



WHERE LIFE STORIES TAKE SHAPE

At LSS we are passionate about making a difference in South Dakota communities and addressing emerging community needs. We believe a focus on services that strengthen families and help keep youth at home and in their community will help attain our vision for South Dakota—that all South Dakotans will be healthy, safe and accepted.

Visit LssSD.org to see where you fit.

LssSD.org
Donate.LssSD.org
800-568-2401



ADOPTION SERVICES

Over the years, LSS has been committed to providing compassionate and non-judgmental services to all those involved in the adoption journey: the birth family, the adoptive family and most importantly the child for whom an adoption plan is being made. At LSS, we help with the adoption of international children and children right here in South Dakota. We are there for every step of the process.

ALTERNATIVES TO DETENTION

Through the Arise Youth Center Reception Center, Evening Report Center & Shelter Care, LSS provides an alternative to detention for youth referred by local law enforcement in Pennington and Minnehaha Counties. Reception Center staff complete screenings. Based on the results, referrals are offered to youth and their families. The youth typically return home with a parent, but when that is not an immediate option the youth may enter Shelter Care. Shelter Care is an alternative to a secure detention facility. Evening Report Center provides group social skills education, an evening meal and transportation after school. Through Street Outreach Services, LSS works with homeless, runaway and street youth to assist in finding safe, stable housing and services to meet their needs.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH

At some point, every individual, couple or family experiences difficulty or seeks an opportunity to grow. Whether dealing with loss, improving family communication or promoting health and wellness in the workplace, the support of caring professional therapists helps individuals live their lives to the fullest. LSS offers mental health and substance use services. Service delivery formats are determined by client needs and include individual, couple, family or group counseling. Services are provided by licensed and certified professionals including counselors and social workers.

CARES WRAPAROUND SERVICES

LSS CARES Wraparound Services supports families in making positive changes. It is an early-intervention service that follows a high fidelity wraparound approach to service delivery by providing care coordination based on the family's strengths and needs. The CARES Wraparound team works with family members to identify needs and make a plan to accomplish their goals.

CENTER FOR FINANCIAL RESOURCES

LSS helps individuals and families get their finances on track, improve money management skills and establish financial priorities through counseling and education. CFR offers individual financial counseling related to budgeting, credit, debt, student loan or housing issues. Financial education may be completed individually or in a group setting; counseling appointments are offered face to face, by phone or online.

CENTER FOR NEW AMERICANS

At the request of the U.S. government, LSS resettles refugees who have been forced to leave their home countries because of religious or political persecution. Working with community support, LSS helps refugees make a successful transition to a new culture and become contributing members of our communities. Refugee resettlement services are designed to encourage early self-sufficiency. LSS provides five core services including community orientation and education, case management, employment services, English language training and immigration services.

MULTI-CULTURAL CENTER

The LSS Multi-Cultural Center serves as a unifying space for a diversifying city. MCC provides cross-cultural educational programming, supports self-reliance through job search services, and bridges communication through interpreter services.

CHILDCARE & EDUCATION SERVICES

LSS emphasizes hands-on, enriching activities that keep children engaged in learning. We know that children learn best when they are having fun. Staff helps each student succeed by providing a caring environment and building strong relationships. At LSS, students learn skills that serve them throughout their lives. LSS offers infant/toddler, preschool, after-school and summer programs. Our Here4Youth location specializes in providing services for youth of all abilities.

DISASTER RESPONSE

When inclement weather like severe storms, tornados, flooding, forest fires, and droughts strike South Dakota, LSS Disaster Response is here to help. LSS works closely with state, local and other faith-based disaster relief programs to assist individuals, families, congregations and communities to work toward long-term recovery.

FOSTER CARE SERVICES

LSS provides temporary care for children with medical, developmental, behavioral and emotional challenges through our treatment and specialized foster care services. Foster families are trained and licensed so the specific needs of these children are met effectively and lovingly.

INDEPENDENT LIVING SERVICES

LSS offers a strong and consistent support system to young adults ages 16 to 21 while they learn skills to be self-sufficient adults. New Alternatives serves young adults ages 18 to 21 who have a serious mental illness and need to learn how to navigate the adult mental health system. The Community Resource Program provides independent living skills through one-to-one education, workshops and conferences. It helps youth access funding for post-secondary education, housing assistance and start-up support for graduating high school seniors. LSS Community Resource staff provides case management support after the youth leave the care and custody of the Department of Social Services.

KINSHIP SERVICES

LSS completes home studies and locator services for the SD Department of Social Services. Kinship locators help to identify relatives of the child and the various ways they may be willing to have involvement in the child's life. Kinship home studies assist DSS with their process of placing children who are in South Dakota's child welfare system with relatives who have a bond or tie with the child or the child's parents.

MENTORING SERVICES

LSS empowers youth to succeed by establishing trusting relationships with adult volunteers. Mentors have a significant impact on youth by increasing self-esteem, providing guidance and developing consistent, long-term friendships.

BETTER TOGETHER

LSS matches volunteers with adults age 65 and older for the purpose of friendship and connecting to the community. In all programs, matches spend approximately four hours together each month.

OLDER ADULT RESOURCE NETWORK

Older adults in rural communities experience greater levels of social isolation and difficulty accessing services and supports they need. LSS is working to engage community partners to address key barriers that older adults face in their care. The goal is to help older adults in Douglas and Charles Mix counties access services and support to successfully age at home.

PREGNANCY COUNSELING

An unintended pregnancy can cause many emotions—and a person may face many decisions. No one should go through a time like this alone. LSS provides free, confidential options counseling to help anyone facing an unintended pregnancy make the best choice for them and their child. Whatever their choice, we're committed to helping the parents and the child before and after the baby is born.

RE-ENTRY SERVICES

LSS offers an array of services to individuals that are involved in the criminal justice system and transitioning from prison, jail or half-way house environments into their home communities. Program services include re-entry support, work training, domestic violence (DV) offender groups, DV offender assessments with recommendations to courts on appropriate interventions, and trauma informed care for women through the Intermediate Correctional Intervention Program in Rapid City.

RESIDENTIAL SERVICES FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

LSS provides treatment for youth who have significant mental health, emotional and behavioral issues. Residential Services provide treatment for youth who cannot function in their home environments and are disruptive in their schools and communities. Residential Services support 24-hour care for boys and girls ages 10 to 17 through two psychiatric residential treatment programs and one group care program located in Aberdeen, Sioux Falls and Spearfish.

RESOURCE FAMILY SERVICES

LSS provides screening, training and assessment to individuals interested in becoming foster or adoptive families for the SD Department of Social Services. Through this contract, LSS partners with the SD Department of Social Services to identify and develop resource families to meet the needs of South Dakota's youth.