

## **Emergency Shelter Project – Frequently Asked Questions**

Revised 08/24/2021

### **1. Who is behind the project?**

- Family Promise of Ozaukee County (FPOZ) is the organization leading the Emergency Shelter Project.
- Ozaukee County is the Unit of Government providing oversight of the project funded by the Community Development Block Grant Coronavirus Program.
- The Emergency Shelter Project Task Force is established to assist with the development of a plan for an emergency shelter to serve homeless families and individuals in Ozaukee County. The Task Force is under the guidance and leadership of Family Promise of Ozaukee County. The Task Force includes representatives from a number of non-profit organizations including St. Vincent DePaul, Salvation Army, Advocates of Ozaukee, United Way of Northern Ozaukee, Saukville Food Pantry, Balance, Inc., The Difference Principle, Family Services of Ozaukee County, Ozaukee Non-Profit Center, and other community members.

### **2. What is the Emergency Shelter?**

- The shelter will provide homeless persons with a safe place while they work on moving from homelessness to housing.
- Plans are for 6 - 8 private rooms that will be self-contained with each having a bedroom, bathroom and dining space.
- Meeting spaces will be available to provide case management and other support services.
- Shelter guests will have the choice to receive warm evening meals as part of the program. Dedicated room for meal preparation will be used by volunteers, staff, and clients to prepare food for households who reside in the shelter.
- Multiple laundry rooms will be available.

### **3. Where will this be located?**

- Port Washington has been identified as the best location due to the proximity of Ozaukee County Human Services and Family Promise main office, other supportive services, and employment opportunities.
- Site preference - Family Promise has identified a property listed for sale at 1505 Sunset Road in Port Washington that currently operates as a daycare.

### **4. Why is the Emergency Shelter needed?**

- The emergency shelter will meet an urgent need in the county for shelter services to single women, single men and families who are homeless. The COVID-19 pandemic caused congregations throughout Ozaukee County to close and as a result, Family Promise was no longer able to rely on them to house our homeless households. Family Promise changed to a motel voucher model for shelter in March 2020. The agency currently rents a block of ten motel rooms, which allows us to continue serving people experiencing homelessness. Unfortunately, this model is very costly, and the separate motel rooms create an increased risk of isolation.

**5. Who will be served by this Shelter?**

- The emergency shelter will serve all household types, families with children, single adults and couples without children.
- There will be up to eight (8) rooms for a maximum capacity of twenty (20) persons.

**6. Can you tell me more about the operations?**

- This is a static site shelter open 24 hours a day seven days a week.
- The shelter will be staffed by a full time case manager and program assistants in the evening and overnight hours.
- Guests are expected to actively seek housing and follow through with their case plans while in the program. They will not be asked to leave during the day.
- Sex offenders will not be allowed to enter the shelter program. They will be supported by the coordinated entry specialists who will help connect them to other shelter/housing options.
- Individuals with recent violent criminal and drug related activities on their record will not be allowed into the program.

**7. What activities will take place at the Shelter?**

- All persons housed at the shelter will receive case management services. The case manager connects the household to the specific resources, agencies and systems that will wrap around and address the non-housing needs. This includes things such as obtaining health insurance, finding employment, legal assistance, counseling, parenting, and others.

**8. When will this be built / completed?**

- We anticipate opening the Emergency Shelter June 1, 2022.

**9. Will there be opportunities to volunteer?**

- Yes! Please contact Joana Hemschemeyer at [Joanafpoz@gmail.com](mailto:Joanafpoz@gmail.com) or 262-268-2723 for volunteer opportunities.