



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) Northern Colorado Programs



Care Management Solutions: Long-Distance advice, support and inspiration to help older adults and their caregivers make informed decisions.

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



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.

Fostering Family Strengths: LFS offered a total of 15 parenting education programs, ranging from 8 to 15 weeks in duration, to over 115 families in the Larimer County area. LFS Family Educators are certified in the Nurturing Parenting© series, a nationally acclaimed program that helps parents develop healthy family dynamics in a safe, nurturing family environment. LFS has been offering parenting education and support programs to the general public since 1984.



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

Ready or Not: Serving 1206 students in the last school year in 21 schools in Larimer and Weld Counties, the Ready or Not? Teen Pregnancy Prevention Program focuses on the "why" not to get pregnant rather than the "how" not to get pregnant. Students receive first-hand information about the realities of parenting at a young age, through the use of infant simulators and an associated curriculum developed by LFS Program Educators.



Refugee & Asylee: The programs have been assisting and supporting legally-admitted refugees and asylees in rebuilding their lives in Colorado 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.