

2018 IMPACT REPORT

A photograph of a woman with curly hair, wearing a patterned orange and black dress, sitting on the grass and holding a baby. The baby is wearing a white shirt and red and white striped pants, and is holding a pair of glasses. The background is a blurred green field with trees.

 **Lutheran Family Services**
of Nebraska, Inc.

Lutheran Family
Services of Nebraska is
dedicated to ensuring
the safety, hope and
well-being of all people.
Guided by the values
of diversity, integrity
and collaboration,
LFS anticipates and
responds to ever-
evolving client needs
through proven
programming and
services that strengthen
individuals, families
and communities.

2018 At-A-Glance

Quick Facts

18
Offices

340
Staff Members

Children's Services

2,127 clients served in 2018

- **936** helped along the path to wellness through therapy with LFS therapists and RSafe® counseling
- **147** children supported in reunification with love and care from **48** LFS foster homes

Community Services

8,457 clients served in 2018

- **401** New Americans welcomed to a new life in Nebraska

Behavioral Health

- **11,171** individuals served through a continuum of Behavioral Health Services

This is Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska:

*impacting so many lives — in so many communities —
because of committed staff, volunteers and donors
across Nebraska and beyond.*

From the President & CEO

During my first year with LFS, I have seen and felt our impact time and time again, most recently with the hundreds of people we helped following the devastating floods in our state.

We were – and continue to be – right alongside our neighbors who are rebuilding their lives and establishing a new normal. It doesn't always take a natural disaster to upend a person's life – but as you'll see in this report, LFS remains a steady force in guiding families all across the state to a future that they define as successful.



We're here to walk with people on their journey to independence and fulfilling lives. We assist moms and dads in becoming the best parents they can be, we help people from all over the globe establish a new life in Nebraska, and we accompany children along the path to healing following abuse and trauma – just to name a few of the many ways LFS changes lives for the better.

LFS' hallmark is putting people first. Awards, recognition and accolades are nice, but what really matters to each and every one of us who is connected to LFS are the families we support. Every situation is different, and we are able to personalize our care to lift each individual to the next step in their life.

We provide this individualized care to nearly 50,000 Nebraska and western Iowa residents. Our work revolves around our strong faith and love for all people. Our impact is so vast because of the dedication and commitment from our staff, volunteers and donors. The community of support that has been built around LFS over our 126-year history is nothing short of remarkable.

Thank you for being an important part of our incredible organization – we couldn't do our life-changing work without you.

A handwritten signature in black ink, which appears to read "Stacy Martin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and "M".

Stacy Martin, President and CEO

“I connected with LFS at a shelter, and they helped me put together a resume, navigate the job market, and apply for jobs. And after I was hired, they got me and Shaylee into an apartment!”

- Susan



657

Children helped along the path to wellness through therapy with LFS therapists



433

Families moved from crisis to stability with help from the Centers for Healthy Families



147

Children supported in reunification with love and care from 48 LFS foster homes



100%

Of adoptive families (153) maintained parenting commitment, remaining together because of Right Turn® intervention and support



279

Children moved toward hope and healing through RSafe® counseling for sexual abuse

Susan's Journey to Success

When five-year-old Shaylee and her mom Susan were evicted from their home, they had nowhere to live – no family or friends could help them out. They were quite literally on the street. Susan ended up finding a shelter for the both of them, and while there, she connected with LFS.

With help from LFS, Susan put together a resume, navigated the job market, and, for the first time, began applying for jobs. Accompanying and assisting Susan along the way, LFS helped land Susan a position at a hospital – a job with benefits and enough in salary to afford Susan the ability to get back into an apartment, furnished by dedicated and generous LFS volunteers.

And if those accomplishments weren't enough, in addition to working full-time and actively parenting Shaylee, Susan earned her Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) certificate. With the support of knowledgeable LFS counselors and other service professionals, Susan's journey to self-sustainability is something to celebrate.

Making sure families have the resources they need to provide safe, permanent, healthy homes.

