



Growing Hope

Administrative Staff

Rev. Alan M. Erdman, President
Gary Auch, Vice President of Finance and Operations
Paulette Foerster, Vice President of Program Services
Yvette LeGear Hartsfield, Vice President of Development
Jane Burse, Assistant Director of Child Welfare - St. Louis
Jim Eckrich, Director of Regional Operations
Rayna Ewell, Director of Human Resources
Nancy Miller, Director Counseling
Christine Reams, Director of Community Services
Jan Scheurer, Statewide Director of Child Welfare
Molly Strickland, Director, Southeast Office
Christine White, Director, Mid-Missouri Office
Adam Robe, Director, Southwest Office



LFCS St. Louis

8631 Delmar Blvd.
St. Louis, MO 63124
(314) 787-5100

Southwest Missouri Office

1400 S. Kimbrough
Springfield, MO 65807
(417) 862-1972

Mid-Missouri Office

401 West Boulevard North
Columbia, MO 65203
(573) 815-9955

Hilltop Child Development Center

6155 West Florissant
St. Louis, MO 63136
(314) 389-1001

Southeast Missouri Office

2911 Breckenridge
Cape Girardeau, MO 63701
(573) 334-5866

Elm Point Early Childhood Center

3601 Mueller Road
St. Charles, MO 63301
(636) 916-4041

Of course, you can reach us anytime at 1-800-575-5100 or lfcs@lfcs.org.
You can also get more information by visiting our Web site: www.lfcsmo.org.



2005 Annual Report



Growing Hope

God's love in Jesus Christ empowers Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri to help families, children and individuals experience greater hope and wholeness of life.



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2005 Boards, Councils & Auxiliaries Continued

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Vicki & Rod Hartwig
Chuck & Carol Headley
Carolyn Licht
C. Jerry Nelson
David Trinklein

Ambassadors - Southeast

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Susan Dodd
Jim & Lynn Hillin
Kerry & Linda Hoffman
Kenny & Joycelyn Kasten
Vernon Kasten, Jr.
Stacia Kasten
Daryl & Kathy King
Jeff & Deb Martin
Orville & Lavern Schaefer
Paul & Marilyn Schnare
Steve Schneider
Ron & Jen Wahlers

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Tom & LuAnn Kisse
Jake & Diane Jacobson
Gary & Kathy Mehlhorn
Larry & Vickie Peterson
John & Patty Schmidt
Carl & Barbara Tiedt
Phil & Donna Whittle

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Marc Bahr
Myron Holm
Bill Spilker
Ken Fanger
Michele Cleaveland
David & Kim Stark
Jerris Wilson

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Bob & Luanne Beumer
Harold & Melissa Bohlmann
Marilyn Brickler
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Scott & Missy Meyer
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Harry & Genie Mueller
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Joe Steiner
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Kirk & Cindy Verseman
Jerry & Liz Von Rohr
Bill Yearout

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Dave Eshelman
Robert Kindle
Charles Kieschnick
John Kotovsky
Gil Lorenz
Ron Smith
Joe Steiner

Golf Committee - Southeast

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Mark Unger
Brandon Hahs
Steve Fritzier
Jim Hicks

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Rev. Kenneth Wagener,
Auxiliary Counselor
Elvera Ellersieck
Marilyn Potter
Dorothea Wirz

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Rev. Gary Hoffstetter, Pastoral
Advisory
Shirley Sebastian, Vice
President
Gail Leimbach, Secretary
Mary Birk, Treasurer
Jean Petzoldt, Membership
Chairperson
Norma Kaempfe
LaFern Schoen
Marilyn Dippold

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Mary Meyer, Co-Chair
Liz Von Rohr, Co-Chair
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Luanne Beumer
Lynn Brown
Dolly Darigo
Carla Dawson
Dana Dougan
Jackie Eggerding
Debbie Koenemann
Shirley Luetkemeyer
Emilie Meiners
Susan Meiners

Genie Mueller
Linda W. Sher
Sherry Smith
Valerie Snyder
Christie Tietjen
Heliene Tobler

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Michael A. Becker
Michele Berra
Karen Blumeyer
Harold T. Bohlmann
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John Brugere
Robert Clay
James R. Dankenbring
Carl J. Freund
Douglas C. Gast
William R. Hauk
Paul D. Kalsbeek
David Allen Liescheidt
Loren Lumpe
Karl A. Dunajcik
Kathleen Mueller
Nancy O'Neal
Bradley R. Purcell
Frank J. Reedy
James Saitz
Pamela I. Kuehling
Mark Sears
David Siscel
Daryl J. Tegtmeier
Paul Tice
Donald E. Vogel

