

When asked, “Would you help the homeless?”, most if not all would say yes. Moving from a yes, to an actionable change to help improve the lives of others takes time, hard work and empathy for others. Homelessness affects people from all walks of life. Mike Hartley with a group of other passionate individuals sprang into action in 2011 to make a change, and make an impact in the lives of others with the development of Family Promise of Hendricks County. In March of 2015, Family Promise began supporting families fighting homelessness.

Family Promise is an organization that strives to fight homelessness in Hendricks County. This non-for-profit organization creates opportunities through programs for families in need to achieve sustainable independence. Mike Hartley dedicates his time and efforts towards this cause.

Mike serves as an active Board member donated his time towards helping others through Family Promise. From decision making at board meetings for the next campaign to raise funding, to serving as an overnight chaperone in temporary housing spaces, interacting, supporting, and encouraging families through their life journey.

Family Promise wants the families in need to know that they are not alone. That they have protection, support, and love. This organization provides them with case management, employment, housing assistance, help with securing needed social services, an address, and a childcare program.

Mike enjoys giving his time and energy towards Family Promise. The experience of being able to see the result of how he has assisted to make a difference in families’ lives is why

he does this. Mike Hartley grew up with a role-model who showcased that you need to get involved locally in your community. His father, Michael Hartley, presented giving by his involvement with the local YMCA and giving back to others.

You think of a person's legacy, the impact they make in their community, nothing has a greater impact in your life than having a place to call home. Mike Hartley said, "These individuals are no different than you or I, they just need compassionate person to listen and encourage them to turn their live towards the better."

Too often we underestimate the power of a touch, a smile, a kind word, a listening ear, an honest compliment, or the smallest act of caring. All of which have the potential to turn a life around.