



Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **Chicago Community Trust Gives \$50,000 Grant to LSSI for Mental Health Services**

The Chicago Community Trust recently gave Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) a \$50,000 Unity Challenge 2010 grant for mental health services offered at its Portage Cragin Counseling Center, which is located at 4840 W. Byron Street, in Chicago. LSSI serves people and communities throughout the state through a wide variety of programs.

The grant will be used to help uninsured mentally ill persons develop their own personal safety plans that use community and family resources, as well as to give them access to mental health services at LSSI, to help them maintain their stability in the community. The critical services provided by LSSI through this new program include: short-term counseling, case management, planning and support services, periodic consultation with a mental health professional and access to LSSI's group services.

"The support of the Chicago Community Trust has been critical in keeping our clients and the community safe," says Tim Sheehan, executive director of LSSI's Behavioral Health Services. "Families are getting the support that they need during a time when society is pulling resources away and the political struggles of the day are directly affecting vulnerable people. This grant allows families to maintain their dignity, while they face unemployment and lack of access to services."

The Chicago Community Trust has been built by generations of Chicagoans to support a safe, healthy and productive future for every resident. Since 1915, generous donors have invested their charitable dollars with the Trust to be transformed, through careful stewardship and deep community knowledge, into positive local impact. In 2008, the Trust and its donors granted more than \$100 million to sustain effective, innovative programs throughout metropolitan Chicago. In November 2008, the Trust established the Unity Challenge, designed to provide matching funds to donors' contributions, generating additional resources to address the increased demand for human services resulting from the current economic crisis.

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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) or LSSI's Facebook page.

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**About Lutheran Social Services of Illinois:**

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 (ELCA). LSSI serves individuals and families through an array of services at approximately 83 sites across Illinois. LSSI's services include foster care, adoption, pregnancy counseling, Head Start, child care services, services for at-risk families, residential services for youth, counseling, mental health, substance abuse treatment, residential programs for adults with developmental disabilities, housing and services for older adults and individuals with disabilities, nursing care and rehabilitation, and programs for prisoners and their families.