PREVENTION & EARLY INTERVENTION

- Centers for Healthy Families (North Omaha, Pottawattamie County and Fremont)
- Learning Community of Douglas and Sarpy Counties Family Liaison Program

PERMANENCY & WELL-BEING

- Adoption
- Adoption Search
- Foster Care
- In-Home Services
- Maternal Health Care
- Pregnancy Counseling
- Right Turn® (Support for post-adoptive & guardianship parents; a partnership with Nebraska Children's Home Society)

CHILDREN'S BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- Children & Youth Mental Health
- KidSquad
- RSafe® (Sexual abuse treatment)

Welcoming and providing comprehensive services to people seeking refuge from violence, oppression and persecution.

Mujib's Determination Pays Off

Mujib arrived in the U.S. in 2016. Before leaving Afghanistan, he worked for 10 years as a civil engineer. He came to San Diego on a special visa to help build micro hydro-power plants. Once that work ended, he began working at a gas station. Unfortunately, that work was not enough to support his family. Determined to make his family's life in America the best it could possibly be, Mujib moved his family to Nebraska, where he had heard that people were friendly, jobs easier to find and life much more affordable than California.

The moment Mujib arrived in Omaha, he connected with "the Lutherans" (LFS) because he had heard that LFS helps newcomers find work and helps newly-arrived families make Nebraska home. With assistance from LFS case workers, Mujib started looking for work. He learned from his savvy LFS case worker that he needed AutoCAD Civil 3D experience, or he would never be able to get back

NEW POPULATIONS

- Refugee Reception & Placement
- International Center of the Heartland
- Refugee Education & Employment
- Refugee Support Program (Lincoln)
- Careers and Connections
- Employment First
- Global Language Solutions (Interpretation)
- Immigration Legal Services

into his engineering profession. Never one to be discouraged, with the help of LFS, Mujib enrolled in Metropolitan Community College to earn the required certifications needed for civil engineering in the U.S. Mujib attended school full-time and still supported his family, working as a driver.

Mujib's hard work and determination paid off. Mujib is now a CAD technician at an Omaha engineering firm. He is in the profession he loves, utilizing his previous work experience and continuing to expand his knowledge while supporting his family.



“

When I arrived in Omaha, I heard that LFS helps newcomers find work and make Nebraska home. My caseworker helped me get enrolled in college and support my family.

- Mujib

”



401

People fleeing war and persecution welcomed to Nebraska



2,587

People new to Nebraska established connections to the community, contributing skills and strengths of their own



3,592

People learned English, gained employment experience and achieved promotions through education and employment services



