

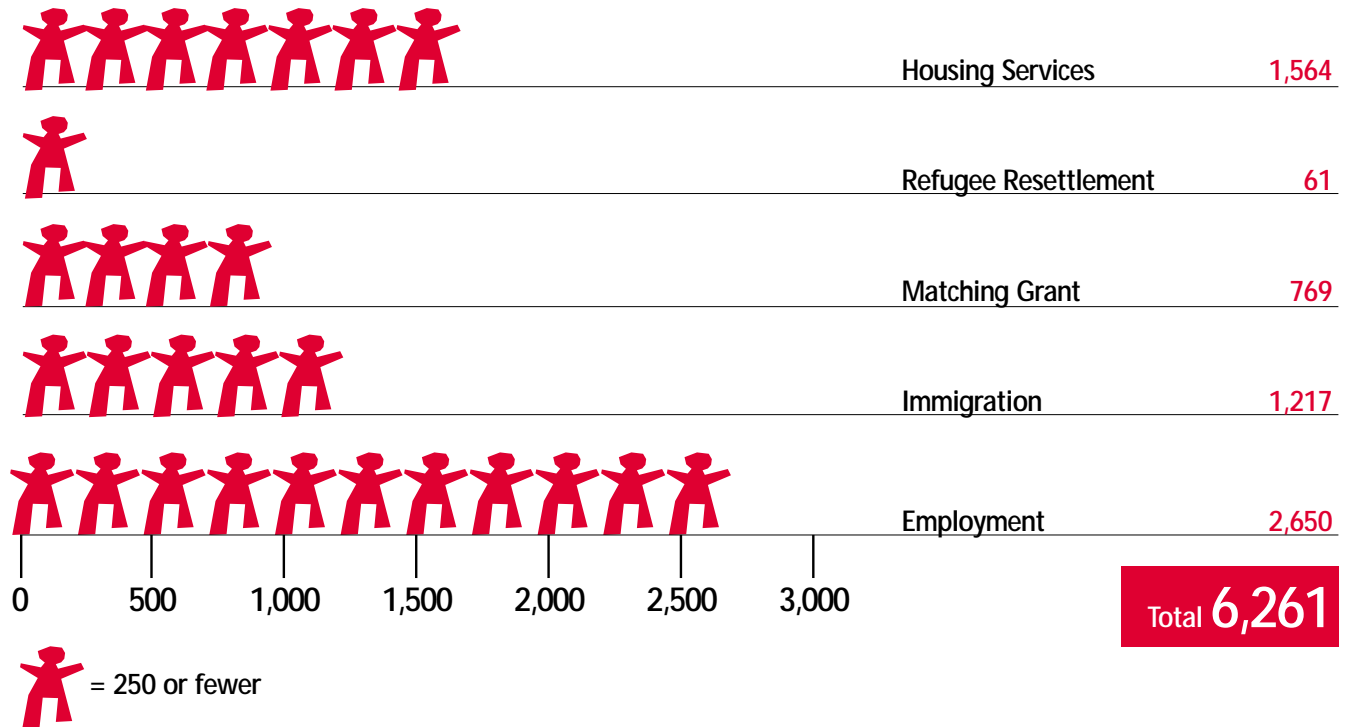
PEOPLE SERVED IN 2004



The LSF Miami-Dade Region serves homeless families with young children, refugees, and immigrants. LSF Case Managers help refugees find homes and jobs, and help them become U.S. citizens.

The LSF Housing Programs provide emergency shelter at Esperanza Center, as well as temporary and permanent housing for eligible families.

Programs



For more information, please call (786) 293-6110

A HOME OF THEIR OWN

son, Jean, is learning skills at Job Corps to help support the family and her 20 year-old daughter, Lucy, is her mother's right hand—always ready to do whatever is needed.

The LSF Case Workers helped Marianne apply for HUD housing and, after being on the waiting list for seven long years, the family recently moved into a permanent home of their own. This was truly a dream come true for Marianne.

Her entire life has been a struggle, but Marianne is truly grateful for what she has and she is always willing to help others in need. After Hurricane Ivan hit Haiti, she gathered donated supplies to send to the victims.

Marianne has achieved her dream to create a better future not only for herself, but for each of her children as well. Because of many long years working hard and the help she received from her friends at Lutheran Services Florida, Marianne has succeeded in improving her life.

She is an inspiration!



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VOL 3 ISSUE 1



A HOME OF THEIR OWN

This is a story about the triumph of the human spirit. When Marianne came to the U.S. from Haiti 20 years ago, she came with the hope of raising her children in freedom. Her life had been filled with poverty and violence, and she wanted her children to have a better life.

Although Marianne couldn't read or write or speak English, she found a cleaning job

shortly after arriving and she kept her job for many years until becoming seriously ill. After having surgery, she could no longer work and was forced to apply for Miami-Dade Public Housing. She was later referred to the **LSF Transitional Housing Program** that provided a temporary home for Marianne and her family.

"The four younger children who are still in school help their mother at home."

While her chronic illness prevented Marianne from holding a full-time job, she still worked hard picking vegetables in the Homestead fields whenever she could. The LSF Case Manager helped Marianne with transportation, food, clothing, and also with managing her meager income.

Marianne passed her strong work ethic on to each of her children who began working while in high school after their classes were over for the day. After graduating, they all found full-time jobs. The four younger children who are still in school help their mother at home. Her 17 year-old

