



100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20002
t] 800.664.3848
f] 202.544.0890
w] www.lutheranservices.org

For Immediate Release

**Lutheran Services in America Selected by The Annie E. Casey Foundation
to Participate in Provider Exchange**

Program Aims to Improve Lives of At-Risk Children and Families Throughout the U.S.

May 25, 2015 (Washington, D.C.) – Lutheran Services in America (LSA) announced it has been invited by The Annie E. Casey Foundation to participate in the Provider Exchange®, a network of child welfare providers that commit their work to improve the lives of children and families. The LSA cohort of providers will create evidence-based practices and outcomes-guided programs to improve the well-being and lives of at-risk youth and families across the United States.

LSA members participating in the Provider Exchange® will receive technical assistance from Dr. Laura Heintz, CEO of Stanford Youth Solutions, and the designated Provider Exchange® Peer Consultant Lead. The first convening of the cohort was held May 24, 2015, during LSA’s Annual Conference. In addition to the individualized coaching, consultation, and support from the Provider Exchange®, the cohort will convene four times over the next year to share learnings and innovations. This collective work is made possible through generous support of The Annie E. Casey Foundation and a companion grant from the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) Lutheran Services for Children Endowment.

“The LSA network is thrilled to have the opportunity to work with The Annie E. Casey Foundation to form a learning cohort and partner with the Provider Exchange®,” said Charlotte Haberaecker, president and CEO of Lutheran Services in America. “This partnership is an opportunity for our members to learn from and with each other as we work to provide innovative programs that transform the trajectory of at risk families and foster youth, with the support of a national foundation and the insight of experts from Stanford Youth Solutions. Each year, thousands of children, youth and families are served by our members in communities around the country, and by collaborating we can not only improve the effectiveness of our efforts, but we can identify and expand the programs that work best.”

The following LSA member organizations are participating in the Provider Exchange: Lutheran Services Carolinas, Lutheran Services Florida, Inc., Lutheran Services in Iowa, Lutheran Social Services of Indiana, Lutheran Social Services of Michigan, Lutheran Social Services of South Dakota, Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area, Upbring (the new Lutheran Social Services of the South), Lutheran Family Services Rocky Mountains, Lutheran Family Services of Nebraska, Diakon Child, Family & Community Ministries and Lutheran Family Services of Virginia, Inc.

About Lutheran Services in America, Incorporated. Lutheran Services in America (LSA) is one of the largest health and human services networks in the country with more than 300 members that provide a broad range of critical services from health care to children and family services, senior services, disaster relief, refugee services, disability support, housing, and employment support, among others. Collectively, LSA members serve 1 in 50 people in the U.S. each year in thousands of communities across the United States and are open to all regardless of their religious affiliation or social or economic background. With more than 100 LSA members serving children, youth and families in 33 states across the country, the LSA network has a nationwide footprint in child welfare. LSA members provide a broad range of services from foster care and adoption to counseling, housing, health care, mental health care, early childhood education, charter schools, alternatives to detention, Unaccompanied Refugee Minor (URM) foster care programs, and programs for youth aging out of foster care. LSA is affiliated with the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) and The Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod (LCMS). To learn more, please visit www.lutheranservices.org.



100 Maryland Avenue, NE, Suite 500
Washington, DC 20002
t] 800.664.3848
f] 202.544.0890
w] www.lutheranservices.org

The Annie E. Casey Foundation is a private philanthropy that creates a brighter future for the nation's children by developing solutions to strengthen families, build paths to economic opportunity and transform struggling communities into safer and healthier places to live, work and grow. **The Provider Exchange®**, supported by The Annie E. Casey Foundation, is a network of child welfare providers who have successfully negotiated complex change in their own organizations and communities to improve the lives of children and families.

###

Media Contact:

Liliana Pettenkofer

703-965-5953

lpettenkofer@lutheranservices.org