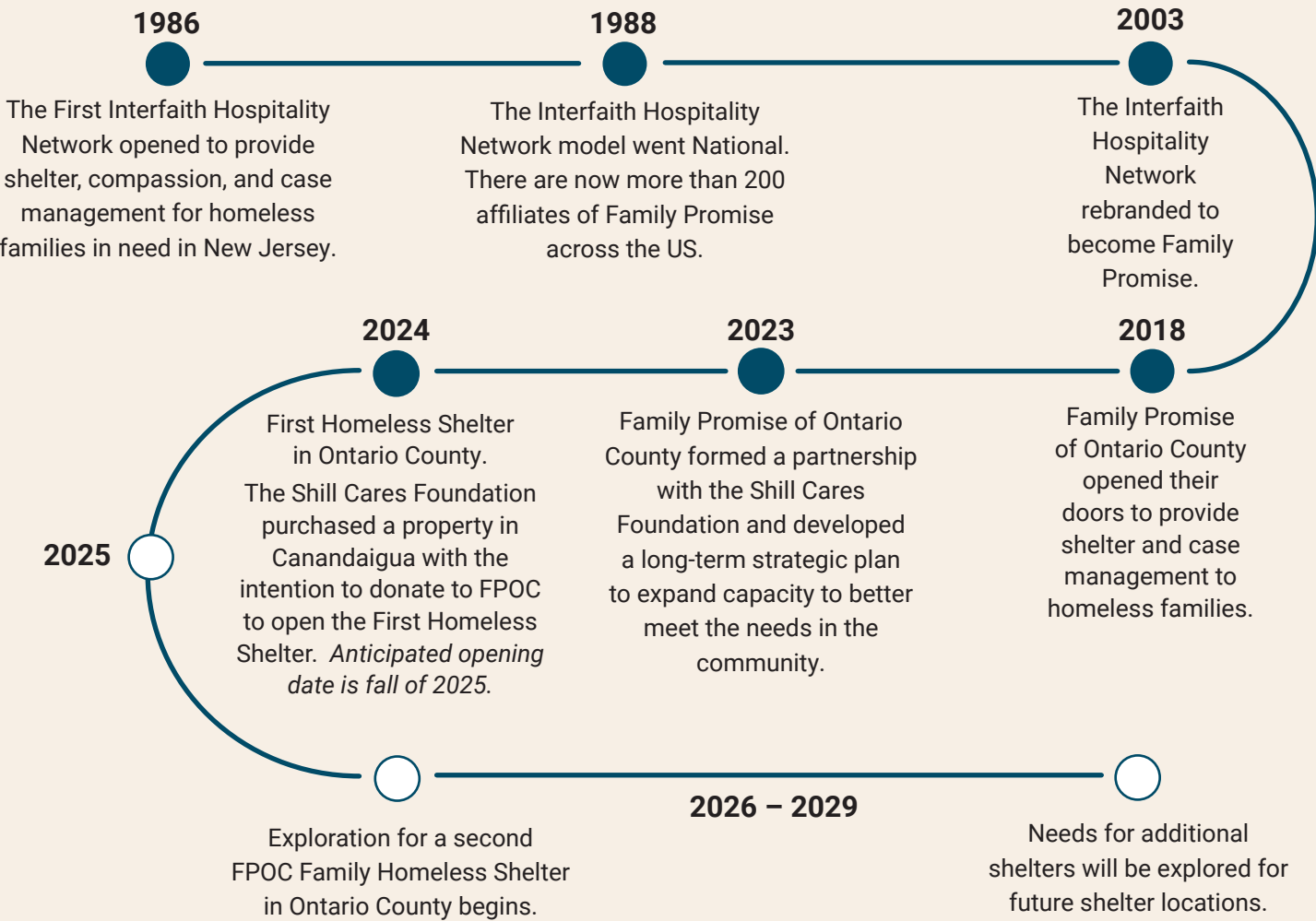


***Your Generosity Builds More than Walls – it Builds Futures.***

***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





## 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](http://familypromiseontariocounty.org)  
to support Family Promise of Ontario County.**



**Molly & Ed Shill**  
Cares Foundation

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

**FAMILY PROMISE OF ONTARIO COUNTY, INC. is a 501 (c)3 Federal tax-exempt charity.  
Donations are deductible as allowed by law. EIN #81-4353748.**