

Dear Friend,

Lutheran Social Services assists many clients on a regular basis, and those served come from different ages and stages of life.

Guadalupe, a single mom, lived with her three children in their apartment. She was a caring mother, and the children's father had visitation with them every other weekend. Lupe worked the night shift, and the father kept them during the evening hours. It seemed like a good arrangement.

But her now ten-year-old daughter was having trouble at school. Her grades dropped, and then she asked not to spend the weekends with her father. Lupe talked with her daughter, and learned that the father had inappropriately touched the girl, and abused her sexually on two occasions. She was only eight years old, at the time.

Lupe was referred to the LSS Our Children in rural San Bernardino County. As a result of contacting the authorities, the father was arrested, and has been incarcerated since August 2018.



Lupe was happy to learn there was a group of other children who were receiving support after also having experienced sexual abuse, and that her daughter could join their session. Lupe was so relieved there was also a group for parents and guardians, whose children had been molested. She felt so alone before she turned to Our Children.

Our LSS therapists worked with Lupe, her daughter, and also her oldest son. The young girl sometimes wakes up at night, fearful that her dad will come and take her away. Lupe is learning more about the trauma her daughter experienced, and now it's easier for the two of them to talk openly and honestly with one another. The son is learning how to deal with what his father did to his younger sister.

Through group therapy, both Lupe and her daughter have discovered there is hope, having been able to access the help they need. This was a crisis in the home, and LSS responded.



CHILD AND FAMILY GROUP THERAPY \$100 FOR 1 SESSION

Brad, age 62, served his country faithfully in the United States Army. He was assigned to the Quartermaster Corps, and received an Honorable Discharge.

Following his military service, he worked in Big Bear as a motorcycle mechanic, but eventually found employment that kept him out of the bitter cold. He worked in a grocery store for twelve years, but when he suffered a stroke, he could no longer work.

Brad lost his home when his State Disability benefits expired, and was homeless for ten months. He occasionally spent the night in the homes of his two sisters, but beyond that he slept in public restrooms, and received physical nourishment from a food bank sponsored by Believers Chapel.

A friend told him about an LSS caseworker in Big Bear and she helped him access his benefits, a copy of his birth certificate, as well as an Affidavit of Homeless Status, which was required for the pension application of his previous employer.

Eventually, the caseworker connected Brad with the Homeless Department of the Veterans Administration. They placed him in temporary housing, and secured financial benefits due him through the V.A.

Brad was assisted in obtaining furniture and other essential household items, and now lives in Loma Linda Veterans Village. His life is back on track and he is able to sustain himself through whatever challenges he faces. Brad said of our LSS staff person: "I am blessed and feel like a human being again. That would not have happened without the support of Lutheran Social Services in Big Bear." This was a crisis because there was no home, and LSS responded again.

CASE MANAGEMENT \$50 FOR 2 HOURS

For more than 70 years, LSS has served the young and vulnerable, as well as seniors, who are vulnerable in a different way. Your faithful support of our programs allows individual and family therapy sessions to help children and parents, whose lives have been shattered, and also case management for seniors who fear life has passed them by, and left them alone.

Every dollar you contribute to LSS helps us Embrace, Equip and Empower any person who faces a crisis in their life. The more you share with us, the more we can care for them.

Thank you in advance for all you do to keep this ministry alive.

In Christ's Service,
Ron Drews, President/CEO

P.S. Attached is your LSS reply slip. Please check the box for the amount of your gift. No gift is too small, but please be as generous as possible. Return the reply slip in the enclosed envelope. Thanks so much!



*Names and images have been changed to protect our client's privacy

Yes! Here is my gift to help restore shattered lives.

Make checks payable to **LSSSC** (Gifts are deductible from taxable income to the full extent allowable by law).

GIFT AMOUNT:

\$25 \$50 \$100 \$150 Other \$ _____

PLEASE DESIGNATE MY GIFT TO: Case Management Senior Support Central City Lutheran Mission
 Child & Family Therapy As Needed Other _____

PLEASE SEND ME INFORMATION ON: Board Membership Angel

Email _____

PRINT NAME (as it appears on credit card): _____

AMEX VISA MASTERCARD CHECK/Check No _____

CC# _____ EXP. _____

ADDRESS _____ CITY _____

STATE _____ ZIP _____ Signature _____

 Please fill out and enclose this form with your Gift, Email, Board or Angel interest in the envelope provided.



S O U T H E R N C A L I F O R N I A

Lutheran Social Services of Southern California
215 N Lemon Unit A
Fullerton, CA 92832

March 31st is the deadline to

Designate your Thrivent Choice Dollars

Designate Online: Thrivent.com/thriventchoice

Log in. Under the Making a Difference tab, click on Thrivent Choice. Scroll down and select recommended organizations, enter Lutheran Social Services of Southern California and submit.

Designate by Phone: 800-847-4836, say "Thrivent Choice" to speak to a representative.



BOARD SERVICE

Interested in serving on Lutheran Social Service's board of directors?

We are looking for people that have a heart for social ministry; add to our diversity;

Christian; and has expertise not currently represented on our board.

If you would like more information, go to LSSSC.org to learn more about us and then fill out the above Yes! information, enclose this form in the

envelope provided along with your bio/resume and the reason(s) you feel you would be an asset in carrying out our Mission.

Thank you from the Governance Committee.

LSS Continues to Respond...

Pictured to the right is LSS Housing Director, Ben Garcia, handing a gift card from Lutheran Social Services (LSS) and Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) to Nick and Megan Hutchinson and their son. Their home in Seminole Springs Mobile Park in Agoura was destroyed in the Woolsey Fire.

Our LSS Housing Counseling staff continues to contact people in that area whose lives were impacted by the fire. Pastor John Erwin from the Agoura Bible Fellowship helped take us on a tour of the burned area.

Pastor John was the LSS Angel in his congregation who identified people in need, and gave us the information so LSS could respond.

We are looking for an individual in every Lutheran Congregation to identify one person who will take responsibility to find individuals and families in need, and pass that information along to us. If you are interested in being one of our Angels, contact Jennifer at Info@LSSSC.org or 714-244-4276.

