

Trudi Gross recently joined the Board of Directors for Family Promise of Cowlitz County (FPCC). She and her husband, John, attend Kelso United Methodist Presbyterian Church, where Pastor Vonda McFadden sparked her interest in Family Promise. FPCC is a good fit for her volunteer efforts as Trudi's emphasis during her college years was in home and family life. She worked as a college summer intern for child protective services and retired in 2015 after 33 years of teaching at Butler Acres Elementary School where she worked with 5th and 6th graders and also taught music. (Jamie Craig, office manager for FPCC, was one of Trudi's students!)

As a recent addition to the Board of Directors, Trudi is still learning about what is going on and finding out what role she can fill at Family Promise. She is appreciative and very pleased with the success of graduate families and this level of success makes it easy to talk with others about Family Promise. She believes not enough people know about FPCC and she speaks about it often.

During a recent visit to the Family Center to deliver a meal, she had a very positive and enjoyable conversation with Sara Wallace, Case Manager, and a guest family. She believes the staff is doing a tremendous job of helping families navigate through the many challenges to successfully get back on their feet.

For the future, Trudi would like to see FPCC better known in SW Washington and would also like to see the halfway/intermediate house come to fruition to serve larger families