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**LSS/NCA Launches \$2.5 Million Capital Campaign to
Serve More of Washington Area's Marginalized and Vulnerable**

*"Stronger Together" Campaign Will Expand Foster Care Program, Support Children
Affected by HIV, Provide Educational Scholarships for Refugees*

(Washington, DC) – Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area (LSS/NCA) today announced a \$2.5 million comprehensive campaign to dramatically expand the organization's capability to serve Washington-area residents who are most in need. The campaign is the first-ever in the organization's nearly 100-year history.

"Demands for our services are increasing; not only are there more people in need, but because of our strong track record, we have been asked by local government leaders to increase our reach and deliver more services," said LSS/NCA CEO Melissa Graves. "Our Stronger Together campaign is absolutely critical if we are to continue improving the lives of our neighbors through compassionate, innovative programming."

LSS/NCA has become a recognized leader among the Washington Metro Region's service providers. With Stronger Together, the organization aims to become the area's "go-to" agency for communities and church congregations striving to address the critical needs of local residents.

Specifically, the Stronger Together capital campaign will enable the organization to:

- Increase the number of neighbors LSS/NCA serves, including **expanding its foster care program by 50%** and **doubling the number of kids attending its Youth Haven Camp** for children infected or affected by HIV;
- **Establish a scholarship program** for post-secondary and vocational schooling for refugee newcomers and children aging out of foster care;

- **Recruit and retain excellent staff** to help create stable, client-oriented relationships and positive, life-lasting effects;
- Work with congregations and communities to identify and **fill service gaps**;
- **Build innovative programs** that have documented impact;
- **Invest in future sustainability** with resources for capital needs and adequate reserves.

In officially launching its campaign, LSS/NCA announced that it had already received \$1 million in campaign pledges.

“We have already generated significant momentum for our Stronger Together campaign,” said Graves. “Decade after decade, LSS/NCA has stepped up to meet the ever-growing needs of our community – thanks to our many, many supporters and donors. We are confident that Stronger Together will be yet one more amazing success story in our organization’s long history.”

To learn more about the Stronger Together campaign and to make a pledge of support, please visit www.LssNca.org/stronger-together

About LSS/NCA

Founded in 1917, Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area (LSS/NCA) walks with our neighbors in need and mobilizes community partners to provide services that offer hope and rebuild lives. Through Adoption & Foster Care, Caregiver Support Refugee & Immigrant Services, and Youth Haven Camps & Retreats LSS/NCA bring wholeness and justice to the Washington Metro Area’s marginalized and most vulnerable. Learn more about LSS/NCA by visiting our webpage: www.LssNca.org

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