

"What LSS has done for me personally goes so far beyond simple expenditures that even to list such things would be doing them a disservice. LSS has pushed me, supported me, helped me and looked after me in ways no one ever has before....What has LSS given me? LSS has given me the chance to find out who I am and what I can do." - Daniel, LSS Client

According to recent reports, California has over 86,000 children living in a fractured and inconsistent foster care system. The California Department of Social Services reports that more than 60 percent of the children placed in foster homes have been physically or emotionally neglected or abandoned.

When these children age out of the foster care system, they become "independent" without access to formal systems of support. Emancipated foster youth are at extreme risk of poverty and homelessness. They are also more vulnerable to victimization and criminal involvement, illness, early childbirth, and low educational attainment. In Los Angeles, 45 percent of emancipated foster youth are homeless within one year.

With your support, Lutheran Social Services of Northern California is able to provide critical community services to over 2000 clients in Northern California, including youth leaving the foster care system.

LSS case managers do many kinds of life skills training, including household cleaning, grocery shopping, money management and budgeting. LSS staff also helps clients create a positive support system. The program assists them in moving to an independent apartment and provides intensive case management services to help them achieve their goals and remain in permanent housing.

We are so grateful for your generosity, which has enabled clients like Daniel to achieve their goals. Your prayers and financial contributions make a huge difference in their lives.

For more information about Lutheran Social Services, please visit our website at www.lssnorcal.org.

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