



all healthy
all safe
all accepted



all with

2023 Annual Report to Congregations

All With Your Partnership in Healing Outreach

Runaway & Homeless Youth have brighter futures. 93% returned to their family or transitioned to a safe living environment and 100% enrolled in school or a GED program at discharge.

Children & teens are healing from trauma. 89% of youth in Foster Care and 91% of youth in Residential Treatment showed reduced trauma symptoms over the course of their time with LSS.

Mentors are making a difference. 97% of high school mentees are on track to graduate with their class in May and 92% indicate they have improved self-esteem.

Families are safer. 65% of individuals in family violence intervention demonstrate a reduction in criminal thinking. This is a staggering increase of 29% from when the program was transitioned to LSS.

LSS Strategic Plan In Action

This year marked the first year of our new strategic plan in action. Our board of directors, executive team and leadership developed a four-year strategic plan and line of sight that guides our work toward making the greatest contribution to accomplishing our vision that all people in South Dakota will be healthy, safe and accepted.



Rebecca Kiesow-Knudsen
President/CEO

We continue to identify areas for positive impact through listening to unmet community needs, collaboration and strategic priorities that are family-centered and ensure equitable access for those we serve.

Our operational strategies prioritize workforce & inclusivity within our organization and communities, financial viability of the agency and our services, and sharing the positive impact our work makes in the community through storytelling.

This Year At A Glance

Expanded Mentoring Services to serve youth in more communities throughout the state

Strengthened efforts to prioritize family role in an individual's success by elevating youth & family voice

Implemented Strengthening Families, a curriculum that helps build strong communication between parents and their children and helps families navigate conflict

Resettled 197 refugees through traditional resettlement and 290 Ukrainian refugees through Uniting for Ukraine pathways. We are expecting an additional 400 traditional and 50 U4U.