Lutheran social ministry is on the front lines saving lives and doing heroic work. As a faith-based network, we embrace hope and a reimagined future. This is our mission moment.
The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

John 1:5
June 2020

Dear valued members, friends and supporters –

As we write this letter, Lutheran social ministry is on the front lines in thousands of communities across the United States, responding to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on the one in 50 Americans our network cares for each year. As so often happens, vulnerable people and front line workers are most severely affected and at risk.

It is a time to heal, to comfort, to recover. It also is a time to redesign a better future—a place where all children achieve their full potential; where seniors and people with disabilities live with dignity, health, and purpose; and where our health and well-being are not determined by background, race or ZIP code. This is our network’s mission moment for bold collective action to create a future where every American thrives.

As one of the largest health and human services networks, the Lutheran Services in America network plays a critically important role in caring for one in 50 Americans each year. Our commitment to honor the “whole person” and their needs with dignity and respect goes back over 500 years and is deeply embedded in the DNA of the work Lutheran social ministry organizations do across the country.

Through your faithful support, we have moved forward towards a stronger future for millions of Americans. Thank you. Your investment in Lutheran Services in America made possible the work and successes described in our 2019 Annual Report.

In the Book of Jeremiah, God tells the prophet Jeremiah to buy a field in the midst of an imminent invasion of the country. It was God’s promise of a future where a light would come into the world and shine in the darkness. A future of hope and shalom.

May we all, like Jeremiah, go forth boldly to invest in the future. Your support of Lutheran Services in America is deeply valued, and your investment in the future brings light to the world.

Blessings,

Charlotte Haberaecker
President and CEO,
Lutheran Services in America, Incorporated

Larry Bradshaw
President and CEO,
National Lutheran Communities & Services
Chairperson of the Board,
Lutheran Services in America, Incorporated
Lutheran Services in America brings the knowledge and resources of 300 health and human services organizations—our nationwide network—together with partners to improve the health and quality of life of individuals and families experiencing need in the U.S. 2019 presented ample opportunity to amplify the voice of our trusted network to advance solutions that improve the lives of one in 50 Americans each year. We invited new partners in academia, business and philanthropy to join our work and impact communities at scale—in ways that go beyond what one organization could achieve on its own. And we leveraged our size, scale and strength to reach even more Americans in new, more effective ways. In 2019, we made significant progress in areas described here, each of which helped transform the lives of people of all ages and backgrounds.

Through our Results Innovation Lab, dedicated to dramatically changing the trajectory of 20,000 vulnerable children by 2024, we achieved better outcomes for children in foster care, reduced homelessness among youth of color, increased forever families for children and improved readiness for kindergarten. We partnered with foundations, healthcare and others to lead intensive collaborative learning and action toward transformative goals, and in the process changed the lives of over 7,000 children.

In 2019, we also expanded two programs for seniors wanting to live independently with purpose and meaning in their homes and communities. With our Great Plains Senior Services Collaborative, we engaged foundation partners to provide on-the-ground resources to members to support rural seniors’ ability to live independently in their homes and communities. We also engaged evaluators from North Dakota State University to measure the programs that work so we can continue to scale the most effective solutions across the country. Our efforts have led to improved health and quality of life for hundreds of seniors in over 70 rural communities in Minnesota and North Dakota. In 2019, we expanded programs in Minnesota and North Dakota and extended programs to Montana to reach hundreds of additional Midwestern seniors.

Working with a national philanthropic partner and

Growing momentum, building a better future.

7,000 Lives of children and youth transformed via Results Innovation Lab

1,400+ Communities where our network is actively engaged in 45 states

13 Our ranking on The Chronicle of Philanthropy’s list of “America’s Favorite Charities”
The University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, we expanded our Connect-Home Learning Collaborative from four states (MD, MI, NJ, NC) to seven by adding PA, NY and WI. Connect-Home is committed to better preparing older adults to successfully transition home from post-acute care facilities. Given the promising results we have seen over the past year alone in several states from this program, we expect additional growth and encouraging outcomes in the years to come.

In another exciting development, during 2019 we launched a successful pilot of our LSA Senior Connect program with Genacross Lutheran Services, which already is yielding promising results for participating seniors in affordable housing. LSA Senior Connect is an innovative service coordination model developed by 13 member organizations with funding support from the Lutheran Services Elderly Endowment, which connects seniors with chronic health conditions to needed resources in their communities. LSA Senior Connect was featured in a major piece by The Commonwealth Fund on how the Chronic Care Act presents a valuable opportunity to develop patient-focused approaches to health and wellness.

