

Reports of Social Ministry Organizations

DIAKON LUTHERAN SOCIAL MINISTRIES

Diakon Lutheran Social Ministries celebrates our partnership with the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod and its congregations as we live out our mission—Many Hands guided by One Heart—to demonstrate God’s command to love our neighbor through acts of service. In 2013, Diakon provided nearly \$15 million in benevolent care, including \$1.73 million within the synod.

Twining Village, a Diakon Lutheran Senior Living Community in Holland, Bucks County, completed several aspects of its extensive renovation project including the installation of heated walkways connecting all parts of the campus following the earlier creation of a redesigned village entrance and dining offers. Work continues in 2014 on apartment renovations and development of cottage-style homes. A new rehabilitation suite opened in spring 2013.

Manatawny Manor in Pottstown continued with internal renovations to enhance its offer and began initial steps to expand short-term term rehabilitation services. **Diakon Adult Day Services at Manatawny** continued to offer daytime care for those living at home or with a relative, helping 52 older adults and their families.

Based in Media, **Diakon Youth Services’ Bridge Program** serves youths in Delaware, Chester, and Lancaster counties. The program aids at-risk youths ages 11 to 18 by providing accountability-focused counseling and monitoring programs to prevent out-of-home placement. Participants frequently are served by the **Weekend Alternative Program**, located at the **Diakon Wilderness Center**, Boiling Springs. In 2013, the Bridge Program’s community service activities included Darby’s clean-up-the-streets effort. In all, Diakon’s programs for adjudicated youths served 645 teens and young adults within the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod’s territory. The young-adults component came from a continuing program to provide wilderness challenge courses for youthful offenders from Bucks County; those who successfully complete the program can have their felony charges reduced or eliminated.

Diakon Kathryn’s Closet maintained connections with partners throughout Pennsylvania, including in this region. The Baltimore-based warehouse program solicits and stores corporately donated personal-care items for pick-up by shelters and other non-profits, which in turn distribute the goods, free of charge to recipients, to people in need in the community. The program, which served approximately 400,000 people, was supported by \$378,000 in Diakon subsidy.

Other services aiding those in the area include **Diakon Adoption & Foster Care**. In addition, as prime contractor for the **Statewide Adoption & Permanency Network**, Diakon helps to coordinate all public adoptions within the synod’s five-county area; the number of children and families within the synod’s territory served through SWAN amounted to more than 7,100.

We thank God for the gifts of staff, volunteers, congregations, donors, and board members who, together, enabled us to directly serve more than 56,000 people last year, including nearly 10,000 within the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod.

Mark T. Pile, MSHA, MSW
President/CEO

GOOD SHEPHERD REHABILITATION NETWORK

We are proud to report that, over the past year, Good Shepherd Rehabilitation Network has executed its mission by providing innovative and outstanding care throughout the Lehigh Valley and beyond. Last year Good Shepherd, including Good Shepherd Penn Partners (our joint venture with Penn Medicine in Philadelphia), served almost 60,000 men, women and children recovering from injury or illness. We provided services at 56 locations, including 36 in the greater Lehigh Valley and 20 in the Philadelphia area.

We fulfilled our Core Values – compassionate care, excellent service and community partnership – in many ways. Highlights from the past year include:

- Good Shepherd’s outpatient physical therapy locations received patient satisfaction ratings of better than 97 percent of similar facilities nationally.
- During the 2013 fiscal year, the Good Shepherd Specialty Hospital, a long-term acute care hospital in Bethlehem, more than double the number of patients who were admitted from hospitals from outside the Lehigh Valley. The biggest draw for patients is GSSH’s expertise in liberating patients from ventilators.
- The GSRH Pediatric Unit, the only facility of its kind in the region, added four new private rooms to accommodate the increasing number of patients with complex medical conditions – like ventilator dependency – who are being cared for at the unit.
- Outpatient pediatric therapy expanded to additional sites, making Good Shepherd the largest pediatric therapy provider in the region. More than 40,000 physician, occupational and speech therapy sessions were conducted during the 2013 fiscal year.
- Good Shepherd launched its Headache Program, an evidence-based therapy program that helps people suffering from chronic headaches and migraines, and Stay Strong, a program that addresses the therapy needs of seniors and other Medicare beneficiaries suffering from chronic conditions.
- Good Shepherd Physical Therapy – Bethlehem/Performing Arts Rehabilitation Center opened in February 2013, providing outpatient physical therapy as well as specialized therapy for performing artists.