2005 Boards, Councils & Auxiliaries

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 Marilyn Brickler
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 Tim Gutknecht
 Jim Haertling
 Scott Homan
 Allan Huning
 Bobbi Jones
 David Allan Liescheidt
 Kathryn Mehlhorn
 Kathleen Mueller
 C. Jerry Nelson
 Ken Ohlemeyer, Jr.
 Cheryl Patrick
 Charles Rauh
 Lynn Rawlings
 Norm Sell
 Ron Smith
 Karen Smitt
 Kim Stark
 Suda Suvarna
 Dr. Randall Tobler
 Mark Yaeger

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 Vickie Dankenbring
 F. Roger Dierberg
 Allan Huning
 Larry Lemke
 Emilie Meiners
 Harry Mueller
 Kathleen Mueller

Rev. Larry Neeb
 Audrey Scheidker, Emeritus
 Rev. Greg Smith, Ex Officio
 William Snyder
 Suda Suvarna
 Paul Tice
 Christie Tietjen
 Richard Vieth
 R. Dean Wolfe

Mid-MO Advisory Board

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 Linda Brokamp
 Kim Crouch
 Coleen Galambos
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 Leigh Leyshock
 Connie Martin
 Julie McBee
 Rev. Paul Moessner
 Kimberly Neubauer
 LaDonna Telle
 Laura Thurman

St. Charles Advisory Council

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 Tom Brown, Vice Chair
 Lorna Frahm
 Mark Franklin
 Robert Freund, Sr.
 Mike & Koren Furrey
 Senator Chuck Gross
 Charles & Elaine Keiser
 David Leezer
 John Luetkemeyer
 Glenn Mahnken
 Kristi Mathia
 Arvel (Sid) Purdy
 Jim Rau
 David Sandfort
 Bob Schreiber

Ron Smith
 Kermit Starnes
 Richard Vieth
 Gerry Wiegmann

Southeast Advisory Board

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 Rev. Mark Boettcher
 Jaime Craig
 Don Fischer
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 Jean Petzoldt
 Rev. Sam Roethemeyer
 Rev. Fred Schmuker
 Paul Schnare
 George Thurm
 Kristi Thurman
 Teri Wilson

Southwest Advisory Board

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 Rose Boswell
 Bonnee Griggs
 Dr. Nate Lissant
 Laura McCune
 Linda Moore
 Patti Moore
 Becky Moyer
 Deaconess Angie Reitmeier
 Patty Schmidt
 Tim Tialdo
 Barbara Tiedt

Ambassadors - St. Louis

Marilyn Brickler, Chair
 Melvin Bahle, Emeritus
 Bob Bernthal
 Erwin & Adeline Branahl
 Robert Breimeier
 Tom & Lynn Brown

Paul Cornelsen, Emeritus
 Jim & Vickie Dankenbring
 Paul & Narda DeNunzio
 Lew Freund
 Douglas Gast
 Charles Groennert
 Rebecca J. Hauk
 Phil Hellwege
 David Hoffman
 Christine Jubel-Homan
 Allan Huning
 Richard & Marta Jauer
 Wayne Kaufmann
 Dennis Kemper
 Mark & Barb Kuhlmann
 Fred & Mildred Kuhlmann
 Richard Lautner
 Earl Lindenberg
 Emilie Meiners
 Paul & Gwen Middeke
 Harry Mueller
 Rev. Larry W. Neeb, Emeritus
 Scott Negwer
 Jim & Judy O'Donnell
 Ken Ohlemeyer, Sr.
 Bruce Pompe
 Gary Reim
 Ron & Sherri Smith
 Karen Smitt
 Brent & Casey St. John
 Kermit & Karen Starnes, Sr.
 Joe Steiner
 Norman Tice
 Larry & Christie Tietjen
 Duane Vaughn
 Kirk & Cindy Verseman
 Richard & Carolyn Vieth
 Don Vogel
 Alan Voght
 William F. Wischmeyer

Message from the President & Board Chairmen

We could tell you that the year 2005 witnessed the agency introduce a new logo and tag line, "Growing Hope." Little did we know that those two simple words, "Growing Hope," would powerfully shape, mold and inspire this ministry. The year began with the tsunami relief and ended with hurricanes. In between these disasters, Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri (LFCS) brought hope into the lives of single expectant parents, witnessed 158 adoptions and guardianships, cheered the 342 children in our CALL Mentoring Program, provided child care to more than 200 children, offered counseling services at six different locations, served as a leader in statewide advocacy efforts and continued to build our statewide presence. As this annual report goes to print, the agency continues to lead hurricane disaster efforts for the Lutheran Church in Missouri and Alabama.

"Growing Hope" connotes the promise that tomorrow can be better than today. "Growing Hope" is the business of faith and the Christian church. "Growing Hope" is a relevant answer to despair, depression and meaninglessness. In November, the agency kicked off the "Growing Hope" Capital Campaign, which seeks to raise \$8.75 million. This is our second campaign. We thank our campaign chairs, Mr. Harry Mueller and Rev. Larry Neeb. We also express our deep gratitude to our regional campaign chairs: Deb and Jeff Martin and Daryl and Kathy King in Southeast Missouri; Barbara and Carl Tiedt and Kathy and Gary Mehlhorn in Southwest Missouri; and Meta George and Jerry Nelson in Mid-Missouri. Our hope is to strengthen the capacity of the agency that we may continue to serve as a leader in social services! Our hope is that 100 years from now, LFCS will be sustaining the needs of people throughout the state!

