

Lutheran Agencies Organized in Service (LAOS), CLEVELAND

2017 ANNUAL REPORT



Lutheran Agencies Organized in Service (LAOS) is a federation of six social ministry organizations in the Greater Cleveland area:

*Chaplain Partnership
Lutheran Family Services
Lutheran Metropolitan Ministry*

*Lutheran Urban Community Ministry
Community Housing Solutions
Lutheran Hospital*

The 2017 election of Board of Director's officers included Gary Weiland - President, Mark Laskey - Vice President, Lois McNabb - Treasurer and Sue Friend - Secretary.

Highlights from 2017:

- LAOS maintained communication throughout the year with 121 congregations in a five-county area. This approach encourages congregations to support Lutheran social ministry by giving to LAOS via these options:
 - a) continue to budget for a regular unrestricted donation to LAOS for distribution to all member agencies;
 - b) continue to send donations to LAOS designated for specific member agencies;
 - c) send donations directly to specific member agencies; and/or
 - d) provide congregation members with envelopes to make individual gifts throughout the year.
- Each member agency continues to provide vital services to meet the ever-increasing needs in the Greater Cleveland community. Some of the programs and services LAOS member agencies provide are: Family counseling; Advocacy and complaint resolution services for people in long-term care facilities; Re-entry programs for men and women returning from prison; Food pantries and community meal programs; Comprehensive housing services for low and moderate income families; and clinically trained chaplains providing spiritual/pastoral support to those hospitalized or in long-term care facilities.
- The continued collaboration among these six member agencies ensures comfort and assistance, on a wide range of levels, for countless people in our communities. Each member agency tries to be responsive to the changes in society and the increasing numbers of people in need of such assistance.
- Congregational support during 2017 totaled \$20,491.05 from fifteen generous member congregations. LAOS also received gifts totaling \$24,478 from individuals, the Huge Family Memorial Fund and the Anna and Karl Koepke Foundation. LAOS member agencies are so very grateful for these gifts. This financial support ensures that each member agency is able to continue their vital ministry of helping those struggling to live full and productive lives. As one picture can be worth a thousand words, one gift can help hundreds struggling in our communities.



God continued to bless Chaplain Partnership in 2017. Our chaplains were able to minister to approximately 35,000 individuals, including patients, their families and institutional staffs. The opportunity to help people connect with their spirituality is a blessing and we were humbled to be invited to share in these personal moments.

We welcomed Rev. Wayne Brass as our new palliative care chaplain serving at University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center; he is a valued addition to the Chaplain Partnership family.

We had a wonderful opportunity to visit with our friends and supporters in June, when Greg Videtic, MD, and Rev. Chris McCann hosted our 9th annual Wine Tasting Garden Party. This gathering was enjoyed by all, and we thank everyone who supported the event.

Chaplain Partnership would like to acknowledge the support of its Board of Directors in helping to shape the course and success of our ministry. To those whose terms expired in 2017: Luisa Barone Gantt (Secretary), *The Center for Health Affairs/CHAMPS Healthcare*; Scott Robinson, Esq. (President), *Schneider Smeltz Spieth Bell LLP* and Tammy Smith, *Rockport Early Childhood Center*, thank you for your years of service. Your friendship and support are greatly appreciated! To our current Board: Geraldine Butler, Esq., *City of Cleveland*; Kevin Butler, Esq., *Law Offices of Kevin M. Butler*; Barbara Hoekstra (President), *retired*; Sam Jakabcic, *Conrad's Tire Express*; Jon Limbach (Treasurer), *retired*; Megan Patton (Vice President), *ODA Strategy*; Carol Santalucia, *The Cleveland Clinic Foundation*; and Greg Videtic, MD, CM, *The Cleveland Clinic Foundation*. Thank you for your continued dedication and support!

For 104 years, being empowered by the Gospel, our chaplains have brought the promise of hope, healing, wholeness and balance to persons experiencing the blessings and brokenness of human life.

Chaplain Partnership greatly values our relationship with the ELCA and is grateful for your financial assistance and prayers for our chaplains who work tirelessly to support the spiritual needs of patients, families and staff. Below is a list of our chaplains and the institutions where they served during 2017:

Children's Hospital Rehabilitation Center, Cleveland
Chaplain Cliffhora Wright

Fairview Hospital, Cleveland
Chaplain Elyse Berry
Chaplain Tricia Gilbert
Chaplain Lisa Morrison
Chaplain James Vander Schuur
Chaplain Alice Walsh

Filling Memorial Home of Mercy, Napoleon
Chaplain Denise Brown

Lutheran Hospital, Cleveland
Chaplain Mary Timko

Lutheran Social Services of Central Ohio, The Good Shepherd, Ashland
Chaplain Julie Thoms

University Hospitals Elyria Medical Center
Chaplain Robin Hughes

University Hospitals Cleveland Medical Center, Cleveland
Chaplain Wayne Brass
Chaplain Harry Werner

University Hospitals Rainbow Babies & Children's Hospital and MacDonald Women's Hospital, Cleveland
Chaplain Nancy Lynch
Chaplain David Radzik

ValleyCare Health System, Trumbull Memorial Hospital and Hillside Rehabilitation Hospital, Warren
Chaplain Tanya Setree
Chaplain Paul Young