- Good Shepherd continues to be a leader in adopting new technologies to help patients reach their full potential:
 - After introducing the Ekso bionic exoskeleton in 2012, a device that helps people with paralysis stand up and walk, Good Shepherd became the first health-care facility in North America to receive the Ekso with Variable Assist – a software upgrade that makes the exoskeleton ideal for people who have suffered a stroke. The newly upgraded device allows the therapist to augment strength on a patient’s weak side so that he or she can regain function more quickly.
 - Good Shepherd also received a second Ekso exoskeleton for use in the inpatient Rehabilitation Hospital, which enables patients with paralysis and stroke to get an even earlier start to regain function.
 - Good Shepherd outpatients have logged more than 800,000 steps in the device, more than any other facility in the world.

- Good Shepherd played a significant role in several organizations that have a positive impact on our community, including the Children’s Care Alliance, the Health Care Council of the Lehigh Valley and the Partnership for a Disability Friendly Community.

- Good Shepherd’s long-term care homes received rankings of five stars overall in U.S. News & World Report’s Best Nursing Homes for the third year in a row.

- Sally Gammon, FACHE, retired this past year after 16 years of outstanding service to Good Shepherd, leading the organization through a period of significant growth.

- John Kristel, MBA, MPT, took the reins in June, with plans to continue to build on Good Shepherd’s 106 year history as a rehabilitation leader to move the organization into the future.

Thank you for your support, which is vital in helping Good Shepherd continue its mission and the legacy of our founders, the Raker family.

John Kristel, MBA, MPT, President and CEO
David G. DeCampli, MS, Chair, Board of Trustees



Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania

2014 Report to the Synod

Dear Partners in Christ,

Lutheran Advocacy Ministry in Pennsylvania is a shared ministry of seven Pennsylvania synods, the ELCA Congregational and Synodical Mission unit, and Pennsylvania ELCA agencies and institutions. Through LAMPa, Lutherans around the state voice their faith convictions in the public arena on behalf of the poor and the vulnerable while seeking to create greater justice in the commonwealth.

LAMPa has been in ministry with you this year in congregational advocacy education, and provided resources and support to your efforts addressing hunger, poverty, immigration, child abuse and care for creation. We are thankful for the support of your Policy Council representatives, The Rev. Jennifer Ollikainen, Mr. Bob Fisher and the leadership of Bishop Burkat.

LAMPa advocacy takes place through direct contacts in Harrisburg and involving the LAMPa network in email and call-in advocacy, offering testimony, writing letters to the editors and district visits. The impact of LAMPa advocacy in 2013 includes:

- **Feeding the Hungry** through increasing funding for the State Food Purchase Program (SFPP) in the state budget. SFPP supports local food pantries, providing cash grants to counties for the purchase and distribution of food to low income families.
- **Feeding the Hungry** by involving local congregations and leaders in expanding the school breakfast program in their districts, making sure more kids start the day right.
- **Addressing Poverty** through supporting a legislative initiative to study the roots of poverty in the Commonwealth with the aim of creating policies that enable Pennsylvanians to thrive.
- **Increasing affordable housing** through the State Housing Trust Fund to create jobs, strengthen communities and prevent homelessness.
- **Welcoming the stranger** by starting a state-wide Lutheran Immigration Leadership Circle, with efforts focused on passing the state Dream Act and creating a ministry to those held in immigrant detention facilities around the state.
- **Working to halt a predatory lending bill** against an all-out effort to lift Pennsylvania's 24% interest cap on short-term lending to allow rates of up to 360% APR.

The LAMPa staff also engaged synods, youth assemblies, congregation and conference groups in education on hunger and poverty and the biblical call to serve and do justice. We would be glad to come to you to lead a program, preach, teach or lead a simulation called "Hunger 101". Connect with us at www.lutheranadvocacypa.org, Twitter @LAMPaADVOCACY and Facebook (www.facebook.com/LAMPaAdvocacy).

In Christ,

The Rev. Amy E. Reumann, *Director*; Tracey DePasquale, *Associate Director*; The Rev. Paul Lubold, *Advocacy Developer Synod Assembly Report 2014*

The Services of Liberty Lutheran

Artman Home, The Becoming Center, Liberty at Home, Lutheran Children and Family Service, Lutheran Congregational Services, The Hearth at Drexel (formerly the Mary J. Drexel Home), Paul's Run Retirement Community, Village at Penn State and West Philadelphia Senior Center

Like good stewards of the manifold grace of God, serve one another with whatever gift each of you has received. (1 Peter 4:10)

Making a Vital Difference. . .