If you have any doubt about the intensity and commitment of this organization, just read through our annual report. Behind these pages stand the lives of our caring, professional staff. Many of these individuals will

spend more than 25 years of their careers at the agency. Each of our staff members bears responsibility for "Growing Hope!"

We acknowledge our corporate partners, the many foundations that support the agency and our friends in the business community. We are proud of our long-standing relationship with the United Way of Greater St. Louis. This meaningful organization provides a safety net to thousands of individuals in our St. Louis community. Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri is also funded by local United Way locations in Cape Girardeau, Columbia, and Springfield, Missouri.

Last, but not least, we are thankful to our volunteers who give countless hours and generous support to define and shape our vision of "Growing Hope." Thank you to the members of our Operating Board, Foundation Board, Ambassadors, Regional Advisory Boards, Auction Council, Bridges Representatives, Golf Committees, Walk Committee, Women's Association, and the many others who have used their abilities and faith to bring "Hope!" Thank you for being our partners in caring! Hope is the promise that tomorrow can be better than today! Look through the pages of this annual report. We invite you to join us in this exciting work as we "Grow Hope."



Rev. Alan M. Erdman
 President/
 CEO



Don Vogel
 Chairman of
 the Board



Bruce Pompe
 Chairman of the LFCS
 Foundation Board

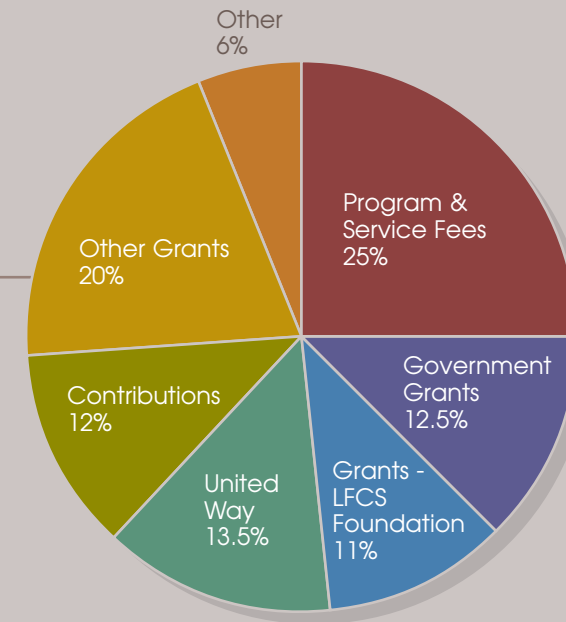


"The CALL Mentoring Program helped me by showing me how to make the right decisions, not the wrong ones, and it helped me to stay drug-free."

