



*Services that heal, strengthen, and provide hope*

Colorado Lutherans have a strong history of responding to human need. Since 1948 Lutheran Family Services of Colorado has been **your** agency to provide a ministry link between congregations and community. We believe that all people, from the newborn infant to the most elderly person, deserve to be valued in our community. Lutheran Family Services is committed to offering care and support to all vulnerable people, regardless of race, religion, gender or age, to help equip them to live full and whole lives.

### **Services Provided in the Last Year (FY 2005-2006) Southern Colorado Programs**



**Foster Care / Foster Adopt:** This program's focus is to provide homes for abused and neglected children in need of permanency. The Foster Care / Foster Adopt Program recruits families who are willing to provide a nurturing environment in their home for a single child or sibling group. The children remain with a family until a permanency plan is established. The children might be returned home, placed with relatives, or continue to live with the foster family through the adoption process. The Esperanza Sibling House is a part of the Foster Care Program. The Sibling House Parents provide foster care to larger sibling groups of four or more children.



**Domestic & International Adoption:** These programs provide education, home study, and pre and post-placement support to adoptive families during their adoption process.

**Pregnancy Counseling:** Options counseling and support for women and couples experiencing an unplanned or crisis pregnancy.



**Refugee & Asylee:** The programs have been assisting and supporting legally-admitted refugees and asylees in rebuilding their lives in Colorado Springs since the early 1980s. From 1997 through 2005, assistance was given to over 650 individuals from various parts of the world, including: Afghanistan, Bosnia, Columbia, Democratic Republic of Congo, Croatia, Cuba, Iran, Iraq, Liberia, Serbia, Sierra Leone, former Soviet Union, Sudan, and Vietnam.

Lutheran Family Services' refugee programs provide temporary housing, furnishings, and supplies as well as employment services, case management, acculturation, and assistance in learning English. LFS staff members work with co-sponsoring churches, organizations, relatives, and tremendous volunteer support from the community in serving refugees' needs. The Refugee & Asylee Programs also offer a variety of supplemental services that further enhance adjustment to life in Colorado, including a Family Enrichment Program and a Senior Refugee Association.



**Domestic Relief Program:** The Domestic Relief Program in Colorado Springs helps families who are displaced by Hurricane Katrina/Rita by providing long-term case management. LFS case managers assist clients to develop recovery plans, provide referrals to community as well as resources for housing, transportation, child-care, school enrollment, employment, education, medical resources, and assistance with stresses from the effects of the hurricane and long term dislocation. Our case managers in Colorado Springs help evacuees to develop and build upon their skills to become self-sufficient. This will include helping clients to develop goals and help them to work towards their plans for either developing a new life in Colorado Springs or returning back home to the Gulf States.

