



**Lutheran Children  
and Family Service**

*Connecting People – Creating Change*



## **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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### **LCFS RECEIVES THREE YEAR GRANT FOR IMMIGRANT HEALTH INITIATIVE**

**PHILADELPHIA, PA (APRIL 12<sup>TH</sup>, 2008)** – Lutheran Children and Family Service (LCFS), an affiliate of Liberty Lutheran Services, recently received a multi-year grant from The Pew Charitable Trust to serve immigrant children and their families in Southeastern Pennsylvania. The \$140,000 award will support LCFS' ongoing efforts to promote greater utilization of behavioral health services by refugee and immigrant children and their families.

The three year grant from The Pew Charitable Trusts, announced March 30, 2010, will allow LCFS to provide trainings to over 500 school personnel and social service staff members across the five-county region. These workshops will increase understanding of the unique behavioral health concerns that affect immigrant children and youth, and improve mainstream providers' capacity to effectively recognize and respond more appropriately to the behavioral health needs of these families. In addition, LCFS will provide intensive case management, referral and follow-up services to 60 vulnerable children and youth each year to help them obtain necessary treatment services.

Many of the immigrant families served by LCFS are victims of torture or refugees that have been forced to flee their home countries because of violence and persecution. LCFS Executive Director Richard Gitlen states, "We are extremely appreciative of the continued support of The Pew Charitable Trusts, which allows us to provide services to this very vulnerable and underserved population in our community."

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The PEW Charitable Trusts ([www.pewtrusts.org](http://www.pewtrusts.org)) is driven by the power of knowledge to solve today's most challenging problems. Pew applies a rigorous, analytical approach to improve public policy, inform the public and stimulate civic life. Pew partners with a diverse range of donors, public and private organizations and concerned citizens who share a commitment to fact-based solutions and goal-driven investments to improve society.

Lutheran Children and Family Service (LCFS) of Eastern Pennsylvania, an affiliate of Liberty Lutheran Services, has been bringing hope and opportunity to children and families in need since 1922. LCFS offers an array of services to vulnerable children and families including foster care, group care, adoption, in-home services, after-school programs, parenting education, immigrant services and resettlement of refugees. By strengthening thousands of families, LCFS builds stronger, more caring communities throughout the Delaware Valley.

Liberty Lutheran Services is a broad array of faith-based services delivered by a team of world-class employees. Comprised of the non-profit organizations of Artman Lutheran Home, Paul's Run Retirement Community, Lutheran Children and Family Service, and Liberty at Home, LLS serves approximately 21,000 individuals annually throughout Southeastern Pennsylvania. The organizations of LLS have a combined 200 years of service for children, families, and older adults. Caring communities are built by Lutheran congregations to serve all people, regardless of age, gender, race, religion, country of origin, ethnicity, disability, or sexual orientation. For more information about Liberty Lutheran Services and their mission, please visit [www.libertylutheran.org](http://www.libertylutheran.org).

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