Liberty Lutheran faithfully provides vital resources for individuals and families facing life-changing situations, from the earliest stages of life through the many stages of aging.

Together, we serve as stewards of the grace of God alongside the congregations of eastern and central Pennsylvania to make a vital difference as we live out our shared baptismal call to serve our neighbors.

. . . with you at Christmas time and responding to changing needs

On behalf of SEPA Synod, Liberty Lutheran managed the **2013 Christmas Ingatherings in Southeastern PA and three Northeastern PA mission districts**. SEPA congregations donated gifts, kits, food, quilts, work gloves, socks and toiletries values at more than \$95,000! Because of your generosity, approximately 1,000 children served by **Lutheran Children and Family Service** received a Christmas gift. Residents at local institutions throughout the Philadelphia area received personal care kits. Socks and travel-sized toiletries were sent to ministries for the homeless. Food pantries in local Lutheran churches received non-perishable food items. And people all over the world received quilts and care kits through your donations to **Lutheran World Relief**.

Due to recent changes in the distribution of services to children and families in need throughout the city of Philadelphia, gifts collected during the upcoming 2014 Christmas Ingathering will reach beyond the services of Lutheran Children and Family Service. Beginning in July, **watch for new and updated information about Ingathering donations**. Together, we will continue to respond to the needs of our communities with faith and generosity.

It was also our pleasure to distribute copies of our **2013 Advent Devotional Booklet** to all congregations in Southeastern and Northeastern Pennsylvania synods. This resource is full of stories and reflections about how we radiate the grace of God through the ministries of Liberty Lutheran.

. . . with you at times of disaster

Lutheran Disaster Response – Eastern Pennsylvania (LDR-EPA), a ministry of Lutheran Congregational Services and Liberty Lutheran, works with your communities to rebuild homes devastated by disaster and to prepare for response in time of need. This year, volunteers continued to rebuild homes devastated by Hurricane Irene and Tropical Storm Lee (Fall 2011) in the far north counties of eastern PA.

LDR-EPA was privileged to create the content for a new **Congregational Preparedness Guidebook** to be released by ELCA Disaster Response later this year. This guidebook provides a template for congregations to explore their resources and risk areas so that they can best serve their community in times of crisis or disaster.

LDR-EPA also received a grant from ELCA Disaster Response to create a pilot program of **Disaster Response Partners**. This innovative program pairs mentors trained in short-term and long-term disaster response with those in the midst of disaster.

... with you to serve newly arrived refugees

Lutheran Children and Family Service accompanies newly-arrived refugees in the Philadelphia, Lancaster and Allentown areas. Volunteers groups from congregations in all three areas support families and individuals in their transition to the United States, often after years of living in a refugee camp.

Recently, an ecumenical group of churches, led by Holy Trinity Lutheran Church, Fairview Village, created a web of resources for refugees arriving from the Republic of the Congo. Together, they provide more resources and assistance than any one congregation could.

... with you to serve those in need in the community

Lutheran Congregational Services' Share Our Surplus Network joined in service with **The Philadelphia Diaper Bank** to provide disposable diapers through our networks of non-profit and congregational food pantries. This partnership continues to help fill the gaps of assistance programs that do not provide for diapers, laundry detergent or cleaning supplies. Many congregations have already jumped at the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of people in need by collecting any size disposable diapers and wipes.

Lutheran Congregational Services also received an ELCA Hunger grant in partnership with **Backpack Pals** program in Easton, PA. The grant builds upon the work of a group of Lutherans serving the needs of hungry children in the Easton area with targeted food pantry donations and backpacks filled with food. Our hope is to share the wisdom gathered by this group so that other congregations and communities can better serve those who are hungry in their own community.

... with you through congregational programs and resources

Lutheran Congregational Services continues to offer educational opportunities to congregations including Lay Eucharistic Visitor Training, Journeys through Grief, and our Marriage Preparation Series. We are pleased to offer leadership workshops and retreats according to the needs and interests of the congregation.

... with you through senior communities and services

Liberty Lutheran is responding to the changing needs of older adults by developing an integrated approach to senior care services to address a broad spectrum of choices and lifestyle options.

