In 1867, a community in northwest Illinois responded to help children whose parents died in a cholera epidemic, and Andover Children’s Home, the precursor to Lutheran Social Services of Illinois (LSSI), was founded. From its earliest beginnings to its current role as a statewide leader in providing human services, LSSI responds to and is present for people throughout their lifetime. Our mission has not wavered over 150 years.

More than 60% of our clients report an annual household income under $15,000...Compared to just 15% of all Illinois households.

Last fiscal year, July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, LSSI helped 63,653 people in communities across Illinois. That number is more significant when you consider it represents transformation in each life of those we serve. One life transformed has a ripple effect, as that person creates stronger relationships with countless others. Such impact illustrates how LSSI carries out its mission one life at a time.

LSSI serves 1 in every 201 people in Illinois

Illinois population: 12,801,539

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

Connecting with Churches
LSSI is a nonprofit social service organization of the three Illinois synods of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Congregations play an integral role in fulfilling our mission through service, advocacy, and philanthropic support. Last year, congregations helped us provide holiday presents and gift cards to over 1,000 people. On Good Shepherd Sunday, more than 4,000 people at ELCA congregations across the state celebrated their shared social ministry with LSSI.

“I would never be here if it wasn’t for LSSI. I couldn’t have prayed for anything better.”

—ROBERT G., CLIENT, CASE MANAGEMENT AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT
Family Support Services

Intact Family Services provides intensive case management and follow-up services for families who have been reported to the Illinois Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) for any type of neglect and/or abuse of the children. Intact Family Recovery pairs a child welfare caseworker and an alcohol/drug counselor to provide intensive services to parents to enable the family to remain together.

901 children (2,704 parents and children) were served by Intact Family Services with just over 50% of those cases closed. More than half of the families remained together.

Mental Health

Project IMPACT, based at Swedish Covenant Hospital’s Emergency Department in Chicago, provides crisis intervention and stabilization for adults seeking behavioral health treatment in the emergency department. Short-term case management is also available to help individuals link to follow-up care in the community.

Of the 3,785 people served by Project IMPACT yearly only 23% required hospitalization.

Home Care

LSSI offers home care services for seniors in need of assistance. Home care assistants provide non-medical support such as housekeeping, personal care, and transportation.

26,183 hours of home care helped 110 seniors safely remain in their homes.

The Storybook Project

LSSI volunteers bring books into the correctional facility and help incarcerated parents record stories and messages for their child. The book and a CD of the recording is sent to the child as a gift from the parent.

2,395 kids participated in Storybook for the first time in FY16.

6,130 total children received a book and CD from their incarcerated parent.

Funding provided in part by the Department of Human Services’ Division of Alcoholism and Substance Abuse Illinois Licensed Child Welfare Agency - License #013005

LSSI does not discriminate in admission to programs or employment in compliance with the law.