

February 2020, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

Happy Valentine's Day from LSI!

"We love because he first loved us." 1 John 4:19

Lutheran Services in Iowa's (LSI) mission is about love: responding to the love of Jesus Christ through compassionate service. We give thanks for all the ministry partners, both individuals and congregations, who help share this love for Iowa children, families, and adults!

We see this love in newly adopted children and their families, in teens who learn to trade self-harm for self-worth, in Iowans with disabilities who are growing their independence and confidence, in new parents who are raising strong and healthy families, and in so many other moments of joy. You can help carry out our mission of hope and healing by giving a gift and showing love to the Iowa families we serve. For more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

Thank you for the love you share and create through LSI. Happy Valentine's Day!

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 and www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa.

"I Feel Like a Parent Now."

When Harmony learned she was pregnant for the first time, she was excited, but apprehensive. She didn't know what to expect when raising her first child.

Harmony's mother, Lois, helped her enroll in LSI's Early Childhood Services, which provide parenting education and resources to families of young children across Iowa.

While she was pregnant, Harmony participated in prenatal programming, which helped her maintain a healthy pregnancy and ensure she had everything she needed when her baby was born.

When her daughter, Aya, arrived in October of 2018, Harmony and Lois began participating in LSI's Parent Education Program, where they now attend regular classes and connect with other families in their community.

And at home, they receive weekly visits from their LSI Parent Educator, Amy. Each week, Amy brings resources for Harmony and age-appropriate toys for Aya. They work together to monitor Aya's development, and Amy is teaching the family what to expect as Aya begins hitting her developmental milestones.

"LSI helps you learn how to raise your baby and how to learn about being a parent," Harmony says. "Before, I felt like I was trying to swim, but I was drowning. I feel like a parent now."