Liberty at Home offers home care support and private duty services throughout Southeastern PA. As a Medicare Certified Home Health agency, it also provides clinical services such as nursing, physical, occupational and speech therapies. Liberty at Home celebrates its new partnership with the Lutheran Community at Telford. This faith-based partnership signifies our mutual Lutheran heritage and commitment to providing compassionate, comprehensive care for older adults.

At **Artman and Paul's Run Retirement Community**, Liberty is transforming the way services are delivered to the residents. This year the staff has learned the many benefits of resident-directed care. This calls for a shift from traditional nursing care to a "household" model of small internal neighborhoods, where approximately 20 residents live together. This "Culture Change" gives residents more choices, flexible living schedules and greater autonomy over daily decisions, and allows the staff to cultivate deeper relationships with the residents. This year extensive renovations were made to the Paul's Run health center, and extensive renovations in Artman's skilled nursing unit are planned for later this year.

The historic **Mary J. Drexel Home**, has announced its name change to "**The Hearth at Drexel**". The name change represents a new approach to senior living, and the opening of a state-of-the-art Assisted Living Community. Architect plans feature four households, each with a common space for a kitchen, living room, dining room and activities area. Residents will also enjoy privacy in spacious apartments. One neighborhood is designed for residents experiencing memory loss. The reopening is planned for June 2014.

In June 2012, Liberty Lutheran welcomed **The Village at Penn State (VPS)**, a University- Based Retirement Community, to our Family of Services. VPS offers everything a Continuing Care Retirement Community has to offer, and more, including Independent Living, Personal Care, Skilled Nursing and Hospice care. Residents also enjoy many opportunities at Penn State University.

... together WITH YOU!

We are honored to steward the generosity of congregations and individuals who support our work. Together, we make a vital difference in the lives of the most vulnerable among us. To further explore how we can help build your congregational capacity to serve the most vulnerable among us, contact the Rev. Dr. Jennifer Phelps Ollikainen, Director of Ministries at 215.859.3779 or jollikainen@libertylutheran.org.

In Christ,

Luanne Fisher, CEO
Liberty Lutheran

Lutheran Settlement House Synod Report – 2014

Lutheran Settlement House receives IMPACT award from GlaxoSmithKline

This November, GlaxoSmithKline honored LSH with an IMPACT Award for our "outstanding contribution to a healthier Philadelphia." Because of innovative projects like the ones at LSH that build healthy communities, empowering individuals and families through social, educational, and advocacy services the Barra Foundation recognized LSH this year as an "Exemplary Non-Profit." Along with the acknowledgement of this achievement, GSK contributed \$40,000 toward LSH's work to empower families and individuals in our community. The IMPACT Award selection process is highly competitive; winners were selected by a panel of local and national health experts.

Teens 4 Good/Urban Farm

This summer the Teens 4 Good program and The Franklin Institute's CUSP program organized a series of activities with teens to show them how the urban farm at Lutheran Settlement House is helping the neighborhood respond to climate change. CUSP, the Climate Systems & Urban Partnership, engages educational institutions, community groups, city government, and policymakers to improve public understanding of the science of climate change. Activities included an experiment to demonstrate how urban farms cool their surroundings and a joint trip by teens and seniors from Lutheran Settlement House to The Franklin Institute.

After a very successful summer in the LSH urban farm, the Teens 4 Good program expanded its innovative year-round after school program. Twenty five youth will spent their after school hours at LSH, learning business and leadership skills to prepare them to succeed in college, career, and life. In addition, LSH hired an urban farmer to pair teens with members of our senior center. Together, they grew 430 pounds of food on our intergenerational farm in a successful new program that has now expanded into a thriving afterschool program.

Student Volunteers at Jane Addams Place

Philadelphia region students from Upper Darby High School, West Philadelphia High School volunteered at LSH's shelter for mothers and children living in poverty during their spring break last year. They volunteered over 400 hours at Jane Addams Place, and forged powerful connections with the families and gained a deeper understanding of the role JAP performs in fighting homelessness. During their five days at JAP, students organized a day camp at the shelter which included games, reading and singing with the children. Being involved with the children of the shelter gave the students a deeper understanding of the issues facing children who live in extreme poverty, ranging from insecurity to a lack of social skills. Many are victims of domestic abuse and the shelter gives mothers the support they cannot find elsewhere. The lack of stable housing puts a lot of stress on families who struggle to find work and childcare. JAP provides stability and community for children when they need it most.

Domestic Violence Prevention Program receives \$10,000 from David's Bridal.