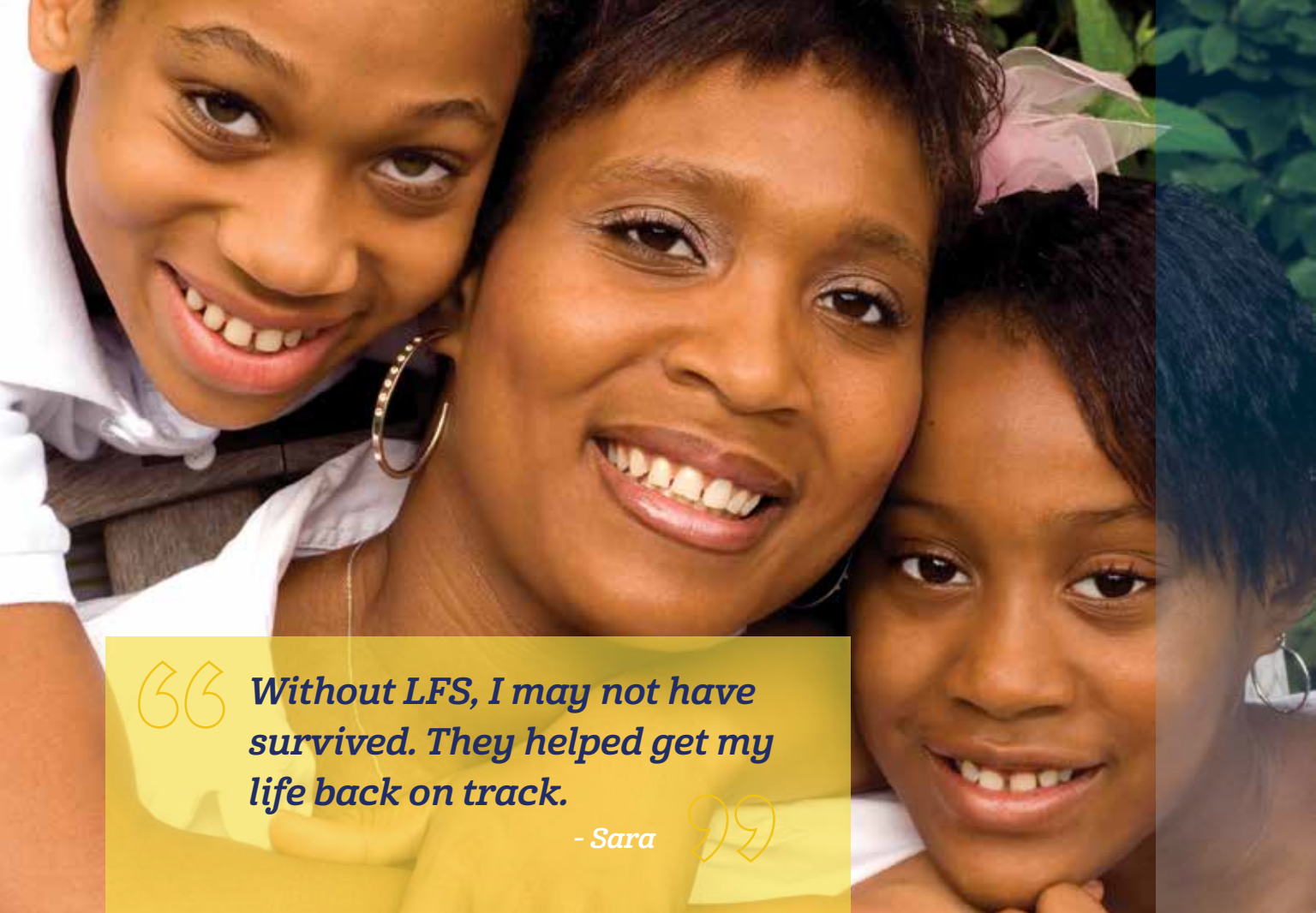
396

Individuals and families became U.S. citizens or were reunited with family through immigration legal services



22

Languages and dialects offered through LFS interpreters



“Without LFS, I may not have survived. They helped get my life back on track.”
- Sara



1,663

People helped in times of need, despair and trauma by LFS Mental Health Counselors



779

People received immediate help moving from crisis to safety



1,915

People worked to manage and gain freedom from substance use through LFS treatment and care



637

Veterans and their loved ones helped through the LFS Military & Veterans Services program through Peer Support and therapeutic services provided by LFS



921

People with persistent mental illness supported in independent living through LFS community support services

Sara's Story of Survival

After escaping a dangerous and violent relationship, Sara found herself homeless.

Seeking an escape with no financial resources and no knowledge of available services, she, like many, turned to drugs and alcohol. Soon, Sara found herself addicted to meth and alcohol. Coupled with her substance abuse were Sara's untreated mental health issues. Because of her situation and her addiction problems, her children were placed into foster care. Not sure what to do or where to go for help, Sara connected with LFS, and with the help of LFS' knowledgeable professionals, Sara got her life back on track.

Over the next year, Sara worked hard to get clean and sober. Today she is employed, happy and healthy. She is actively mothering her children in nurturing ways and continues to make progress toward reunifying soon as a family unit. Sara continues to meet with her LFS Community Support Specialist to set life goals that will allow her and her children to thrive.

Without LFS, Sara says she may not have survived. Instead, she is more than surviving and well on her way to thriving.

Healing minds and hearts through cutting-edge trauma therapy, effective substance use treatment and integrated care services.

ADULT BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

- Outpatient Mental Health
- Substance Use Treatment
- Community Support
- Crisis Response
- LFS Military & Veterans Services (For active military, veterans and their loved ones)
- Medication Management
- Partners in Empowerment and Recovery (PIER)
- Targeted Adult Service Coordination (TASC)
- Urgent Care Josiah Place (Housing for those with severe and persistent mental illness)

Every gift of every size makes a difference

Through philanthropy we are able to help families become stronger, mentor refugees and heal veterans who have suffered trauma. Our client-centered care is seen and felt across our state and beyond.

