

October 2018, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

Warming Hearts with God's Love and a Good Pair of Mittens

Far too often, children arrive at LSI's Beloit and Bremwood Residential Treatment Centers with very little in their possession.

We give thanks for Iowa congregations who faithfully respond to these needs, year after year! As winter approaches, LSI relies on your loving support to meet the demands for winter apparel for children and youth at Beloit and Bremwood. Often, children in residential treatment have little control over their lives, so it's important for us to give children the opportunity, when possible, to shop for their new coat or mittens. Because of this, we ask that you please not donate articles of clothing. With your generous financial donation, many children will have the simple joy of choosing their new coat, knowing that they are loved and cherished.

If you would like more information, please contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org or 563-676-2065.

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.

A Loving Companion

When Tatyana came to LSI's Bremwood Residential Treatment Center in Waverly, she was lonely.

She lost her mom at a young age, and her father was incarcerated. She didn't have anyone to look up to, and the only way she knew how to cope with trauma and anger was by yelling and hitting. When she began seeing her LSI therapist, she wasn't comfortable talking about her difficult past.

Then she met a new friend, Max. Max is a three-year-old yellow Labrador Retriever, and a friendly face to everyone he sees on Bremwood's campus. Thanks to a generous donation by a local church and through a partnership between LSI and Retrieving Freedom, Max is now the official therapy dog at Bremwood.

Max has been working with Tatyana for over a year now. He sits on the sofa next to her during every therapy session, which makes her feel safe talking to her LSI team. Tatyana practices calmly giving Max commands like "sit" or "stay," which is teaching her that her voice is heard without needing to yell. She is using a calmer voice when she talks to others on campus too.

The children and teens at Bremwood love seeing Max each day. And when more children like Tatyana walk through the doors for the first time, Max is there, ready to be a friendly face and let them know they will be loved and cared for at LSI.