

Lutheran Social Services of  
North Florida



606 W 4<sup>th</sup> Ave, Suite 11  
Tallahassee, FL 32303

Fall 2017

2017/2018  
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# The Faithful Servant

## A Message from the President



I would like to dedicate this Fall 2017 newsletter to the man who in the late 1980s envisioned a Lutheran organization that would serve unmet social service needs in Tallahassee and its environs. Today it is known as Lutheran Social Services of North Florida. Pastor Bernie Kurzweg joined his maker this past September but will forever be lovingly remembered for his countless good deeds and kind words. I recall those exciting early days meeting at Epiphany Lutheran Church hashing out how LSSNF could serve low-income people in-need. We started out with a Wheat Ridge grant and donations from local Lutheran churches. LSSNF has experienced many changes over the years but is still dedicated to Pastor Kurzweg's compassionate vision. **Pastor Bernie's legacy lives on!**

I recently rejoined the LSSNF Board of Directors and was selected to be its President, despite frequent travels from home. I served in that same capacity 20 some years ago and am humbled to follow in the footsteps of my recent predecessors, Mark Heidorn, Gary Ranzinger, and Emily Millett. I'm honored to be serving with an awesome Board of Directors that reflects a wide variety of backgrounds and skill-sets. As I get up to speed, I'm grateful for the high level of competency and dedication of the LSSNF staff, the efforts of our many volunteers, the assistance of our collaborating partner agencies, and the generosity of our many friends. This newsletter will update you on our current programs and activities which we will soon follow up with an end of year appeal. I invite you to engage with LSSNF by volunteering, attending our functions, donating electronics to be refurbished, and by giving generously to support our mission. If you have questions or suggestions, please contact LSSNF at (850) 575-4309. On behalf of LSSNF, I wish you and your family a blessed Christmas and fulfilling 2018.

*Janet Barber, LSSNF Board President*

# LSSNF Launches Two New Programs!



## Better Angels Senior Housing

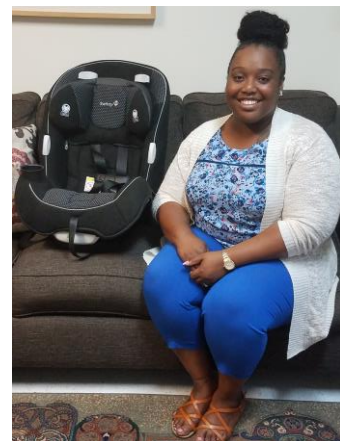
In September the Better Angels senior housing program began welcoming residents to its newly remodeled apartments designed for local low-income senior citizens capable of living independently. These individuals and families now have a safe, high-quality, service-enriched, affordable place to call home. The mission of the Better Angels senior housing program is to ensure that this elderly population can live with dignity, acceptance, a lack of isolation, and neighborly love and support.

The extensive renovation of the Better Angels apartments located at 606 W 4<sup>th</sup> Ave is almost complete. As of November 2017, two apartments remain to be remodeled. If you would like to contribute towards that end, we, and our elderly residents, would consider that a great blessing.



## KidSafe

The KidSafe child safety seat program began distributing new, high-quality child safety seats to low-income families in Leon County and the surrounding area in April 2017. Thanks to this program, these families now have access to the very necessary, legally mandated, child safety seats that will serve children from infancy to five years of age. Safety seats can be an expense that families experiencing homelessness or economic hardship may struggle to afford. The mission of the KidSafe program is to ensure that all families, regardless of income, have access to this critical family safety device which allows them to transport their children securely.



Lutheran Social Services of  
North Florida

INVITES YOU TO JOIN OUR  
**CROWDFUNDING TEAM**

Help provide car seats to low-income families, allowing them to safely, and legally, transport their children!



Nov. 6<sup>th</sup> – Dec. 22<sup>nd</sup>

The project is live at:

<https://tinyurl.com/KidSafeCrowdfunding>

More information is available at:

<http://facebook.com/LSSNF> and

<http://lssnf.org>



a Christian Crowd-funding website, hosted by the Lutheran organization, Wheat Ridge Ministries



The **Computer Refurbishing and Technical Assistance** program distributes refurbished computers to low and extremely low-income individuals, families, veterans, and the disabled helping them cross the Digital Divide. The CARTA program utilizes donated computers and student volunteers / interns.

**The CARTA program would like to thank our many donors, grantors, and friends!**

Capital City Bank Foundation • Wells Fargo Foundation • Tyndall Federal Credit Union • Tallahassee Sunrise Rotary • Leon County • The following State of Florida Departments: Elder Affairs, Health, Environmental Protection, Revenue, Education, & Law Enforcement • Lock'D Computer Solutions • Mainline Information Systems • The Earl Bacon Agency • Berger Singerman LLP • Novey Law Firm • Novey Animal Hospital • Rogers, Gunter, Vaughn Insurance • Paul A. Posey & Co. • Leon County Clerk of Courts • Rapid Refill Tallahassee • Fonvielle, Lewis, Footer, & Messer • TalTech Alliance • Partners Bridging the Digital Divide • and many other thoughtful and generous businesses and individuals!

# We are Very Thankful for Our CARTA Interns!



LSSNF's CARTA program is proud of, thankful for, and wants to congratulate, our many student interns who have worked with us in 2016/2017 refurbishing computers for ownership by local low-income individuals and families. Along with the interns from FSU, TCC, and FAMU, we want to highlight and thank the extraordinary young people who came to us through collaboration with Ability 1<sup>st</sup> and their High School High Tech program. These high school students with disabilities did a tremendous job refurbishing computers which they could either choose to keep for their

families or distribute via non-profit human service agencies. CARTA interns gain experience and build their resumes as they enhance their skills and move on towards technology related studies and careers. Lutheran Social Services of North Florida and the CARTA computer recipients benefit greatly from the hard work, time, and dedication of these student interns!

# Save the Date!

YOU'RE A GOOD MAN,  
CHARLIE BROWN



Ticket Price For This Show  
\$20.00 per person, all seating  
(includes show and refreshments)

Underwriting Support Levels

**Bronze:** \$100

**Silver:** \$250

**Gold:** \$500

**Platinum:** \$1,000

The Young Actor's Theater will present a benefit performance of

## You're a Good Man, Charlie Brown

for the programs of LSSNF on Sunday, April 8, 2018 at 7:00pm. Please help Lutheran Social Services by supporting this production. Please join us before the show and during the intermission for refreshments and camaraderie beginning at 6pm! For more information about purchasing tickets or underwriting, please call (850) 575-4309 or email [info@lssnf.org](mailto:info@lssnf.org)

**Remember to Join Us!**

December 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> at John

Wesley

United

Methodist

Church for

this year's



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