Every gift of every size makes a difference in shaping our state and region into the best place for individuals and families to thrive. We build healthy families by providing critical services that contribute to economic stability in our communities. We understand what our community needs are and how to meet them. We are strong, with deep partnerships and in-depth insights of our communities and what their needs are. We accompany thousands of people each year, helping them move from merely surviving to thriving.

The need to help others continues to grow. Each year brings new challenges to meet and new issues to resolve.

Thanks to generous donors and supporters like you, we can address the root of these problems and make sure families have a solid foundation in which to do more than just meet those challenges. We are addressing the root of these problems and making sure families have a solid foundation in which to build successful lives. Your time, talent and treasure allow us to create strong families and healthy futures. We find profound joy in knowing that we can count on you as difference makers for those who need it most today and into the future.



HOW CAN I Invest?



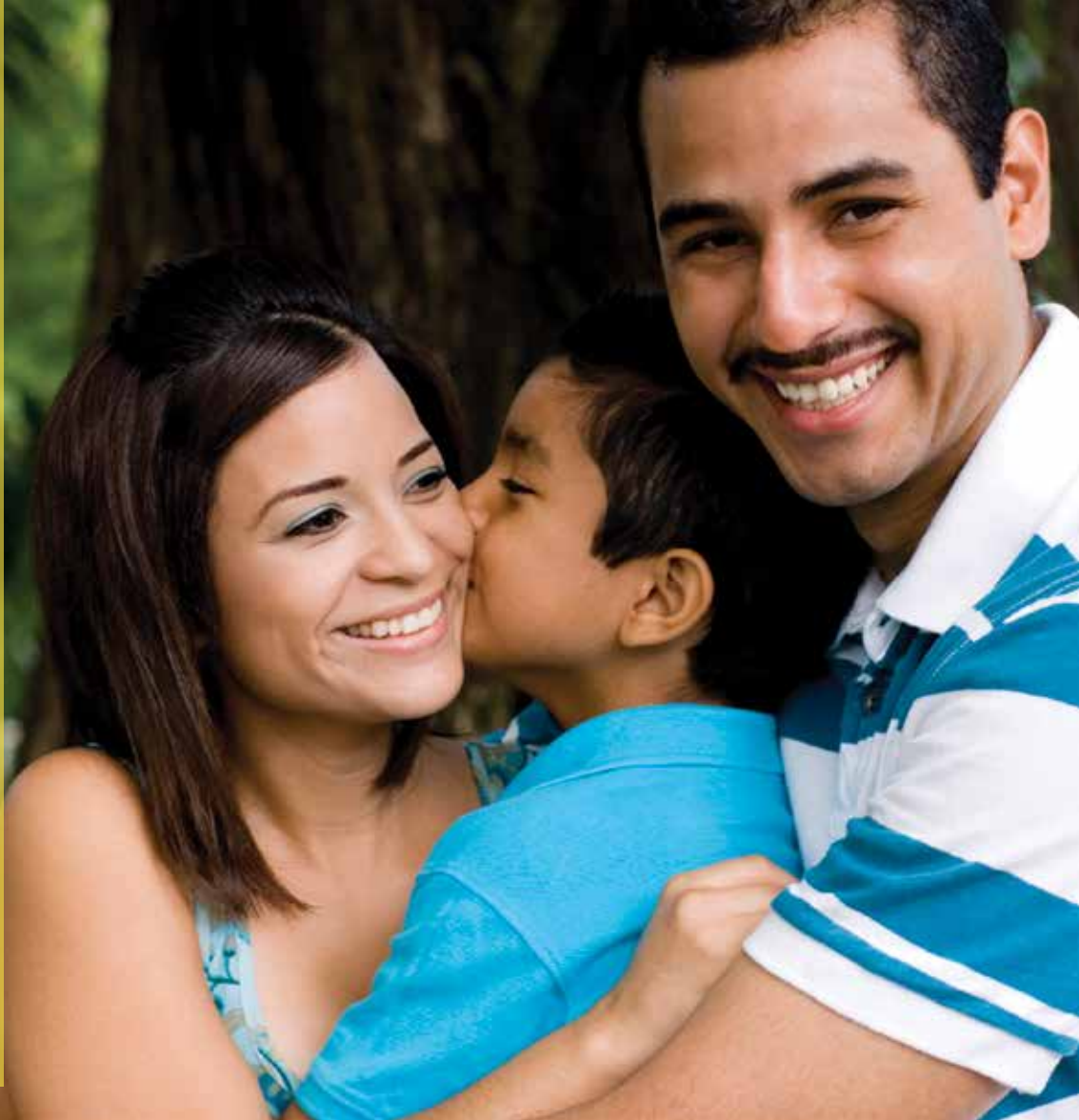
Donate



Serve



Provide
a Legacy

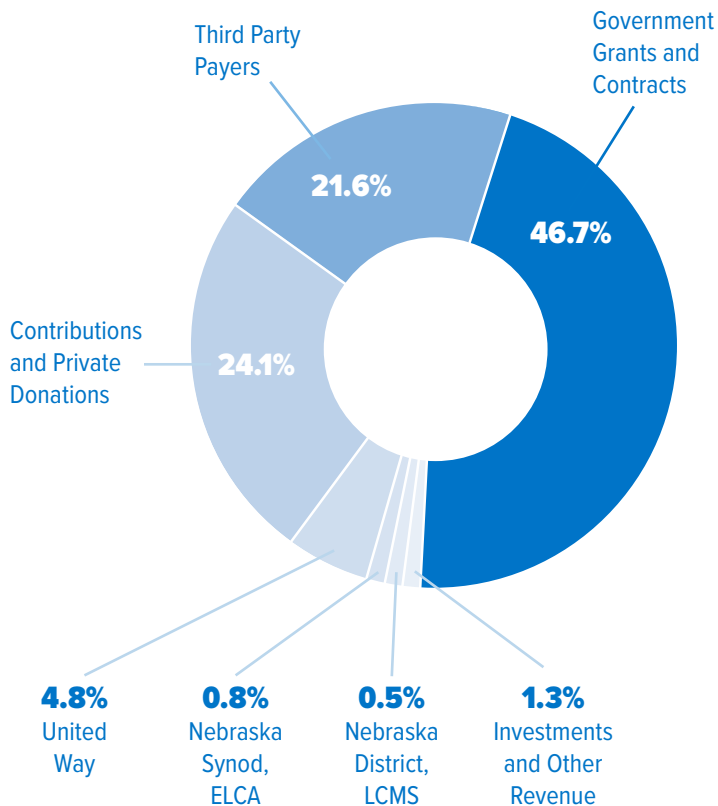


Some of the many ways Nebraskans invested in LFS in 2018, left to right: Check presentation as part of Fremont Area Big Give; Check presentation on Giving Tuesday; Hy-Vee Lincoln register donations to LFS' Health 360 Integrated Care Clinics; Omaha Diapers & Donuts Drive; and the Youth Leadership Omaha Grant.

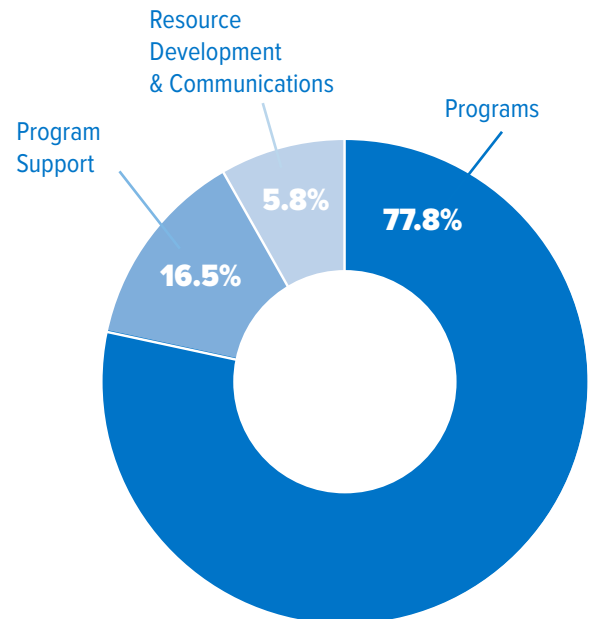
Financials

Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska, Inc.* for the year ending December 31, 2018

Operating Support & Revenue \$20,215,204



Operating Expenditures \$21,745,760



* Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska, Inc. has affiliate corporations including Lutheran Family Services Foundation, Inc., Omaha Church Center, Inc. (the property holding and building management affiliate) and LFS 25th Avenue Apartments, LLC, with total combined net assets of \$14,720,632 including investment and capital assets. In 2018, net assets for these affiliates decreased by \$1,530,556.

