Over the past 132 years, Lutheran Social Services (LSS) of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan has been responding with compassion to individuals, families and communities across the two-state area. As the social services landscape has continued to shift, especially due to impact from the economic situation of the past several years, we take this opportunity to ensure you of LSS’ strength, growth and ongoing commitment to serving people in need in our communities.

Here are just a few examples of what LSS will do in 2014:

- Continue to shift the landscape of services to people with disabilities by growing our community and individualized support services. This includes not only Community Supported Living but meaningful day activities and connecting people to their communities. LSS is a noted leader on this not only at the state level but nationally.
- Gather our group of Adoption Ambassadors to travel to the Philippines to meet 10 children for whom they will then work to find adoptive families in the United States.
- Begin construction on two new low-income housing sites, one that will serve families and the other for individuals with developmental or physical disabilities.
- Start a new program that will serve children who have been victimized by human trafficking and assist them in reunifying with their families.
- Implement a three-year strategic plan focused on four goals: ensuring financial sustainability, being an employer of choice, being a preferred partner for solutions and establishing the LSS brand.

On October 5, 2014, we invite you to join in the first state- and UP-wide LSS Shared Ministry Sunday. Please mark your calendars now and watch for further information in the coming months.

Our thanks to LSS board and advisory members hailing from the Greater Milwaukee Synod: Bishop Jeff Barrow, John Schaller, Eric Thomas, Daryl Diesing, John Silseth, Patricia Wesner, William Pickering and George Roth.
We hold our partnerships with the Greater Milwaukee Synod and its congregations in highest regard, and hope you will move forward with us in planning for our shared ministry now and into the future.

Serving in Christ,

John Schaller, Operating Board Chair  
Rev. David Larson, President & CEO

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LSS Mission:  
Motivated by the compassion of Christ, we help people improve the quality of their lives.

LSS Vision:  
Changing the world – one grace-filled life at a time.