



For Immediate Release

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McKenna Commits \$200,000 to Family Promise of Greater New Braunfels

NEW BRAUNFELS, TX (June 7, 2013) – The McKenna Foundation recently committed a strategic grant to Family Promise to help local families overcome homelessness. McKenna’s Board remains dedicated to the growing issue of homeless children and families in New Braunfels and Comal County, and with the grant will support an organization that will collaborate with the community to help eligible families gain financial stability and transition into permanent housing. “Surveys and studies conducted through the years have consistently shown the need for social services that positively impact families with children who find themselves in homeless, and often hopeless, situations. The McKenna Foundation recognizes this community need and is thankful that Family Promise is willing to work with us to help folks get out of bad situations,” said Jerry Major, McKenna CEO.

The McKenna Board committed \$200,000 over three years to Family Promise of Greater New Braunfels to support a network of local congregations to serve homeless families while in transition. Host congregations provide overnight housing for families with children, and utilize a day center for family members while not in school or working. The day center provides participants with a professional social worker who does case management services. The center also acts as a home base for completing housing and employment searches as well as a place to shower, do laundry, and care for pre-school age children.

Board President for Family Promise Doy Cole commented, “Family Promise is a grassroots, community effort to provide assistance to homeless families with children by mobilizing the faith community to help these families achieve and sustain independence. True to its commitment, the McKenna Foundation provides funds to support local programs like this that can change the lives of our neighbors. Family Promise is grateful to McKenna for providing solid financial support to start

our operation in July.” The organization has already organized 13 local host congregations, and six additional support congregations who will provide volunteers.

This organization awarded through the strategic grant process has displayed an exemplary model of assisting children and families who do not have stable housing. The grant award focuses on families who need additional support to remain together and provide a positive future for their children. Family Promise will take referrals from local sources such as family service organizations, schools, and churches. There will also be an intake assessment to ensure the families meet eligibility requirements to qualify for each program. The program provides life skills training, educational support, job search skills and resources, and counseling to break the cycle of homelessness and help participants find success.

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