

Happy Mother's Day from LFCS



On Mother's Day, we celebrate the nurturing, self-sacrificing love of our mothers. Akin to baby showers, this special day used to remind me of what I didn't have, the only blessing I felt was missing from my life – a child. While I was happy for others, my arms were empty and the deep ache in my heart remained. I didn't want to be showered with cards and gifts. I just wanted a child of my own to love. I turned to my faith for comfort and hope. Through a series of events and an earthly angel, we met a special young woman who was considering placing her child for adoption.

My son is blessed to have two mothers who love him very much. His first mother gave him the gift of life and had the courage to imagine a different life for him. I am his second mother who received the most precious gift a woman could ever be given, a child who is as beautiful on the inside as he is on the outside. Because of the open relationship we established with Jack's birth mom, he will always have the love and support of his two mothers who care very deeply for him.

God's love and the blessings of adoption continue to enrich our lives. While we were able to adopt our beautiful son and finally be a family, we were also adopted by Jack's birth mom and her family. From the moment our son was born, we were welcomed with open arms. We treasure the moments we spend with his birth family and reflect on the Biblical passage found in Luke 12:34: "For where your treasure is, there your heart will also be."

Being a mother is incredible. Every moment I spend with my son is precious, from holding his hands in mine to snuggling and reading a bedtime story. I will never forget the first time I called Jack my son. I also remember my first Mother's Day. Jack was baptized into our faith that same weekend. Towards the end of mass, the priest asked mothers to stand and receive a special blessing. It took a second or two for me to realize that I could stand up for the first time. I was honored to be among these women. It was a wonderful way to spend my first Mother's Day surrounded by loved ones including Jack's birth mother and her family.

On Mother's Day, we hope you are encircled by the love of family and friends. And if you are waiting for your precious child, we hope you will soon receive the incredible blessings of adoption. May God bless you!

Mike, Jack and Rose

SAVE THE DATE—MARK YOUR CALENDARS

Lutheran Family and Children's Services Invites you to attend our 4th Annual Glamour Night Summer Soiree



Featured Vendors:

Aesthetics Studio ~ Nails Only

Beauti Control ~ Paula Nagel & Erica Durnil

Calena's Fashions

Calhoun's

Celebrating Home ~ Rhonda Moore

DeSpain Cayce Dermatology Center & Medical Spa

Elephant Trunk Show ~ by Susan Link & Chris Kellar

Elly's Couture

ETCetera ~ Shellie Ravipudi

Eye Candy ~ Sallie Schwandt

Eyedentity Eyewear

Girl Boutique

Home & Lifestyles Magazine

Juice Plus ~ Beth Lammers

Kliethermes Homes and Remodeling ~ Lifestyle Personality

Mary Kay Inc Sandy Ollar, Independent Senior Sales Director

My Sister's Circus

Silpada ~ Kat Cunningham

Styles on the Move ~ Spirit Shirts & More

Swank

Thirty-One Bags ~ by Christy Von Talge

June 21, 2010

Monday 5:30-8:00 p.m.

Country Club of Missouri

Tickets are \$30 each and includes
hors d'oeuvres and beverages.

Cash bar available.

Gather your girlfriends for a fun night while you
shop the latest products and services.

Reserve your ticket today by mail or by calling:

573-815-9955

or mail your check payable

LUTHERAN FAMILY & CHILDREN'S SERVICES

401 West Blvd. North

Columbia, MO 65203

michelet@lfc.org

**Your tickets will be held at the door at the
Country Club of Missouri**



Celebrate the first Day of Summer
with a Champagne Toast

**DIAMONDS ARE A GIRLS
BEST FRIEND**

Purchase a glass of champagne and have a chance to win a
beautiful diamond pendant

Donated by: **Buchroeder's**



**Special thanks to DeSpain Cayce Dermatology Center and
Medical Spa**

for their donation of \$1,500 of Services

Raffle tickets attached to a key fob are on sale for \$20.00.

Need not be present to win.

Drawing will be at the event at 7:45 p.m.

**Benefiting children and families through the Resource Parents
program providing birth parent counseling and support for
parenting teens to help them become self sufficient. In addition
to helping families in need of foster care and enable us to place
children in loving adoptive families.**

The staff and families we serve at LFCS would like to thank the following for their generosity:

Speaking of Women's Health—2010 Community Investment Grant—LFCS was honored to be one of the non-profit organization to receive \$1,000.

Kappa Kappa Gamma—Theta Chapter of UMC for a \$500.00 gift,

Trinity Lutheran Vesper Guild for their monetary donation.

Ruth Circle of Saint Andrews Lutheran Church for their donation of diapers and wipes.

Trinity Lutheran School—Cool Kids for their donation of diapers, wipes and baskets.

William Woods University—Phi Gamma Delta Fraternity—for their monetary donation for diapers.