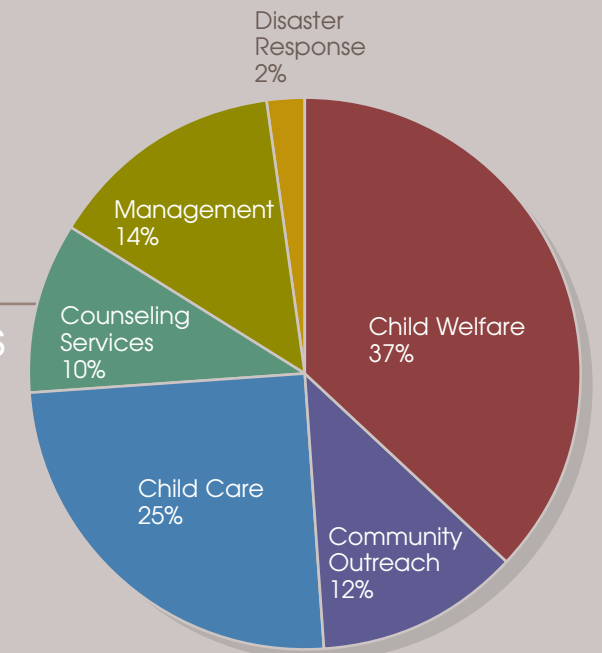
- LFCS CALL Mentoring Student



Revenue



Program Expenses



Financials

Revenue	2005 Audited	2004 Audited
Program Service Fees	\$1,831,036	\$1,510,624
Grants - Governmental	899,486	701,494
Investment Income	38,017	9,780
Miscellaneous	284,490	231,279
Total Ministry Revenue	\$3,053,019	\$2,453,177
Services & Administration		
Management	\$911,714	\$908,603
Counseling Services - St. Louis	617,514	536,454
Child Welfare Services provided by Birth Parent, Adoption and Foster Care Services - St. Louis	1,257,324	1,056,018
Community Outreach provided by Mentoring, Housing, Advocacy, and Crisis Intervention Services - St. Louis	788,413	743,792
Child Care Services - St. Louis	1,614,291	1,552,893
Services to Mid-Missouri Region	432,149	360,956
Services to Southeast Missouri Region	368,425	326,728
Services to Southwest Missouri Region	349,448	350,802
Disaster Response - Missouri and Alabama	120,767	46,141
Total Ministry Expenses	\$6,460,045	\$5,882,387
Operating Surplus (Deficit)	(\$3,407,016)	(\$3,215,607)
Income in Support of Ministry		
United Way	\$971,296	\$840,446
Grants - LFCS Foundation	797,832	668,000
Contributions	851,274	1,128,884
Grants - Others	1,449,589	190,959
Bequests	90,311	4,808
Total Income in Support of Ministry	\$4,160,302	\$2,833,097
Change in Net Assets	\$753,286	(\$596,113)
Net Assets at Beginning of Year	\$6,658,893	\$7,255,006
Net Assets at End of Year	\$7,412,179	\$6,658,893

The Programs of LFCS

Pregnancy Support Services

The LFCS WINGS program (Women In Need Growing Stronger) provides women facing a crisis or unplanned pregnancy with the counseling, case management, referrals and support services they need to maintain and nurture their pregnancies and to achieve healthy outcomes for themselves and their babies. Each client's progress is supported and documented, and women are served until they no longer need our services.

Foster Care

Twenty-four licensed, loving and caring foster families provide emergency and temporary care for children from birth to 17 years of age. Children who enter the LFCS Foster Care program are voluntarily placed in care by their parents, who work with LFCS social workers and foster parents to design the best plan for their child. Some children who enter foster care are lovingly placed for adoption, while others return home to their family of origin.

Adoption

LFCS is blessed to have the opportunity to build 'forever' families through its adoption program. The professional staff at LFCS assists families with the support they need to adopt a child domestically, internationally, through an independent adoption, guardianship or alternative custody arrangement.

Child Care

Two early child development centers, Hilltop Child Development Center, located in North St. Louis City and Elm Point Early Child Development Center, located in St. Charles, provide quality child care and school readiness programs. Both of these respected centers are licensed by the state of Missouri Department of Health and are nationally accredited by the Council on Accreditation.

Lutheran Disaster Response

As the Lutheran Disaster Response coordinating agency for Missouri, LFCS stands ready to work with a variety of public and faith-based disaster response groups to help

meet the needs of those impacted by natural or man-made disasters. LFCS provides relief and long-term assistance to families distressed by disaster.

Counseling

In the St. Louis and St. Charles regions, LFCS has caring, highly skilled professional counselors/therapists who help individuals, couples and families cope with issues ranging from strained relationships to depression, anxiety and grief. In the southeast region, LFCS' Senior Counseling Service offers in-home and in-office counseling for individuals 60 years or older. Monthly support groups and educational trainings are also offered to individuals and caregivers.

Advocacy

One of the ministries of Lutheran Family and Children's Services is to be an advocate on behalf of those families, children and individuals in need and to provide a voice for those not heard.

Youth Development

In St. Louis, the CALL (Children Alive Learning Leadership) Group Mentoring program helps mentor boys and girls, ages 6 -17. Mentoring groups meet after school in 11 neighborhood sites at schools, apartment buildings and community centers to perform activities that guide participants in life skills and values in order to make the right choices in their lives.

CHOICES is a gender-specific program for girls and young women ages 10-17, focusing on career development, health and wellness, opportunities, cultural enrichment, educational growth, and self-esteem. CHOICES meets after school hours at various sites throughout the St. Louis and Cape Girardeau regions.

Abstinence-Only Education is offered in St. Louis, Southeast Missouri and Mid-Missouri. The program's goal is to help young people gain information and self-respect to guide them in making responsible decisions and abstaining from sexual involvement.

Year in Review - 2005

LFCS Assists with Hurricane Relief Efforts

In fall 2005, Hurricanes Rita and Katrina brought devastation to the entire Gulf Coast. As the Lutheran Disaster Response (LDR) coordinating agency for Missouri, LFCS has been working with a variety of public and faith-based disaster response groups to help meet the needs of those impacted by the disaster.

Two grants totaling \$270,000 have enabled LFCS to meet the needs of numerous families that evacuated to Missouri. With \$235,000 from Lutheran Disaster Response and \$35,000 from LCMS World Relief and Human Care, LFCS has expanded its disaster response efforts with new case workers in St. Louis and provided direct material assistance to Gulf Coast evacuees.

