

# Meet Max

13 year old Max has had a truancy problem since he was in kindergarten.

He was the youngest child ever in Truancy Court in his county.

"He is really a very intelligent young man," says his counselor, "but he has never had the encouragement to attend school and take it seriously."

In January, Max was assigned to **Lutheran Service Florida's** program for Children in Need of Services by the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice. In April, Max spent some time at LSF Oasis Youth Shelter in Ft. Myers "to get him adjusted to structure," said his LSF Counselor Larry Barnhill. "After that I began to see a difference. Max started attending school on a regular basis, his grades starting improving, and he became receptive to working on his personal issues with me."

Since that time, Max has been living with his mother and attending counseling sessions weekly at LSF and displays a "positive attitude," according to his counselor. He will be in LSF's CINS/FINS program until he is 18.

In the picture, Max is holding a Third Place award for art that he drew while at LSF's Oasis Youth Shelter and submitted



in a contest held by Florida Network of Youth and Family Services. You can read more about Max at [www.lsfnet.org](http://www.lsfnet.org).

**This is just one story** of changing lives that occurs daily at **Lutheran Services Florida**. Some of the lives we are changing include:

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- *Children needing food*
- *The homeless needing shelter*
- *People with AIDS needing care*
- *The frail elderly needing guardianship*
- *Foster children needing a home*
- *Troubled youth needing direction*
- *Disaster victims needing assistance*



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*changing lives daily*

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