HOMELESS PREVENTION & RAPID RE-HOUSING PROGRAM

Last fall, LFCS, alongside CMCA and Phoenix Programs was awarded a grant to work with the Homeless Prevention and Rapid Re-Housing Program, which seeks to provide housing to those who are homeless or at risk of losing their housing. The program's intention is to provide an extra push for those who are working but cannot afford the security deposit and first month's rent often required to move into housing. Many of our clients don't have stable housing or have simply fallen upon hard times and cannot maintain their current rent payments. By providing short-term assistance with rent or utility payments, participants have an opportunity to find work or continue employment or education while at the same time having a stable place to call home. These funds are ideal for many of our clients who are approaching unpaid maternity leave and are unsure how the bills will get paid during this time.

Thus far, four LFCS clients benefited from the program, either being placed in stable housing or being able to stay in their current housing. Once such client, a first time mom determined to work at her full-time job right up until her due date, was able to save the money she would have normally used on rent to buy a used car, as well as set aside money for future emergencies. Not to mention, she is now able to provide a stable home life for herself and her newborn son. Although the funds are moving quickly given the great need of our community, we look forward to seeing our current and future families succeed in this program.

Missouri Computer Exchange (MOCX)

Lutheran Family and Children's Services has a working relationship with Missouri Computer Exchange (MOCX), a non-profit corporation dedicated to reclaiming and recycling used computers and laptops regardless of age or condition. This program allows businesses and individuals to dispose of old computers responsibly. Many of the clients and families we serve at LFCS were recipients of these computers.

A very special thank you to Campus Lutheran, Alive In Christ, Trinity Lutheran and Saint Andrew's Lutheran Church for asking the members of their church to donate their computers to LFCS. Job well done!



Eileen Long, Social Worker, LFCS, David Hopkins & Calita, recipient of the donated computer

If you are interested in donating your computers to the Missouri Computer Exchange please call 573-808-6621

2010-2011 LFCS

Board Members

Elizabeth Bailey

Vicki Hartwig

Stacy Peters

Catherine Lavitt

Paul Moessner

Geneen Morgan

Tom Stone

Leigh Spence

Jayne Young

SPECIAL THANKS

to **Debbie Rawlings** for her contribution to the Board over the past 5 years. LFCS will miss her tremendous support.

NEW BOARD MEMBERS

WELCOME

Kay Clarke

Jennifer Thoma

Please keep **Geneen Morgan** in your prayers as she continues to recover from a stroke.

**ADOPTION INFORMATION
MEETING DATES**

PLEASE CALL 815-9955 TO R.S.V.P.

May 11, 2010 noon-1:00 p.m.

July 13, 2010 6:00-7:00 p.m.

September 14, 2010 noon-1:00 p.m.

November 9, 2010 6:00-7:00 p.m.

2010-2011

**Lutheran Family and
Children's Services**

AMASSADORS:

Ken and Linda Brokamp
Wilson & Sheri Freyermuth
Mel and Meta George
Rod and Vicki Hartwig
Chuck and Carol Headley
Robert and Missy Littlejohn
Jerry Nelson
Walter and Stacy Peters
David Trinklein

Lutheran Family & Children's Services
401 West Blvd. North, Suite B
Columbia, MO 65203
573-815-9955

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



“Baby Bottle Boomerang ”

Lutheran Family and Children's Services needs your help!!

We are looking for clubs, churches, classrooms, schools, families or anyone else that wants to help LFCS build and support families.

- Empty baby bottles are provided by LFCS.
- Groups and individuals fill the bottles with loose change, bills & even checks.
- The filled bottles come back to LFCS like a boomerang to help the families and children we serve.



Call Sheri Hulett Hines
at 573-815-9955 or email sherih@lfcs.org for
more information.

Sheri Hulett Hines joined LFCS in April as Development Officer for Mid-Missouri. Sheri has a degree in Communications from the University of Missouri-Columbia and is a native of Central Missouri. She has held positions with First Chance for Children, KOMU TV and American Red Cross Blood Services and was the Children's Miracle Network Coordinator for University Hospital. Sheri is glad to be back working on behalf of children and families. “When children come through our door we all stop what we are doing to see their smiling faces. I'm not sure who looks happier; the child or young mother who uses our services, a foster family or a forever family...they all radiate happiness. We see our mission in action everyday.”



Stop by LFCS to welcome Sheri to our staff.

Christine White, Director

Pay your taxes for just pennies on the dollar! **Lutheran Family and Children's Services has MO tax credits.** They are easy to use and can reduce your income tax by 75% or more! When you make a gift through our tax credit program, you will receive both federal and state deductions on the entire gift amount in addition to your tax credit. For more information, or to reserve your tax credits, contact Sheri Hines, Mid-Missouri Development Officer at 573-815-9955 or Sherih@lfcs.org. Our tax credits will **expire on June 30th**, so please reserve yours today!