LFCS is also serving as the fiscal and management entity for LDR in Alabama. Our Alabama staff is working with other public and faith-based organizations to provide recovery and rebuilding services to Gulf Coast residents. Our efforts include coordinating case management and reconstruction services, as well as working with volunteer groups from across the United States. Reconstruction of the Gulf Coast will take many years and LFCS will continue to be a vital participant in the process. Our response efforts along the coast will touch the lives of thousands of residents in the years to come.

Child Welfare Highlights Statewide

Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri reached out to 2,420 people statewide with child welfare services in 2005.

Child welfare staff reached out with valuable information to a variety of audiences through more than 200 speaking engagements in 2005.

- Thirteen students were provided with practicum experience through LFCS Child Welfare statewide.

Pregnancy Support Services

- Pregnancy and family support services were provided to 455 women statewide during 2005 through the WINGS program.
- 92 percent of the babies born to mothers in the WINGS program had a healthy birth weight between 5.5 pounds and 9.5 pounds.
- 89 percent of babies born to mothers in the WINGS program had a healthy gestational age between 38 and 42 weeks.

Adoption

- In 2005, 86 children were placed with adoptive families. These placements include domestic, international, independent and Children's Division contract adoptions.
- Seventy-two guardianships were completed.
- LFCS staff completed 107 home studies for adoption and 55 suitability studies for guardianship.
- More than 300 Missouri health care professionals have a better understanding of adoption, thanks to LFCS. Our statewide child welfare program implemented the Infant Adoption Training Initiative curriculum and was the only agency in 32 states to reach the goal of training more than 300 people in 2005.

Foster Care

- LFCS statewide provided a safe place for 68 children who received foster care through LFCS foster families in 2005.
- The average length of stay in foster care was 24 days compared to 35 days in 2004 and 49 days in 2000.
- LFCS worked with 45 children and their families through the Family Case Management program in 2005. These children were in the custody of the Missouri Children's Division.

LFCS FOUNDATION

In 1998, the Lutheran Family and Children's Services Foundation was formed to manage the development functions of the organization.

The Development Office of Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri supports the agency's efforts by:

- Creating awareness of LFCS within the community
- Building relationships with individuals and organizations
- Raising funds through appeals and special events
- Developing major gifts for the agency's work
- Encouraging and coordinating planned gifts for the Endowment Fund
- Producing marketing and communication materials
- Writing and managing grants and contracts for the agency

In 2005, the agency received more than \$673,000 in grants and contracts to support the vital programs and services provided by LFCS, in fulfillment of our mission.

LFCS is blessed with the support of many generous and caring individuals, congregations, companies and organizations.

Special Events

- The 4th Annual "Hope for Families" Golf Tournament to support the statewide programs of the agency raised \$155,000 in 2005.
- Fun was had by all at the 10th Annual LFCS Family Walk held in May, in beautiful Forest Park. This event raised nearly \$60,000 in support for LFCS.
- The LFCS Women's Association raised \$22,900 at the Charitable Event - "Outta' The Box" - held at the St. Louis Forest Park Jewel Box in April.
- The annual Helping Hands Dinner Auction held in St. Louis raised \$266,000. Attended by nearly 500 LFCS friends in September, this event included more than 600 silent and live auction items.

Programs

- Donations of cars, trucks, RVs, motorcycles, and other motor vehicles generated \$9,152.
- Through the generosity of LFCS friend and renowned artist John Pils, the sale of John Pils Busch Stadium prints and ornaments grossed more than \$17,000 in revenue.
- The annual Ambassador Challenge generated more than \$304,000 in contributions from individuals statewide!
- Annual fund appeals generated more than \$120,000 in income.
- Special funding requests from individuals for hurricane relief efforts resulted in more than \$10,000 in gifts.

Regional Awareness

LFCS launched the first-ever statewide regional awareness campaign. Billboards, newspapers, radio, television and magazines were used to promote the great services and mission of Lutheran Family and Children's Services of Missouri.

Capital Campaign

To continue our history of responding to those in need, LFCS is seeking to raise \$8.75 million through the Growing Hope Campaign. This capital campaign will help support the many LFCS programs and facilities located in four regions throughout the state of Missouri.

Capital Campaign Leadership:

Statewide Co-Chairpersons: Mid-Missouri Chairpersons:
• Mr. Harry Mueller • Ms. Meta George
• Rev. Larry W. Neeb • Mr. Jerry Nelson

Southeast Chairpersons: Southwest Chairpersons:
• Mrs. Kathy King • Mrs. Kathy Mehlhorn
• Mr. Darryl King • Mr. Gary Mehlhorn
• Mrs. Deb Martin • Mrs. Barbara Tiedt
• Mr. Jeff Martin • Mr. Carl Tiedt

Thanks to all who have demonstrated their support of those we care for through their generous contributions of time, talent and funds.

LFCS Southwest Office

LFCS established an office in Springfield in 1998 as a one-person office, and today it has grown to six full-time employees, one-part time staff and two student interns and serves 28 surrounding counties. The office's growth has been a response to increased demand for pregnancy counseling and adoption services.

