



# NEWS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
October 12, 2007

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## **St. Matthew Center for Health Receives \$50,000 Matching Gift Pledge From Anonymous Donor**

St. Matthew Center for Health recently received a \$50,000 matching gift pledge from the family member of a former St. Matthew resident who was inspired to make the gift because of the quality of care received by that loved one. St. Matthew Center for Health, a program of Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) located in Park Ridge, provides a variety of health care services to seniors and other individuals in the community.

Thanks to this anonymous donor, contributions made to St. Matthew from now until the end of the year will be matched to help fund new fire-retardant window treatments for all resident rooms at St. Matthew. The new, customized fire-retardant window treatments will improve functionality and allow the residents to use them safely and independently. The goal is to raise \$100,000, and the donor will match donations up to \$50,000.

The St. Matthew Service League, with the support of families and community members, initiated fundraising for this project by raising \$10,000 from the St. Luke's Bottle Band benefit concert, which was held in June. Members of the fund-raising committee include: Elsie Ciulla, treasurer of the St. Matthew Service League; Kelly Fitzgerald, assistant administrator and activities director at St. Matthew; Howard Frimark, Park Ridge mayor; Terri Gens, LSSI major gifts director; Marilyn Goll, Park Ridge resident; Alice Gronwick, resident at St. Matthew; Pastor Eileen Harris, chaplain at St. Matthew; Betty Henneman, Park Ridge city clerk; Dr. Andrew Mantelman, licensed clinical psychologist at St. Matthew; and Valerie Niskanen, marketing manager at St. Matthew.

St. Matthew Center for Health has been serving Park Ridge and surrounding communities since 1959 by providing excellent skilled and intermediate long-term care, rehabilitation services,

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Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

dementia/Alzheimer's services, and respite care. Over the years, more than 16,800 people have called St. Matthew home while receiving these critical and enriching services.

For more information on how to make a gift, contact Valerie Niskanen at 847/825-5531 or at [Valerie.Niskanen@LSSI.org](mailto:Valerie.Niskanen@LSSI.org). For more information on St. Matthew's services, visit [www.StMatthewCenter.org](http://www.StMatthewCenter.org).

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 89 program sites throughout Illinois. For more information, visit [www.LSSI.org](http://www.LSSI.org).

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