

**2007 Bulletin of Reports
Delaware-Maryland Synod**

AGENCIES, INSTITUTIONS AND ORGANIZATIONS

LUTHERAN COMMUNITY SERVICES

Much has happened in 2006, and we are pleased to report that Lutheran Community Services served more people than ever before. In 2006, we helped 63,647 people. We were also thrilled to have over 300 people attend our second annual Room at the Table free fundraising breakfast in May 2006. As a result, our Helping Others Circle of long-term supporters now has over 40 members. In addition, the annual Hunger Walk/Run and the Youth Rally Against Hunger in September broke records in terms of the number attending (320) and the amount raised (\$47,000) and continued to serve as a platform for community outreach so that we can carry on with our mission of "*Sharing God's Blessings by Helping Others in Need.*"

HOUSING - The LCS Emergency Housing Assistance program has been operating at full capacity. In 2006, we provided 186 loans or grants (two more than last year) to help over 500 low income people with security deposits, delinquent rent or mortgage payments. The majority of these clients are minority female-headed households, primarily African-American and Latino/Hispanic. Our Home Oriented Maintenance for the Elderly (HOME) program helped 105 senior or disabled citizens maintain their independent living arrangements in 2006.

LIFE (Lutherans Involved in Food Emergencies) - During 2006, we served 53,597 people through our many and varied LIFE food distributions. We currently have five Grocery Clubs. Three are at area Lutheran churches - St. Stephen's, St. Philip's, and St. Paul's (run by the Lutheran Student Association). Two are at low income seniors residences: Chelton Apartments near New Castle, and Main Towers in downtown Newark, DE. Grocery clubs each serve a limited number of households (usually about 30) with food purchased affordably at the Food Bank. We are also excited about two new grocery clubs being planned for 2007, one at Tree of Life in Middletown, and the other at New Calvary Baptist Church in Wilmington's impoverished Southbridge section. Stationary Food Pantries are located in St. Stephen's, Zion, and Hope Lutheran Churches. Mobile Pantries bring the food closer to those in need at convenient times and serve over 300 families each month at Hope Lutheran and Shiloh Baptist Church. Produce Distributions reach many thousands at three locations: St. Stephen's, St. Philip's, and Hope.

HEALTH - Volunteer Medical Drivers (25 of them) provided 2,146 rides to doctor's appointments for low income residents of Luther Towers I and II in 2006. Clothing Distribution continued at St. Stephen's, Hope and St. Philip's, and over six tons of clothes were given to 1,754 people. This included Operation Warm, which allowed us to provide 387 brand new coats to needy youngsters. The Retired Men's Luncheon Club continues

to be a source of enjoyment for over 200 gentlemen. The Tobacco Cessation Voucher Program, which helps low-income people quit smoking, grew dramatically as a result of a special state-sponsored program in the first half of the year, and helped over 5,000 people, but is now back to normal levels.

Deaconess Jean Warren, executive director