In addition to the many accomplishments of the pregnancy support, foster care, and adoption services through the statewide child welfare program (outlined on page 4), the regional staff of Southwest Missouri extended services through the following efforts:

- Eighty-four pregnant women have been helped through Kindred Connections. This 10-week program provides a comfortable place for parents to share parenting questions, skills and support.
- In 2005, LFCS' Southwest office was honored as the social work agency of the year by the Bachelor of Social Work program at Missouri State University in Springfield.
- The Springfield office hosted LFCS' statewide adoptive parents workshop for 10 families in the process of adoption.
- The 4th Annual Ladies Brunch, held in May, was sold out! The brunch raised more than \$11,000.
- The Baby Bottle Boomerang raised \$4,141 from area Lutheran churches through the collection of coins in baby bottles.
- Four hundred and six area Lutherans attended the Double A baseball game of the Springfield Cardinals vs. Frisco Rough Riders on June 3, 2005. A portion of every ticket sold was donated to LFCS, raising more than \$1,000 to support the Southwest office.
- The First Annual "Cruise of a Cause" provided fun in the sun for 26 travelers, raising over \$2,600 for agency programs. The Carnival Cruise ship sailed the Caribbean.
- Support from local churches resulted in \$4,390 to support the mission of LFCS.



"Lutheran Family and Children's Services has been a God send for me and my family."

- WINGS Client



Year in Review - 2005

New Brand Image for LFCS!

What is LFCS all about? That's the question we posed to leadership volunteers, clients, former clients, staff and members of the community at large as we worked toward creating a new brand image for the agency. While the specific answers varied, all had one common theme – LFCS provides hope for those in need.

With that in mind, we set out to create an image that would reflect this core value. The new image is one that reflects the true essence of who we are - an agency that serves individuals, children and families. Our tagline "Growing Hope" communicates the message that each day can bring growth and opportunity for a better tomorrow.



Advocacy

The LFCS Advocacy Program continued to work with other advocates in 2005 through coalitions to help provide a strong voice for vulnerable Missourians.

- Our 2005 legislative priorities were the Neighborhood Assistance Program (NAP) and Youth Opportunities Program (YOP) tax credits, positive child welfare and adoption legislation, Alternatives to Abortion (ATA) funding and access and affordability of health care for low-income families.
- LFCS focused special advocacy efforts on the changes to Medicaid and the Adoption and Guardianship Subsidy Program through action alerts, testimony to the legislature, letters to clients and the advocacy network and other methods of education and awareness building.
- LFCS Advocacy hosted the 15th annual Bringewatt Social Justice Awards Dinner in February.

- LFCS Advocacy purchased a new messaging tool called Capwiz, in an effort to grow LFCS' online advocacy network.
- LFCS Advocacy partnered with The LFCS Foundation to host five St. Louis area legislators and other guests for an agency tour in July.
- LFCS Advocacy partnered with each of the regional offices to host "Legislator Meet and Greets." Many regional advisory board members supported this effort to engage 10 legislators collectively from across the state in learning more about the mission, legislative priorities and services of LFCS.



LFCS Southeast Office

In addition to the many accomplishments of the pregnancy support, foster care, and adoption services through the statewide child welfare program (outlined on page 4), the regional staff in Southeast Missouri extended services through the following efforts.

- Two adoption information and recruitment meetings were held, reaching out to 10 interested couples and individuals.
- A total of three "Positives of Infant Adoption" Training Programs were held at Southeast Hospital and Perry County Memorial Hospital, reaching out to 45 attendees.
- Southeast staff coordinated an LFCS statewide Child Welfare Summer Institute. Held in St. Louis, this institute provided two days of professional development, education and team building for the 25 members of the LFCS Statewide Child Welfare staff.
- Counseling services for more than 35 older adults were provided by LFCS in Cape Girardeau. An additional 30 older adults received services through the Grandparents Parenting Program, for grandparents who now find themselves with primary responsibility for raising a grandchild, and the Hoover Center Southeast Missouri University program for older adults.
- The Alzheimer's Support Group met monthly, providing a comfortable, understanding, as well as educational environment for 18 members.
- 2005 was the second year for the LFCS Abstinence-Only Education Program. The program provided education to 20 boys and girls at the Family Resource Center in Cape Girardeau.
- "Parenting Basics: Raising Healthy Kids," a six-week series, was presented to 15 parents.
- The Family Resource Center in South Cape Girardeau was the site for the first CHOICES Mentoring Group in the southeast region.
- The Family Foundations pilot program was launched in the southeast region in 2005. This program, established in local congregations, assists single-parent families through mentoring, role modeling and peer support groups.

