

*Bringing healing, justice and wholeness to people and communities for 140 years.*



## Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

### About LSSI

Founded in 1867, Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) is one of the largest faith-based social service providers in Illinois and is an agency of the three Illinois synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America.

#### Mission Statement

Responding to the Gospel, Lutheran Social Services of Illinois brings healing, justice and wholeness to people and communities.

#### Facts about LSSI

- Revenues: more than \$100 million annually.
- Employees: 2,200 statewide.
- 180 programs at 89 sites in 44 communities throughout Illinois.
- LSSI's services include foster care, adoption, pregnancy counseling, Head Start, child care, 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.
- People served: 51,351 [FY 2006]; 80 percent of primary clients [22,980] make \$15,000 or less annually, and 51 percent make less than \$5,000 annually; the vast majority of LSSI's clients are non-Lutherans.
- A member of Lutheran Services in America (LSA), an organization of 300 Lutheran social ministry organizations, LSSI is in the top 3 percent of member organizations in terms of annual budget size.

#### Some notable honors

- **2007** — The Community Renewal Society of Chicago recognized LSSI's Prisoner and Family Ministry (PFM) for its work in "Children of the Incarcerated," a public awareness campaign, and identified LSSI's services in the "Best

Practices" column in the March/April 2007 issue of its *Chicago Reporter* magazine.

- **2007** — Lutheran Services in America Award for Excellence for Prisoner and Family Ministry (for a Social Ministry Agency Working with Multiple Partners).
- **2007** and several previous years — Illinois Association of Community Care Program Homecare Providers recognized employees of LSSI's Intouch Home Care Services for seniors for service excellence.
- **2006** — The Illinois Department of Human Services gave LSSI's CILA (Community Integrated Living Arrangement) group homes a 93 percent rating.
- **2005** — Lutheran Services in America Award for Excellence (for Telling Our Story Together) for Lutheran Day 2004 communication and education work.
- **2003** — Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) excellence award for implementation plans with regard to foster parent rights and responsibilities.
- **2000** — Mutual of America Community Partnership Award for the *Building Homes: Rebuilding Lives* program.
- **1996** — Peter F. Drucker Award for Non-Profit Innovation for the Second Family Program.

#### Accreditation

- Council on Accreditation for Children & Family Services (COA), Inc.
- National Association for the Education of Young Children (NAEYC).

### LSSI's Services: Outcomes

**Outcome-focused:** Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI) helps people of all ages make important changes and address critical needs in their lives. LSSI's programs foster self-sufficiency in people, leading to better lives.

In addition to the performance measurements required by regulatory agencies and funding sources, LSSI programs measure many aspects of service quality and effectiveness, including significant outcomes achieved by clients.

#### Highlights for Fiscal Year 2006:

- 1,288 seniors and their spouses found safe and affordable

housing at **18 senior housing developments** statewide.

- 1,700 **foster children** — or 10 percent of the children in Illinois' child welfare system — found safe, stable homes.
- 456 children and adolescents served by LSSI's **foster care programs** achieved permanency through reunification with their families, adoption, guardianship and independence.
- 71 percent of the children and adults served by LSSI's **community-based counseling programs** improved their level of functioning in their daily lives.
- 63 percent of LSSI's **mental health clients** also exhibited an improved level of functioning in their daily lives.
- 68 percent of the clients who completed LSSI's **Substance**

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- Abuse Detoxification Program** were successfully enrolled in step-down substance abuse treatment programs, which is a positive indicator for long-term recovery from addiction.
- 81 percent of the seniors served by LSSI's **Intouch Home Care Services** remained in their homes and enjoyed the highest possible level of independence in communities in the Chicago, Rockford and Peoria areas.
  - 76 percent of clients with **developmental disabilities** maintained their level of functioning as measured by the ICAP (Inventory for Client and Agency Planning). Clients served by these programs, which include group homes and an intermediate care facility, have often reached an optimal level of functioning consistent with their potential within a few years.
  - 924 children visited 366 parents incarcerated at six prisons through **Visits to Mom**, and 445 relative caregivers also visited their loved ones.
  - 558 men and 16 women developed employable skills in construction in the **Building Homes: Rebuilding Lives**

program and contributed to the building of 49 homes for low-income families.

- Children in LSSI's **Head Start** programs demonstrated significant gains in critical skills that prepare them for kindergarten, and they exceeded the Head Start National Average scores following their first and second years in Head Start.
- 73 percent of the families served by LSSI's **Intact Family Services** (for families at risk of child abuse and neglect) were kept intact.
- 87 percent of youth served in LSSI's **Youth Crisis Intervention and Counseling programs** in Carroll, Lee, Ogle and Whiteside Counties were stabilized and achieved their treatment goals.
- 76 percent of those who accepted services in LSSI's **Elder Abuse, Neglect and Exploitation Prevention Program** demonstrated a reduced level of risk for abuse, neglect and exploitation.