

March 2020, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

March is National Professional Social Workers Month

March is National Professional Social Workers Month, a time to recognize social workers and thank them for all they do. At Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI), we're grateful for the many social workers who have dedicated their lives to serving our communities across the state!

Maybe you've never had a social worker involved in your life. Yet, whether you realize it or not, you've had the benefit of their behind-the-scenes work in your community. Social workers help people help themselves in overcoming life's most difficult circumstances or managing challenges of everyday living: poverty, abuse, mental illness, depression, addiction, disability, and many other situations.

Iowa wouldn't be the same without the patience, guidance, and empowerment that social workers provide. Happy National Professional Social Work Month!

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.

Caring for Christopher

When Christopher struggled with crippling anxiety at a young age, his mom, Cheyenne, didn't know where to turn. Even going on a simple trip to the grocery store was almost impossible. She knew something needed to change.

That change came in the form of LSI's Behavioral Health Intervention Services. Each week, Christopher's BHIS worker, Jose, visited the family in their home or met with them at the local library. He brought activities to engage Christopher and help him develop the coping skills he needed to feel better when he left the house. And at the same time, he provided words of encouragement and helpful parenting tips Cheyenne could use to help her child.

Christopher recently celebrated his seventh birthday, and his confidence continues to grow. He feels more comfortable going out in public. He has graduated out of LSI services, and he recently made a new friend all on his own.

Cheyenne feels confident that even on the tough days, she has the knowledge she needs to help her child thrive, thanks to Jose.

"LSI gave us the tools we needed to help him succeed, and the reassurance that we were doing the right thing, even when it was hard," she says.