- With the help of MIX 96.5 and radio personality Steve Thomas, LFCS was able to provide Christmas for 20 community families and 60 clients and their children.
- Sponsorships and ticket sales for the 18th Annual Holiday Home Tour resulted in \$17,000 for agency programs and attracted approximately 800 people.
- The southeast office Rummage Sale raised \$3,400 with the help of matching grants from River Valley and Cape Girardeau Thrivent Chapters.
- The Faith in Action Dinner honored Don Fisher, Southeast Advisory Board Member and former chair.
- The Southeast Auxiliary Spring and Fall Rallies resulted in thank offerings of more than \$1,200.
- The 3rd Annual "Hope for Families" Golf Tournament was held in May and grossed more than \$52,000 to support programs of the southeast regional office.



LFCS St. Louis Office Continued

- In June 2005, 27 students of Hilltop Child Development Center accepted their diplomas at a graduation ceremony. Not only were the children acknowledged for their hard work, but each parent was given a certificate of appreciation for their commitment to assisting inside and outside the classroom.
- In May 2005, Elm Point Early Childhood Center held its 6th Annual Preschool Graduation in the Fellowship Hall of Immanuel Lutheran Church in St. Charles. Nineteen excited pre-kindergarten graduates confidently walked in their caps and gowns to accept their diplomas. Each child was also given a special video diary to remember the year.

Community Services

- The CALL Mentoring Program reached out to 114 children and youth through the Hope VI Project at the Good Samaritan Service Center and a contract from the St. Louis Housing Authority.
- LFCS Community Services Staff provided over 817 direct contact hours to 197 youth, providing anger management services through the LFCS Think First Program. These youth were referred for services through a contract with the St. Louis City Juvenile Court.
- LFCS's CALL Mentoring and CHOICES Programs received a Community Investment in Financial Education Grant from the United Way in partnership with Citigroup. The goal of the program is to provide financial literacy instruction in a non-threatening and exciting format to students. This age appropriate curriculum was introduced in September and reached out to 130 children in Kindergarten through the eighth grade.
- 254 girls, ages 10 to 17, participated in the CHOICES program.
- The CALL Mentoring program reached out to 342 children in 11 locations throughout the St. Louis area.
- 180 children participated in Abstinence-Only Education.

- Sixty-nine individuals were served through the LFCS emergency assistance fund, providing financial assistance for those in need.
- The Season of Sharing program helped make the Christmas season brighter for 328 St. Louis area families. Especially meaningful this year was the opportunity to assist 22 families relocated after Hurricane Katrina and 25 additional foster children.



LFCS Mid-Missouri Office

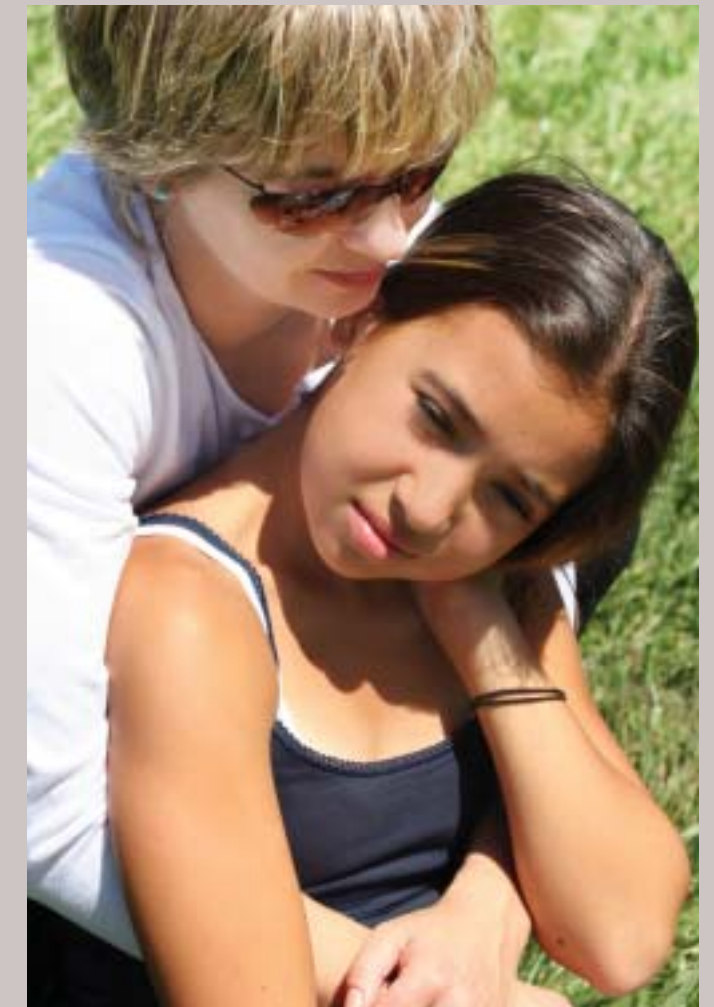
The Mid-Missouri office of LFCS, located in Columbia, serves families and individuals in 52 counties.

In addition to the many accomplishments of the pregnancy support, foster care, and adoption services through the statewide child welfare program (outlined on page 4), the regional staff in Mid-Missouri extended services through the following efforts.

