



Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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## **LSSI'S Legacy Corps Celebrates National AmeriCorps Week; Serve as Volunteers for May 18 Rockford Marathon**

May 11-17 is National AmeriCorps Week this year, and the Legacy Corps of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) is celebrating its partnership with AmeriCorps by participating in the May 18 Rockford Marathon as volunteers. The event benefits the Community Needs Fund at the Community Foundation of Northern Illinois.

In Rockford, LSSI has 35 AmeriCorps members who serve as members of Legacy Corps. Some of the volunteers provide respite for residents in Winnebago, Boone, Ogle and McHenry Counties who are caring for a senior or other loved one who needs constant attention. Legacy Corps members provide caregivers with three to four hours of service a week, enabling them to run errands, see to other responsibilities or just relax, without worrying about their loved one. Legacy Corps members do not provide any medical or therapeutic services or tasks. LSSI is currently recruiting eight additional Legacy Corps members.

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois also has six AmeriCorps members in Rockford who work with its Prisoner and Family Ministry program, which provides transportation for children to visit their incarcerated parents and enables some parents to read books on audiotape for their children. Both of these programs work to maintain the connection between incarcerated parent and child.

“Corps members are getting things done in America,” says Elaine Pfluger, Legacy Corps program director. “And they set an example of multi-generational volunteers working together to identify positive ways to move Rockford forward.”

This is the fifth year of LSSI's program, and its members include people who are 50 years and older. Members can serve for as few as 10 hours a week, and in return, they receive complete orientation and ongoing training, as well as an annual stipend of \$2,000 to defray expenses – such

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as transportation – and the opportunity to earn an educational award of \$1,250 for lifelong learning.

For more information, or to obtain an application to become a Legacy Corps member, contact Pfluger at 815/395-8716 or at [Elaine.Pfluger@LSSI.org](mailto:Elaine.Pfluger@LSSI.org)

Legacy Corps is a part of AmeriCorps, a network of national service programs that engage more than 50,000 Americans each year in intensive service to meet critical needs in education, public safety, the environment and other human needs, including health and housing. The programs are run by more than 2,100 nonprofits, public agencies and faith-based organizations such as LSSI.

Founded in 1867, Lutheran Social Services of Illinois is a statewide, not-for-profit social service agency of the three Illinois synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. For more information on Lutheran Social Services of Illinois, visit [www.LSSI.org](http://www.LSSI.org).

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