Throughout 2019, we continued our active advocacy efforts on a variety of issues affecting people’s health and everyday quality of life. We were honored that Vice Admiral Jerome M. Adams, U.S. Surgeon General, served as our keynote speaker at the Lutheran Services in America CEO Summit, where he shared his perspectives on unleashing a more sustainable and equitable prosperity in American communities that will help address our nation’s health problems.

Forbes
AMERICA’S TOP CHARITIES 2019

325
Older adults who successfully returned home via Connect-Home transitional care

200
Seniors supported in rural communities via Great Plains Senior Services Collaborative

16
Ranking on Forbes magazine’s 2019 list of “America’s Top 100 Charities”

MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER IN STRENGTH

Today we face a pandemic with devastating impacts on people’s health and economic security. We know that need will only increase in the coming year. Lutheran social ministry is on the front lines saving lives and doing heroic work. While fear and uncertainty abound, as a faith-based network we embrace hope and a reimagined future, one where we can change the odds for people so they can achieve their full potential. Together we can build a future where the light not only shines in the darkness but overcomes it.
Lutheran Services in America’s successful campaign means life-changing programs for people nationwide.

We launched the Realizing the Promise campaign in 2017 with the goal of raising $500,000 to provide critical seed capital to develop partnerships, and pilots to create innovative solutions for the many people served. One such example in 2019 was our partnership with Aetna Better Health of Ohio and Genacross Lutheran Services; this strategic alliance will result in a new framework to strengthen families, prevent unnecessary child welfare custody, and improve health equity in 10 targeted communities throughout Ohio. Through the generosity of individual donors and the dedicated leadership and talent of our Lutheran social ministry organizations, we not only officially surpassed our initial Realizing the Promise campaign goal but did so several months early. This speaks to the unwavering confidence that our donors and network have in all that can be achieved when ideas are grown into dedicated action to change lives and realize a brighter future.

Advancing Lutheran social ministry with your support.

We gratefully acknowledge our faithful supporters whose contributions sustain the life-changing work of Lutheran social ministry and the Lutheran Services in America network. The ongoing and continued investment from the organizations, foundations, corporations and individuals listed below makes it possible to transform the lives of people and communities across the country.

Lutheran Services in America 2019 Supporters

(received January 1 – December 31, 2019 unless otherwise noted)

• Realizing the Promise
• Results Innovation Lab
• Neighbor-to-Neighbor

• Member Contributors
• Grants, Foundations, Sponsors & Partners
• Memorials, Tributes & Celebrations
• Thrivent Choice

REALIZING THE PROMISE MEMBER CONTRIBUTORS

Allegheny Lutheran Social Ministries, Inc.
Ascentria Care Alliance
Bethesda Lutheran Services California Lutheran Homes and Community Services
Cedar Lake, Inc.
Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries
Inspiritus
KenCrest Centers
Lutheran Community Services Northwest
Lutheran Family Services of Virginia, Inc.
Lutheran Family Services of Northern California
Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota
Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area
Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest
Lutheran Social Services of the Virgin Islands
Lutheran Sunset Ministries
Luthercare
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SpiriTrust Lutheran
St. John’s United
Tacoama Lutheran Retirement Community
Twin Lakes Community Upbring
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REALIZING THE PROMISE SPONSORS

Cura Hospitality, LLC
Lutheran Trust
Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA
Portico Benefit Services

RESULTS INNOVATION LAB GIFTS FROM INDIVIDUALS & ORGANIZATIONS

RESULTS INNOVATION LAB supports our goal to achieve equitable outcomes for 20,000 vulnerable children and youth in the United States by 2024.

Jennifer Beltz
Stanley Berman
Richard and Shirley Burmeister
Kenneth and Donna Daly
Christopher Findlay
The Freirichs Family Fund of InFaith Community Foundation
Kris暨 Gay
Charlotte Haberaecker
Robert E. and Margaret W. Keith
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The Jane Isaacs Lowe Foundation
Christopher John Twardos
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L. Schwab & Company
Rev. John J. Twardos
George Watson
Gary L. Wheeler
David Zauche
James P. Zils

REALIZING THE PROMISE SPONSORS

Cura Hospitality, LLC
Lutheran Trust
Mission Investment Fund of the ELCA
Portico Benefit Services
Deborah Hoesly at 202.499.5835 or dhoesly@lutheranservices.org.

This information was compiled by the Development Office of Lutheran Services in America, Incorporated. Every effort was made to ensure its accuracy.

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Gifts made in the name of the following individuals:

MEMBER CONTRIBUTORS

MEMBERS OF LSA SENIOR CONNECT COLLABORATIVE MEMBER CONTRIBUTORS

GRANTS, FOUNDATIONS, SPONSORS & PARTNERS

THRIFTIVE CHOICE DONATIONS

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July 2019—June 2020

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