Lutheran Settlement House is extremely thankful for the generous gift of \$10,000 in December from David's Bridal. Their contribution supports families in our Bilingual Domestic Violence Program (BDVP). Their generosity will provide additional funding to support vital programs such as food and shelter for our families. We are truly blessed.

One of those women is Felicia Menna. For years, the 44-year-old South Philly mother was afraid each breath she took might be her last. Her abuser, the father of her 6-year-old son, often threatened it would be. Early on, she filed protective orders that her abuser laughed off and that she said authorities didn't enforce. But then she went to Lutheran Settlement House for therapy, and a staffer helped her navigate the often overwhelming systems and agencies that are increasingly collaborating to better respond to victims. "They saved my life," Menna said of LSH. "They saved me and my son."

LSH Receives \$180,000 Grant from Pew Charitable Trusts to Combat Homelessness

Lutheran Settlement House received \$180,000 from the Pew Charitable Trusts last spring to provide therapeutic services to children and mothers who are living at Jane Addams Place, LSH's homeless shelter and transitional housing.

Nearly 40 percent of Philadelphia's children live in families with incomes below the federal poverty level and their circumstances place a substantial number of young people at risk of doing poorly in school and developing social, emotional and mental health problems that, absent intervention, are likely to compromise their futures. LSH's families are all too frequently caught in a generational cycle of violence, abuse, and homelessness. Therapeutic interventions to help families address the trauma, and develop coping strategies have proven an effective approach to breaking this cycle. Treating the cause through cognitive behavioral therapy will provide these children, and their mothers, with the necessary tools to thrive in school and life. This program wouldn't be possible without the generous support of the Pew Charitable Trusts.

The grant aims to improve the lives of poor children by offering supports aimed at instilling social and learning skills; assisting young people to overcome obstacles to academic success; reducing the harm that results from difficult childhood experiences such as abuse and exposure to violence; and intervening early to reduce the prospect that problems in childhood will become irreversible challenges later in life.

Community Day of Service at LSH

Over 125 ARAMARK Employee volunteers arrived at LSH in June for ARAMARK's Building Community day of service. At LSH, ARAMARK volunteers will focus their efforts on job readiness, by creating a workforce readiness area. This area will be comprised of three rooms: a computer lab, a classroom space, and a mock interview room. With these renovated spaces, LSH staff and volunteers are able to provide programming geared toward job readiness for those in need in our community.

MLK Day of Service

Lutheran Settlement House is thankful for the overwhelming response to our MLK Day of Service request. Over 50 volunteers brightened the halls of Jane Addams Place and the spirits of its painting various shelter spaces. The day's events also included activities for shelter youth, organizing the teen room and library, cleaning Bright Spaces children's room and redecorating throughout the shelter.

Literacy Program Continues to Grow at LSH

Terry K., a single mother and grandmother from LSH's neighborhood, had never read a book on her own before joining LSH's Tutoring Program. At a very young age, Terry endured the stigma of placement in a school for children with learning problems. Due to a lack of family support and understanding, she soon dropped out and began working. Terry never gave up on her dream of becoming a reader, even while working several jobs and raising a family. When Terry's daughter Dawn joined LSH's tutoring program, Terry made up her mind to try again. At the age of 65 she joined out of solidarity with Dawn, and because as she tells us, it is never too late to learn to read. After just 6 months of working with her volunteer tutor Terry has blossomed into a voracious reader and a cheerleader for the other adult learners in LSH's Tutoring Program. Terry now proudly collects and displays at home photocopied covers of the 15 books she has

read on her own-so far-to inspire her grandchildren to never stop reading. Terry continues to attend tutoring, has begun volunteering through LSH's Senior Center, and eagerly anticipates the day she will read a book aloud to her grandchildren.

Lutheran Settlement House empowers individuals, families, and communities to achieve and maintain *self-sufficiency* through an *integrated program of social, educational, and advocacy services*.

Our Vision is to connect people to their dreams; bring safety, hope, and harmony to families; and nurture strong communities.

Core Values:

- We believe that every individual has the right to live with dignity and respect, economic security, and equal opportunity.
- We believe in the potential of all individuals.
- We are advocates with and for the persons we serve.
- We help people find what they need –shelter, safety, or a sense of belonging to a larger community.
- We live the values and behaviors that we support in others.



SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA SYNOD ASSEMBLY REPORT, 2014

Motivated by Christ's Love and command to extend that Love, Silver Springs – Martin Luther School provides residential treatment, special education, and community based services for young children and their families. Through trauma-informed care, Silver Springs helps children to manage overwhelming memories, feelings and behavior problems caused by the frightening and sad things that have happened to them. Our mission is to promote healing, resiliency, learning and, as appropriate, family reunification so that vulnerable children may have a chance to mature into healthy and competent adults.

In Fiscal Year 2012/2013 **Silver Springs provided services to more than 1,269 children and their families** from Philadelphia, its surrounding counties, the State of Delaware, and more than thirty-five school districts. All programs have a strong mental health component that brings an opportunity for trauma recovery and healing to children who range in age from day-old infants to college students, and families of all ages, in a child-centered, family-focused ministry.

Residential Treatment Program – Last year our Residential Treatment Program served **116** boys and girls, ages 6-14 (and **110** families/caregivers) with serious emotional and behavioral health issues. This program provides a therapeutic living environment that includes

individualized treatment, supervision, care and nurturing for children on a 24-hour-a-day basis through outcome-oriented treatment, psychiatric evaluation, trauma informed therapy, case management, behavior management and health care. Available therapies include individual, family, group, a highly structured milieu, counseling, behavioral and medication. Children participate in recreational activities and have the opportunity to participate in a Religious Training and Counseling Program shepherded by a Lutheran Deaconess. All services are provided with the valued participation of biological, adoptive and/or foster families.

Community Based Programs -- In 2012/2013 our Community Based Programs served **224** children, ranging in age from birth to 21 years old, and **268** foster and/or biological parents. Children in Foster Family Care benefit from community placements that address their emotional, behavioral, medical, social and developmental needs. The program offers structured home living with foster parents who are trained to provide for the specific, identified needs of each child. Case management, various clinical therapies and outreach services are extended to each child's foster family and biological family. Children are encouraged to participate in specialized summer experiences depending upon their individual, educational, medical and/or emotional needs.

Through community based Behavioral Health Rehabilitative Services, Silver Springs provides mobile therapy, behavior specialist consultants and therapeutic staff support services that include individual and family therapy to children in home, school and community settings, assessment of a child's behavior in these settings, consultation, one to one supervision, modeling, coaching and support to children based on a behavioral plan.

Martin Luther School – Last year our special education school served **208** students and **143** caregivers. A Pennsylvania Department of Education “Approved Private School,” Luther School is licensed to provide an individualized educational program designed to meet the needs of emotionally disturbed students, students with autism or PDD, and intellectually disabled students in grades K-8, and also to provide elementary education for grades 1-6. Students are referred to Luther School from public school districts. Individual Educational Plans identify their instructional needs. In addition to academic, social, and emotional deficits, many students attending Luther School have significant learning disabilities. The academic curriculum is augmented with teacher-directed group interaction and a structured, caring and supportive environment. Each student has a computer for use in school. School facilities include a gymnasium, outdoor recreational facilities, a library, technology instruction, supervised access to the Internet, tutoring in reading and mathematics, an art room and a music room.

Family Resource Services (FRS) – Family Resource Services, which served **93** clients and **107** alumni last year, was created in 1998 to formalize Silver Springs' commitment to providing a continuum of care that begins whenever a child/family first enters one of our programs and remains available as long as each child/family wishes. Any child or family who has been a part of the Silver Springs network is eligible. Assisting children and their families to access critical services in their own communities, FRS represents Silver Springs' focused response, on a case-by case basis, to those extenuating circumstances that can debilitate a family and jeopardize the well-being of a child.

FRS assists children and their families to obtain emergency food supplies, enroll in housing programs, qualify for assistance with utilities and enroll in GED classes and secondary education programs. Most often, services fall into the areas of case management, direct assistance, college scholarships, finding affordable housing and locating jobs.

Your Partnership: Through ministry partnerships, 70 Lutheran congregations of the Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod actively assist Silver Springs in meeting the needs of a challenging population. We are grateful for these close ties and generosity. Relationships with congregations of other denominations, community groups, and philanthropic organizations extend a mosaic of funding that demonstrates “fervent love is an action.”

Please visit us at www.silver-springs.org or in person. You may contact Joan Plump, Development Director, at 610/825-4440 EXT. 318 or jplump@silver-springs.org to arrange a personal visit.

Thank you for partnering with us to help vulnerable children heal, hope and reach for a brighter future.

Kristen E.M. Gay, Ph.D., President/CEO

