

Lutheran social ministry is on the front lines saving lives and doing heroic work. As a faith-back 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

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,

Charlatte Walenauth

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

Julk



Larry Bradshaw

President and CEO,
National Lutheran
Communities & Services
Chairperson of the Board,
Lutheran Services
in America, Incorporated

Growing momentum, building a better future.

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



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.

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.



325

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



200

Seniors supported in rural communities via Great Plains Senior Services Collaborative

Forbes

AMERICA'S TOP CHARITIES 2019

16

Ranking on Forbes magazine's 2019 list of "America's Top 100 Charities"

Realizing the Promise meets \$500,000 campaign goal months early.

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

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

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NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR GIFTS FROM INDIVIDUALS & ORGANIZATIONS

NEIGHBOR-TO-NEIGHBOR supports our annual fund that provides flexible funding to boldly respond to the needs of our network today.

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Lutheran Services in America member organizations, who contributed funds beyond sustaining dues to advance our network's collective impact (received July 1—December 31, 2019).

Ascentria Care Alliance California Lutheran Homes and Community Services Carroll Lutheran Village

Community Family Life Services, Inc.

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Lutheran Services in America member organizations, who co-invested in LSA Senior Connect—a new national solution to help seniors successfully age at home

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