



Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

# NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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## **Mayor, Roosevelt Students and IDOA Director to Join Celebration of National Adult Day Services Week at LSSI's Intouch Adult Day Services**

Moline Mayor Don Welvaert and students from Roosevelt Elementary School will join Intouch Adult Day Services in Moline, to celebrate National Adult Day Services Week, which begins September 17. The theme of this year's observance is "Tell The Story of Caring."

On Monday, September 18, Mayor Welvaert will visit Intouch Adult Day Services, which is a program of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI), to sign a proclamation for Adult Day Services Week in the community. He'll be joined by Judy Williamson, an Intouch volunteer whose husband was served by the program for a number of years, who will talk about what the program meant to her husband, her family and herself as a caregiver. On Thursday, the second-grade students from Roosevelt Elementary School in Moline will read to adults at the center. On Friday, Charles D. Johnson, director of the Illinois Department of Aging (IDOA), will also visit the center.

"Adult Day Services are an excellent and affordable way for individuals to provide care for their elderly parents and loved ones, especially people who struggle to balance caregiving and work responsibilities," says Toni Hunter, Intouch director. "Adult Day Services Week provides us with a special opportunity to focus on Intouch's 'story of caring.'"

For 25 years, Intouch Adult Day Services has provided structured activities, supervision and assistance for adults at its center, as well as offering respite to caregivers. It enables adults with a variety of disabilities the opportunity to remain in their homes in the community. Last October, Intouch Adult Day Services moved from its site in Rock Island to a new 21,000 square foot facility in Moline at 4011 Avenue of the Cities.

Intouch Adult Day Services of LSSI is the largest adult day facility in the state of Illinois. The majority of participants are more than 60 years old. Eighty-five percent of the program's clients receive government assistance to participate in the Intouch program, including funds from the Illinois Department on Aging, Veterans Administration and Department of Rehabilitation. With a weekly

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enrollment of approximately 200 people, Intouch has an average daily census of 80-85, with 20-25 of those participants taking part in Alzheimer's programming.

Intouch provides a stable, structured environment for older adults who can benefit from increased physical, mental and social stimulation. Participants maintain their independence and gain confidence as they interact with peers in a wide range of educational and fun activities. Personal care, medicine administration, light meals and transportation are provided.

The National Adult Day Services Association (NADSA) estimates there are more than 3,500 adult day centers in the United States, providing services to 150,000 people each day. A survey of adult day centers nationwide found that the average age of the adult day consumer was 72 and that two-thirds of all participants were women. One quarter of the participants lived alone; three-quarters lived with a spouse, adult children, or other family or friends. Nearly 78 percent of the centers are operated on a nonprofit or public basis. It's estimated that more than 5,000 new adult day centers are needed to meet the needs of the growing populations of seniors and people with disabilities.

*Founded in 1867, Lutheran Social Services of Illinois is a statewide, not-for-profit social services agency of the three Illinois synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). LSSI serves people through an array of services at more than 89 program sites across Illinois.*

*For more information about Intouch Adult Day Services, call 309/797-0200 or visit [http://www.LSSI.org/lssiPublic/publicSite/intouch\\_adult\\_day\\_services.asp](http://www.LSSI.org/lssiPublic/publicSite/intouch_adult_day_services.asp).*

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