



Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

NEWS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
January 23, 2008

CONTACT: Mary Lou Bucciarelli
815/727-6401, ext. 113

LSSI's Joshua Arms to Hold Feb. 2 Open House Showcasing New Supportive Living Units

On Saturday, February 2, Joshua Arms Senior Residence will hold an Open House to showcase its new supportive living units from 1–4 p.m. Joshua Arms, a program of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI), is located at 1315 Rowell Avenue in Joliet and provides affordable private living accommodations for seniors.

Fifty-six of Joshua Arms' 242 one-bedroom apartments are supportive living units. They are wheelchair-accessible and feature a large bathroom with a roll-in shower and a kitchen with easy access to refrigerator, freezer and microwave. Residents of these apartments also receive three meals daily plus snacks, laundry and housekeeping assistance, assistance with personal care, medication monitoring, transportation to medical appointments, an emergency call system, and the services of a special activity director and a designated case manager. Staff is available 24 hours a day.

“By combining apartment living in subsidized units with supportive living services, LSSI enables residents to ‘age in place,’” says Lisa Ingalls, associate executive director of LSSI’s Senior Housing. “Because these services are available, residents won’t lose their friends – or community – when they need additional assistance to keep them living independently. We extend an invitation to the community to see how well this benefits our residents.”

The conversion of the apartments to supportive living units was begun in 2005 and completed in 2007, and was funded through a grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). The subsidy for the Supportive Living Program is funded through the Illinois Department of Healthcare and Family Services. Medicaid is accepted for those who qualify.

Residents of the supportive living apartments must be 65 years old or older and meet specific HUD income guidelines. In addition, financial assistance is available to individuals with a low income.

– more –

Founded in October 1867, Lutheran Social Services of Illinois is celebrating its 140th anniversary, and is a statewide, not-for-profit social service agency of the three Illinois synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

For more information about Joshua Arms, call Mary Lou Bucciarelli at 815/727-6401, ext. 113, or visit www.LSSI.org.

###