

## **December 2021, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story**

### **Merry Christmas from LSI!**

*“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” — John 1:5*

As Christmas approaches, we give thanks to you! Because of your generosity LSI has continued to offer hope and healing to lowans of all ages. Thank you for bringing the light of Christ to your neighbors who rely on these important services!

At LSI we see veterans getting help, children overcoming fear, moms and dads parenting with renewed joy and confidence, new neighbors from foreign lands becoming established and active in their communities, the pride of independence for those experiencing challenges in everyday life. We know parents who feel hopeless, with few resources to raise their young children. We know adults with disabilities who feel voiceless, with no support system or connection to their community. We know teens who are aging out of foster care, who fear they will never have a forever family.

The spirit of giving, the spirit of love, and the spirit of working together, allows us to stand together and celebrate this Christmas season.

LSI's annual matching gift campaign gives opportunities to double new and increased gifts through the end of the year. If you would like to learn more about how you can support Iowa children and families, contact Deb Whitford, LSI Director of Philanthropy and Church Relations, at 563.676.2065 or [Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org](mailto:Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org).

LSI is also available to provide a customized virtual shared ministry opportunity for your congregation. If you would like to share the message of LSI with your community, please visit [LSIowa.org/church-relations](http://LSIowa.org/church-relations) or contact our Waverly office at 319.352.2630 to get started.

Wishing you a blessed and merry Christmas from LSI!

*Our Mission: Lutheran Services in Iowa responds to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. LSI is an affiliated social ministry partner of the Iowa congregations of the ELCA (Evangelical Lutheran Church in America) and a member of LSA (Lutheran Services in America). We proudly serve people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. Learn more at [www.LSIowa.org](http://www.LSIowa.org) and [www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).*

### **Thank you!**

As 2022 comes to an end, we reflect back on all those whose lives have been impacted by your gifts.

From Iowa's newest citizens, those you've helped to feel at home in a new country: "Thank you"; from the young first-time mom who has learned how to care for her newborn: "Thank you"; from the teenager who needed some redirection and support: "Thank you".

From the veterans needing help readjusting from trauma they endured: "Thank you"; from the person who was able to receive the kind of mental health therapy they needed: "Thank you".

From the person with disabilities who is able to live as independently as possible with our help: "Thank you"; from the parents who are learning new processes to provide healthy, safe environments for their children: "Thank you"; from the foster parents who are providing care when needed, "Thank you".

From those kids in residential whose lives have come to a turning point with new skills to use going forward: "Thank you!"

And from all of us at LSI that you have encouraged and supported: "Thank you!"