



Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

MEDIA ADVISORY

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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LSSI's Salem House to Distribute Holiday Baskets to Low-Income Seniors

Staff and volunteers will bring food and caring to seniors on the south side of Chicago.

- WHAT:** Salem House, a program of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI), will “spread the joy of the holiday season” to more than 100 low-income seniors by distributing holiday baskets filled with food. Salem House staff, their families and other volunteers will be delivering about 35 baskets a day. The baskets will include food items, such as canned goods, meats, fruits, nuts, candy and cookies.
- WHEN:** December 21-23, between 10 a.m. and 5 p.m.
- WHERE:** Residences in Chatham, Avalon, South Shore, Englewood and Park Manor neighborhoods.

BACKGROUND:

Since 1989, **Salem House**, a program of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI), has — through its “**Christmas Is for Seniors, Too**” project — distributed holiday baskets full of about 60 pounds of holiday meal ingredients and pantry stock items for seniors. This year, the project will serve approximately 100 low-income residents of the south side of Chicago, most of who receive its home care services throughout the year. Past sponsors of this project include Salem Lutheran Church, Chatham Groceries, Moo & Oink, Rosebud Farms and other generous individuals and organizations.

“We wanted to bring food for Christmas dinner right to seniors in our community,” says Sadie Shines, Salem House director. “Each year, people say things like, ‘Thank you so much... We really appreciate it... We didn’t know what we were going to do...’ One lady told me, ‘It really doesn’t feel like Christmas,’ but now she knows she’s going to have Christmas dinner because of this program.”

Salem House, a program of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI), serves older adults on the south side of Chicago. The program, founded in 1974, is dedicated to helping seniors live independently in the community by providing services to meet their day-to-day needs. Salem House provides home care services including housekeeping, transportation and non-medical personal care — for older adults, as well as an area food pantry. For more information on Christmas Is for Seniors, contact Diana Rainey, Salem House coordinator, at 773/873-3400.

Founded in 1867, **Lutheran Social Services of Illinois** (LSSI) is a statewide, not-for-profit social service agency of the three Illinois synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. LSSI serves people through an array of services at 83 sites across Illinois. For more information about LSSI, visit www.LSSI.org or visit [LSSI's Facebook page](#).

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