



LUTHERAN SERVICES FLORIDA



While many of us will be celebrating our freedom and independence next week during the 4th of July, I can't help but think about what's happening at our border.

As an organization with a long history of helping immigrants and refugees, I believe families and children in dire situations need protection and opportunity. We are also proud to have refugees as part of our team, LSF heroes who have gone above and beyond to help the community that welcomed them in a time of need. People like Maria Hernandez, a Cuban refugee, who recently received the City of Tampa Mayor's Hispanic Advisory Council award for her outstanding work.

As we wait for guidance on the President's most recent Executive Order, Lourdes and I have been evaluating ways to support families impacted by the "zero tolerance" policy.

As we continue to make LSF the best place for clients, employees and investments, please think about what the word team means to you. For me, teams have to be carefully formed, meticulously structured, diligently led, and compassionately supported. All of this work is the foundation of highly effective teamwork and it is often invisible. I truly believe this and would like to hear your definition of team. Please submit your thoughts, stories and ideas on team to communications@lsfnet.org and I will choose one to feature in next month's letter.

In the spirit of team, read on for more interesting stories and news from your colleagues around the state.

Sam Sipes
LSF President & CEO



LSF collects 1250 shoes for foster children

"Kids in care who have lived through some of the most traumatic situations deserve this level of community support and engagement," said Heather King in a press release.

[Read more](#)
www.lsfnet.org



Congratulations Lutheran Services CINS/FINS Programs

Lutheran Services Florida CINS/FINS wins three awards during the Florida Network of Youth and Family Services Annual Meeting and Awards Ceremony.

Diana Davila with our LSF program in the Southeast won Counselor of the Year for her relentless advocacy for clients and dedication to the job

Erick Scott with our LSF program in the Southwest won Youth Care Worker of the Year. He is 1 of a possible 700 youth care workers who could have won.

LSF Southwest program won Agency of the Year. They have overcome plenty of adversity and are now one of the state's leading programs.

Congratulations Diana, Erick and Shareet's Southwest LSF team!



World Refugee Day Celebrated throughout Florida

Lutheran Services Florida celebrated World Refugee Day in partnership with other community organizations in Sarasota, Tampa and Miami.

Each celebration honored different cultures and backgrounds with

immigrants sharing their stories on fleeing from human rights abuses. In Sarasota, the Cuban Ballet School performed. In Tampa and Miami public citizenship ceremonies were included in their celebrations.

Lights. Camera. Action. LSF in the News

Strong public relations strategies help educate the public, deepen donor relations and cultivate volunteers for a nonprofit like LSF. It's also a fun way to highlight programs and showcase great work! We have been ramping up our public relations efforts over the past 18 months and next month our communications and marketing team plans to roll out an annual marketing calendar and a process to submit success stories to keep the engagement moving.

In the mean time, please check out some positive media coverage on:

- World Refugee Day in Sarasota
- Everyday Hero segment on Heather King's Step for Success campaign
- Miami Herald's The Influencer Series featuring Shelley Katz from LSF Health Systems
- The Weekly Challenger on Pinellas Head Start's Advantage Luncheon.

[World Refugee Day](#)

[Step for Success](#)

[LSF Health Systems](#)

[Head Start Luncheon](#)

Upcoming Events



Florida Coalition for Children Annual Conference July 23-25
Head Start Presenter

Florida Conference on Aging 2018

Marriott Waterside, Tampa, FL • August 13-15, 2018

Florida Conference on Aging August 13-15
LSF Health Systems Presenter



LSF will host a series of events in Fort Myers to highlight refugees on September 17

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[LSF Career Page](#)