Leadership

Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska Board of Directors:

- Greg Schilling – Chair
- Susan Lewis – Vice Chair
- Rafael Maldonado III – Chair,
Governance Committee
- Christopher Tonniges – Chair,
Finance Committee & Treasurer
- Stacy Martin – Secretary
- Teresa Anderson
- Connie Duncan
- Pam Hitchens
- Calli Hite
- Bishop Brian Maas
(Nebraska Synod, ELCA)
- Rev. Richard Snow
(President, Nebraska District, LCMS)

Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska Foundation Board of Directors:

- Terry McClain – Chair
- Greg Schilling – Vice Chair
- Peter W. Zandbergen – Treasurer/
Assistant Secretary
- Parker Schenken – Secretary
- Phyllis Choat
- Larry Novicki

Josiah Place Board of Directors:

*North Platte housing for those with
severe and persistent mental illness*

- Craig Stirtz – Chair
- Jim Nisley – Vice Chair
- Richard Henrichs – Treasurer
- Daniel S. Mauk – Secretary
- Edwin D. Schoening

Omaha Church Center Board of Directors:

*The property holding and building management
affiliate of Lutheran Family Services of
Nebraska, Inc.*

- Edwin D. Schoening – Chair
- Herb Barelman – Vice Chair
- Christopher Tonniges – Treasurer
- Susan Lewis
- Stacy Martin
- Greg Schilling

LFS Leadership:

- Stacy Martin – President & CEO
- Mosah Goodman – Chief Operating Officer
& Vice President of Legal
- Donna Magnuson – Chief Program Officer
- Mark Versen – Chief Development Officer
- Maureen Smallwood – Controller

We Invite You To...

Act

Call (402) 978-5665 or
email volunteer@LFSneb.org



**Organize your
colleagues
or congregation
to support a
refugee family**



**Mentor a child
aging out of
foster care
or a refugee**



**Donate new
items for
children
under five**

Donate

Call (402) 978-5622,
email development@LFSneb.org,
or donate at LFSneb.org



Cash Gifts



**Bequests or
Estate Gifts**



**Gifts of
Stock**



**Employer
Matching Gifts**



**Gifts of
Grain**

Support

Sign up with our giving partners to
automatically donate a percentage
of your purchases or investments to
LFS at no cost to you!



smile.amazon.com



[bakersplus.com/
communityrewards](http://bakersplus.com/communityrewards)



thrivent.com/choice

Engage

Connect with us on social media



[/LFSNeb](https://www.facebook.com/LFSNeb)



[@LFSNeb](https://twitter.com/LFSNeb)



[info@
LFSneb.org](mailto:info@LFSneb.org)



[/LFSNeb](https://www.linkedin.com/company/LFSNeb)

A photograph of a woman with voluminous curly hair and sunglasses, smiling while holding a young child. The scene is set outdoors during sunset, with warm golden light illuminating the subjects. The woman is wearing a dark top with a bright orange and yellow pattern. The child is wearing a white shirt and red and white striped shorts. The background is a soft, out-of-focus landscape.

Mission

Expressing God's love for all people
by providing quality human care
services that build and strengthen
individual, family and community life

Vision

Safety, Hope & Well-Being
for All People

Values

Diversity, Integrity
and Collaboration

Locations

Bellevue · Blair · Fremont
Grand Island · Lexington
Lincoln · North Platte · Omaha
Council Bluffs, IA · Wichita, KS

*A special thanks to our models
whose photos help us honor the
confidentiality of our clients.*

Lutheran Family Services *of Nebraska, Inc.*

124 South 24th Street, Suite 230
Omaha, NE 68102
(402) 342-7038 • LFSneb.org



Lutheran Church - Missouri
Synod, Nebraska District
Recognized Service Organization



Evangelical Lutheran Church
in America Affiliated Social
Ministry Organization



United Way Agency



Lutheran Immigration &
Refugee Service Affiliate



Church World Service
Affiliate



Lutheran Services in
America Member