

December 2019, LSI Bulletin/Newsletter Article and Story

Merry Christmas from LSI!

“The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.” — John 1:5

As Christmas approaches, we give thanks to you! Whether you have lifted up our organization through a financial or in-kind gift, volunteered your time to our programming, or supported us as a ministry partner this year, you have helped bring the light of Christ to others.

At LSI, we know many people experiencing deep darkness. We know parents who feel hopeless, with little resources to raise their young children. We know adults with disabilities who feel voiceless, with no support system or connection to their community. We know teens who are aging out of foster care, who fear they will never have a family to love them.

The holidays can be an especially difficult time for our most vulnerable neighbors. In the spirit of giving, the spirit of love, and the spirit of working together, let us stand with them and lift them up this Christmas season. If you would like to learn more about how you can support Iowa children and families, contact Deb Whitford, LSI director of philanthropy and church relations, at 563.676.2065 or Deborah.Whitford@LSIowa.org.

Wishing you a blessed and merry Christmas from LSI!

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.

With You Every Step of the Way

When Lexi found out she was pregnant, she felt scared. She didn't have a job or an apartment, and she was overwhelmed as she tried to prepare for her baby. She knew she needed guidance and support, and she knew where to turn.

In high school, Lexi utilized LSI's Behavioral Health Intervention Services, where she developed skills like anger management and healthy communication through regular meetings with her LSI worker. LSI had been in her corner before, and she needed help again now. She enrolled in LSI's Early Childhood Services.

The services provide in-home parenting education for families of young children or parents who are expecting. Each week, Lexi's LSI worker, Gretchen, brings resources and helpful tips and tricks to help Lexi feel confident as she starts her new family.

Now, Lexi is thriving. She found a job she loves and she moved into her apartment earlier this spring. On May 14, she welcomed baby Javeah into the world.

“LSI has always pointed me in the right direction and given me support, and they've really pushed me to where I need to be,” Lexi says. “I always have someone to call when I need help.”