



LUTHERAN SOCIAL SERVICES
OF NEVADA

August E-News from LSSN



On Wednesday, July 27th, LSSN's monthly food distribution continued in Mesquite, expanding our distribution by more than five times the amount given in June! This new program provided 13,756 pounds of food to 183 individuals, who were then able to choose the foods their families prefer, in only five hours!

The amazing growth is due in no small part to our partnership with Three Square Food Bank, who donated and delivered over 14,000 pounds of food. (The balance went to the Virgin Valley Food Bank.) We are deeply grateful for their friendship and support.

Our next monthly distribution is scheduled for August 31st. With the amazingly high volume involved, volunteers that are willing to travel to Mesquite or that live in the Mesquite area are especially needed to help. If you are interested, please contact LSSN's Derrick Felder at derrick@lssnv.org or 702-639-1730, ext. 16.

Special thanks to the Virgin Valley Food Bank for their continued hosting of our Mesquite program, and to all that support LSSN! Without your help, we'd never be able to reach out to more and more of the needy in our community!



*Above: LSSN's Sharian Alessi works to process clients as quickly as possible.
Below: Your generous donations make this event a reality!*



LSSN Congregational Summer Food Drive Continues!



Contest Update – as of 8/3/11

*Good Samaritan Lutheran Church - 452 lbs.
St. Andrew Lutheran Church – 187 lbs.
New Song Lutheran Church - 89 lbs
Mountain View Lutheran Church - 66 lbs
Christ the Servant Lutheran Church - 62 lbs
Green Valley Lutheran Church - 44 lbs
Holy Spirit Lutheran Church - 34 lbs
Grace Lutheran Church - 24 lbs*

If you notice any errors, please let Pastor Tom know immediately at Thomas@lssnv.org. Pickups and processing of incoming collections are still underway.

Summer is here, which means that it is once again time to challenge each other with one of our most popular and nutritious food drives. This is an opportunity for you and your congregation to engage in a friendly competition with other Lutherans across the valley, while working to fulfill our Lord's call to feed the needy. While our initial results are in, the drive will continue throughout the month of August. Final results will be tabulated and reported as quickly as possible, followed by the naming of the champion. (The real winners, after all, are the people that have full bellies as a result of your thoughtfulness.)

This year we're doing something a little different. While we know the passion that our local congregations have for peanut butter, our stocks are actually much better this year than in past years. Instead, we're hoping that you can help us instead with items of particular need: small bags of rice and small bags of flour, **between two and four pounds**.

In addition, financial contributions from individuals may be directed toward the drive and, due to LSSN's ability to purchase food at discount prices, will be credited toward the congregation at a rate of \$1 equaling 3 pounds of food. Please make sure to list clearly which congregation your contribution should be credited toward.

To participate in the drive, bring your food donations to church. Every donation makes a tremendous difference in the lives of hungry people in our community, so please give generously. Updates as to current standings will be posted regularly on our website, Facebook page, and posted in future e-newsletters.

Look for the Donation Station at your local church.

MGM Resorts Foundation Awards Multiple Grants to LSSN



Continuing their long history of friendship with LSSN, the MGM Resorts Foundation recently awarded us two separate grants. The first, in the amount of \$55,000.00, will support our social services case management and the staff that assists our clients. The second, in the amount of \$9,237.00, will fund a cutting-edge upgrade to our client processing database, providing individual photo identification cards to each client and allowing us to cut our client processing time dramatically.

LSSN is touched by the continued thoughtfulness of the MGM Resorts Foundation, and we would like to offer our most sincere thanks as they help us to make a real difference in the lives of those whom we serve.

US Bancorp Foundation Awards \$5,000 Grant to LSSN



LSSN is pleased to report that we recently received a \$5,000 grant from the US Bancorp Foundation. The grant will make a serious impact in the lives of the clients that we serve by generally assisting the services that we offer.

LSSN is grateful to the US Bancorp Foundation for their support and partnership of our work in the community, and we would like to offer our most sincere thanks for their thoughtfulness.

Back to School Backpack & School Supplies Donations Needed



Every year, LSSN provides backpacks to area children filled with everything they will need to start the school year right, and our drive for backpacks and supplies is on! The drive will be active until August 25th. We are asking for backpacks, paper, folders, and other school supplies associated with age groups ranging from Kindergarten to 12th grade. Items can be collected at standard congregational food pickup locations, or delivered directly to LSSN at 51 N. Pecos Road.

