



# Family Promise

of the Big Bend

**OUR 2023 ANNUAL REPORT  
TO OUR DONORS AND THE  
GENERAL PUBLIC**

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**SHAMARIAL ROBERSON**  
**Board Chair**

# LETTER FROM THE CHAIRPERSON

## Our Chair's Vision

There is no question: 2024 will be a transformative year for Family Promise of the Big Bend.

Throughout the year we will renovate HOPE, which is the only shelter for homeless families in the Big Bend. After years and years of deferred maintenance, we are grateful to the Department of Children and Families for funds to substantially refurbish our dorms and kitchen. To be frank, the buildings have leaky roofs, broken windows, and cracked bathroom tiles. The first time I walked through the halls, I almost cried.

For the 150 or so residents we have on any given day, and the ratio is about two children to every adult, we should be offering a safe and comfortable place to stay. The refurbishment will also allow for a significant upgrade in security which is critically important as we frequently serve mothers seeking refuge from abusive relationships.

Personally, one of my favorite changes will be an opportunity to renovate the classroom with a comfortable reading area and technology that ensures our students have access to computers.

All of these transformational efforts come on the heels of efforts begun in 2023 via gifts from the private sector. Bank of America, our business partner of 2023, granted funds for us to plant fruit trees and a garden at HOPE and Walmart led a bevy of volunteers to update and repaint our housing for veterans.

We're open 24-hours a day, 7-days a week. It's the kind of work that lets you sleep well on your pillow at night, because you're definitely working on a cause greater than yourself.

If you've never heard of us, or visited us, please do consider this an open invitation to join our cause.

Sincerely,



Shamarial Roberson  
Board Chair





**Our Mission:**  
**Our mission is to end homelessness in the Big Bend through leadership, education, advocacy, and the provision of quality services and affordable housing.**

## Our Story:

Family Promise of the Big Bend was founded in 1989, and formerly named the Big Bend Homeless Coalition. The national Family Promise affiliation is a network of 200 providers committed to helping families achieve sustainable independence through a community-based response.

## Our Appreciation:

As a public nonprofit we depend on a wide array of volunteers, donors, and governmental agencies. In 2023, we made our inaugural HOME, HOPE, and PROMISE awards to hold up just three examples of our incredible supporters. They were: *Shington Lamy*, Assistant County Administrator for his leadership in homelessness during the pandemic; *Representative Allison Tant* for support of vital state funding; and the *Junior League of Tallahassee* for their long-time support as volunteers.



# OUR WORK: HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2023

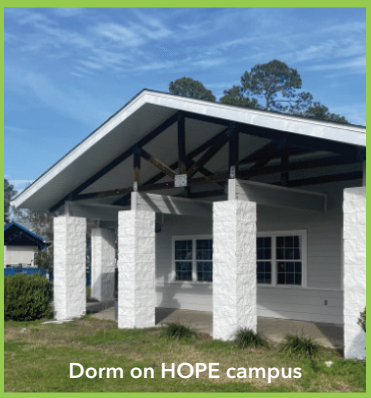
**545 FAMILY  
MEMBERS**

provided emergency  
shelter



**331  
CHILDREN  
SERVED**

with support for  
attending school and  
after-school programs



**PERMANENT  
HOUSING**

provided for 119  
formerly chronic  
homeless individuals and  
families. 92% maintained  
stable housing for 12  
months or more

# OUR WORK: HIGHLIGHTS FROM 2023

**291  
VETERANS  
SERVED**

in our Supportive  
Services for Veterans  
and Families program



**OPERATED 3  
APARTMENT  
COMPLEXES**

to serve low-income  
families. The largest  
has 52 apartments for  
formerly homeless  
veterans



Painting and refurbishment  
of housing for veterans made  
possible by Walmart volunteers

# FINANCIAL HIGHLIGHTS\*



**TOTAL ASSETS  
END OF YEAR:  
\$6,542,703**



**6.3%**  
Administrative and  
Fundraising Costs



## Top Donors Include:

- US Department of Housing and Urban Development
- US Department of Veteran Affairs
- Community Human Service Partnership
- Big Bend Community of Care
- United Way



\* Financial Data is from FY 2021-22 990



# VOLUNTEERS: WE RELY ON HUNDREDS OF VOLUNTEERS!

## Here's One Story!

A big thank you to Bank of America who provided a two-year grant which has allowed us to plant an integrated edible landscaping and manageable gardens and internally create and develop a culture of wellness in partnership with Farming the Future. Families are learning about gardening this year, and next year the program will expand to add a small greenhouse, and a horticultural professional certification.



Chef Rebecca Kelly-Manders believes "nutritious food is a learned behavior and our goal is to introduce tasty, good-for-you food to all of our families." Chef Rebecca also encourages volunteers to help in the kitchen serving meals.



Email [Volunteer@bigbendhc.org](mailto:Volunteer@bigbendhc.org) to inquire about opportunities to get hands on.

# STAFF LEADERSHIP

**We're open 24-hours a day,  
7-days a week.**

**It's the kind of work that takes people  
with kind hearts and keen abilities to  
deal with people in crisis.**

**2023**

## **Board Members**

Steve Beasley

Dr. Trey Blake

Amy Bradbury, Treasurer

Ashley Davis

Dr. Reginald Ellis

Brice Google, Vice Chair

Greg James

Allison Kingry

Sam Nunnally, former Chair

Shamirial Roberson, Chair

Michael Yaworsky

## Key Management Staff



**TAMIKA FIELDS, COO**



**TARA HALL, CFO**

# STAFF LEADERSHIP



**HOLLY BERNARDO**  
**Former Leadership, CEO**

Holly Bernardo served as CEO through May 2023. She led a turn-around effort to secure funds for deferred maintenance issues at HOPE as well as at Family Promise's affordable housing sites for veterans and low-income families. She continues to be an advocate for our work and is currently the Director of Hope Navigators at the Florida Department of Veteran Affairs.



**NICK MADDUX**  
**Leadership, CEO**

Nick Maddox was appointed CEO in July 2023. As a child, he had first-hand experience with the trauma of being homeless. He brings significant experience as a former CEO in the nonprofit arena and also has government experience as an elected county commissioner. Nick is passionate about creating a topnotch client experience which will have long-term positive impact for clients and for our community.

