



# Lutheran Social Services of Illinois

## Ministry of Hope Award Nomination

ELCA congregations are some of the most important partners LSSI has in providing services to those in need. Many of these congregations also provide extraordinary leadership within their communities in identifying needs and implementing solutions to address those needs. The LSSI Ministry of Hope Awards were presented for the first time in Fall 2004 to outstanding ELCA congregations that provide leadership in supporting the social ministry of LSSI and other ministries in the community. The award will be presented again in 2010 to one ELCA congregation in the Metropolitan Chicago Synod, one in the Northern Illinois Synod, and one in the Central/Southern Illinois Synod.

Nominations may be made by anyone who is a part of the LSSI or broader church community—LSSI staff, volunteers, clients, pastors, church staff and/or church members—and are due August 31, 2010. Congregations nominated by someone other than a member of the congregation will be invited to provide the selection committee with further information on their social ministry efforts. The selection committee will consist of previous Ministry of Hope recipients and volunteers who are not connected in any way with the nominees. Please keep in mind that the congregation does not need to exhibit *all* five criteria to qualify for the award.

The criteria for the Ministry of Hope Award:

- Leadership displayed in starting initiatives of social ministry that address needs in the community
- Partnership with LSSI and other social ministry organizations through the following means:
  - Financial support through benevolence giving, endowment grants or direct fundraising;
  - Volunteer services that support social ministry through fundraising, direct service or administrative functions;
  - Providing physical space to social ministry organizations to operate services;
- Advocating on behalf of individuals in need and social ministry organizations to governmental entities;
- Educating members on social justice issues and services that are available to those within the congregation;
- Other unique qualities that make the congregation an exceptional leader in providing social ministry in the community

Please provide—along with the attached form—a one-page narrative that addresses how the congregation qualifies for this award in relation to the five criteria listed above.

All nominees will be recognized on the [www.LSSI.org](http://www.LSSI.org) website. The Ministry of Hope honorees will be recognized within their own congregation, within their respective conference, and potentially at the Synod level. Local media will also be informed of the Ministry of Hope Award recipients' achievements.



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Please fill out this form to the best of your knowledge. If you are not a member of this congregation, we will send a similar form to the congregation you have nominated to secure additional information regarding the congregation's social ministry.

Nominated Congregation Name:

City:                      Pastor(s):

Nominator's Name:                      Phone:

Relationship to Nominated Congregation:

Please list the following:

Initiatives in social ministry begun by the congregation:

Partnerships with Lutheran Social Services of Illinois:

Partnership, volunteer leadership, and financial support with other social ministry organizations:

Partnership in providing physical space to social ministry organizations:

Advocacy efforts on behalf of those in need (e.g. ELCA World Hunger Appeal, etc.):

Education to members of congregation on social justice, in general:

Referrals and help to members of congregation & community in finding needed services:



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Additional praise of nominated congregation's social ministry (please limit to no more than one page):

Please send this nomination form to:

Stephen Taylor  
Lutheran Social Services of Illinois  
1001 E. Touhy Avenue, Suite 50  
Des Plaines, IL 60018

Or fax to: 847-635-6764  
Or e-mail to: [Stephen.Taylor@LSSI.org](mailto:Stephen.Taylor@LSSI.org)