Our goal for this year is 150 full backpacks! Thank you for your support!

Are you a Thrivent member?



Are you a Thrivent member? Want to help your favorite Lutheran congregation or organization in a simple and quick way? If so, you may have Thrivent Choice DollarsSM still available to donate! Through the Thrivent Choice program, Thrivent sets aside money for every person that owns one of their policies, annuities, or products. Each member then gets to choose where to send this money without having to make any out-of-pocket donations or fill out any paperwork!

Local Thrivent benefit members have over \$80,000 in their accounts available to be donated!

This is an amazing opportunity to make a real difference in our community!

All it takes is an easy five minute phone call to 1-800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836)

At the prompt, say “Thrivent Choice”, then choose “1” from the next menu. You’ll then be connected with a friendly customer service representative who can answer your questions, check to see if you have any Choice Dollars remaining, and help you send them to the Lutheran congregation or organization of your choice. **That’s all it takes!**

Or, if you prefer, you can also log in at <https://choice.thrivent.com> and go through the process online.

As always, the Lutheran Social Services of Nevada is grateful for your consideration when you make charitable giving plans. If you are a Thrivent Financial member who is eligible to direct Choice DollarsSM, we ask you to consider the Lutheran Social Services of Nevada as you help direct Thrivent Financial’s charitable funds.

If you’d like to make your contributions even more convenient, you can even choose to automatically send Choice DollarsSM to LSSN every month or year using this option!

If you have any questions or encounter any issues with your direction, LSSN Development Director Tom Maatta will be happy to help. He can be reached at 702-807-5707 or thomas@lssnv.org.

**\$500 Voucher for Respite Care Available
for Angels of Care – Home Care!**



In order to make our home care even more accessible and affordable to those in need, LSSN is proud to announce a partnership that provides a free voucher for respite care up to \$500 for those who qualify!

This voucher is available through the wonderful participation of [Helping Hands of Vegas Valley](#)

In order to participate, please download [this form](#) and return it to LSSN's Home Care Coordinator by e-mail at angelsofcare@lssnv.org or via fax to 702-639-1736.

Questions about the voucher program can be directed to the above information or to Helping Hands of Vegas Valley at 702-633-7264.

What does Home Care consist of?

Home Care is the term we use at Angels of Care-Home Care to describe all services provided to the client at home.

Our services include:

Homemaking Services can encompass planning & preparation of meals, along with routine housekeeping activities such as making/changing beds, dusting, vacuuming, washing floors, cleaning kitchen and bathroom, and laundry.

Companion/Sitter Services includes non-medical care, socialization and basic supervision to ensure a client's safety and well-being. Companions may provide light housekeeping tasks, which are secondary to the care and supervision of the client.

Respite Services are services furnished on a short-term basis because of the absence or need for relief of those persons normally providing the care.

If you know of anyone who might be in the neighborhood for home care services, or if you would like more information, please check our website at http://www.lssnv.org/home_care.php.

Would you like to join us in expressing the love of Christ by serving and caring for those in need?

Food donations are collected at many congregations or may be delivered to LSSN.

Financial contributions may be mailed to LSSN, PO Box 2079, Las Vegas, NV 89125.

Online secure donations can also be made at https://www.lssnv.org/secure_donate.php.

Thank you for your support!

Please note that Derrick Felder is the contact for food pick-up scheduling.
He can be reached at derrick@lssnv.org or 702-639-1730, ext. 16.

LSSN has a particular need for the pantry of small bags of rice and flour, between 2 and 4 pounds, as well as a distinct need for bottled water during the summer months.

Our August Food Theme is in concert with our summer food competition (rice and flour).

Our theme for September is all about the children: "Pink and Blue". Suggested items are anything baby-related: food, formula, diapers, bottles, wipes, lotion, soap, and the like.

Our theme for October is "Autumn Harvestfest". Suggested items are potatoes (fresh or canned), canned green beans, corn, peas, beets, sauerkraut, egg noodles, gravy (mixes or in a jar), vienna sausage (or other non-perishable sausage), apple juice, applesauce, and gingerbread. Stuffing is also appreciated, as we get ready for Thanksgiving.

"Expressing the love of Christ by serving and caring for people in need."

Lutheran Social Services of Nevada
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