- Case management, recruitment and post-placement assistance were provided to children in the custody of the State of Missouri Children's Division.
- In July 2005, LFCS acquired the Resource Parent Program as part of the agency's participation in the Columbia/Boone County Partnership. This program, similar to the WINGS program, attends to the needs of pregnant and parenting youth through age 22. In addition to case management, LFCS encourages young parents to complete high school equivalency and, in partnership with Big Brothers/Big Sisters, connects young parents with adult mentors. LFCS reached out to 90 referrals and 45 active participants in 2005.
- Utilizing federally developed curriculum as mandated by the Department of Health and Senior Services, Abstinence Only Education programs were presented to middle school and junior high students.
- Two adoption information and recruitment meetings were held, reaching out to interested couples and individuals.
- Through the United Way Campaign, LFCS representatives shared our mission and services with employees at several area businesses.
- In late 2005, this office worked with families who relocated to the Columbia area after the destruction of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Among the services we continue to offer is the counsel of a therapist who makes home visits and helps families work through feelings of grief and loss. Another LFCS case manager is helping families find permanent housing and jobs.
- The 9th Annual Festival of Trees raised a record \$21,000. The Festival has grown by including downtown

businesses through a partnership with the Convention and Visitors Bureau. A holiday mixer with the Chamber of Commerce Women's Network, a dinner gala and auction were part of the festivities. More than 500 people attended the festival in 2005.

- More than 120 attendees celebrated moms at the 2nd annual Mothers Day Brunch. An auction with items donated by local businesses and ticket sales resulted in raising more than \$5,700 for the agency.





"I think adoption is when someone or two people choose a baby to take care of and love forever."

- Definition of Adoption from 8 year-old child

LFCS St. Louis Office

Child Welfare

In addition to the many accomplishments of the pregnancy support, foster care, and adoption services through the statewide child welfare program (outlined on page 4), the regional staff in St. Louis extended services through the following efforts.

- More than 12 community adoption information meetings were held throughout the greater St. Louis area.
- A Birth Mother's Day Luncheon (the only observance of this day offered in the area) took place on May 7. Birth Mother's Day is a day to acknowledge and honor women who have chosen a plan for adoption.
- In 2005 a case management consortium called PARTNERS was developed. PARTNERS stands for Permanency, Achieving Results Through Networking, Education, Recruitment and Services. Our St. Louis partnership includes LFCS, Catholic Charities, Catholic Services for Children and Youth, Bringing Families Together and Our Little Haven. Our partnership worked with more than 200 children in 2005.
- In partnership with Concordia Seminary, LFCS sponsored a seminar entitled "Building Families Through Foster Care and Adoption." Sixty families and pastors learned more about adoption. Clergy received instruction on counseling those dealing with infertility, considering adoption or experiencing an unplanned pregnancy.
- A monthly support group for the adoption triad (birth parents, adoptive parents, and adult adoptees) was provided through the "Uniting Hearts" program.
- Two foster parent workshops and an adoptive parent workshop provided an interactive experience for current adoptive parents.
- Two workshops were held, providing training and information to current foster parents.

Counseling

- LFCS received a contract from the St. Charles Children and Family Authority to expand counseling services to children in St. Charles County. The METT (Multimodal Emotional Trauma Treatment) program provides comprehensive services to children who have

experienced some form of emotional trauma as well as children who are experiencing other mental health problems.

- The Counseling Department helped 1,365 clients, providing more than 4,300 sessions of counseling/therapy including the revised "Mind and Body Wellness" group.
- Initial outcome data indicates that 87 percent of clients measured showed a decrease in depression and 77 percent showed a decrease in symptoms of anxiety.
- The Family Mental Health Collaborative program was integrated in the LFCS Counseling service model. This is a unique collaboration between the St. Louis County Health Clinics, BJC Behavioral Health, St. Louis University Department of Psychiatry and three other family service agencies to provide comprehensive mental health services to low-income and uninsured residents of St. Louis County. LFCS provided more than 800 hours of therapy through this program.
- A grant for \$32,500 received in 2005 from the Daughters of Charity will provide comprehensive mental health services to low-income and uninsured people living anywhere in the St. Louis area in need of these services.
- The counseling department reached out with compassion and top notch professional services to hurricane evacuees, providing assessment and therapy at the St. Louis County Health Clinics and LFCS St. Louis offices.

Child Care

- The St. Louis Variety Club presented Hilltop Child Development Center with the 2005 Variety Stellar Performance Award in November 2005. Hilltop Child Development Center was recognized for its commendable service and adherence to the mission of the agency; marked improvement as a result of Variety Club funding; and measurable outcomes that demonstrate the impact Hilltop has on the lives of children with physical and mental disabilities. Of the 105 agencies funded this year, Hilltop was one of eight agencies that received this prestigious award.