

A message from

Stacy McGhee,

President/CEO of LSEM

## A Renewed Vision...

What an amazing year 2023 was! Being able to celebrate 150 years of serving God's children is something to be very proud of as there aren't many organizations who have stood the test of time the way Lutheran Special Education Ministries has.

From our humble beginnings in Detroit, MI, to where we are today, we've continued to give students and their families hope by providing them not just an excellent academic education, but also the chance to know and live for their Savior, Jesus Christ. How awesome is that?!?!

But the work doesn't stop here. We have a lot to look forward to, so buckle in for the next 150 years! 2024 brings a renewed vision for the future and the energy to seek His will in all things. Thank you for your unwavering support and for your shared love for the students we serve.

As the pages of this report show, great things are happening in our classrooms and throughout the ministry, thanks to your commitment to us. We pray that this year brings many more opportunities to grow and learn as we serve Him together. Your powerful prayers mean so much to us, so please keep them up! God's blessings to you in 2024!



## ...And a Renewed Look











As we started on the journey to prepare for our 150th anniversary in 2023, we knew we needed to create an icon that would help celebrate and identify this century and a half milestone. The 150th logo was designed with the purpose of showing the past, present and future of Lutheran Special Education Ministries. The open book is synonymous with learning and reminds us of how our ministry is centered on the greatest book of all — the Bible. What better way to take us into the next 150 years than by adapting that anniversary logo into the new LSEM identity. As we begin year 151, you'll notice a renewed look and feel throughout all of our communications. Together, we will leave a *legacy of love for future generations*.







<mark>2022-23</mark> Annual Report

## **Q&A: Dr. Tracie Salgado**

Hear from our new Special Education Director, Dr. Tracie Salgado. Dr. Salgado brings extensive experience in the field of special education as well as valuable insights and expertise in providing specialized learning services.



### What excites you most about working at LSEM?

This one is tough! There are so many good things happening at LSEM and I am blessed to be a part of them all. God truly worked His way to bring me here. Right now, I am most excited about being a part of an excellent team of people who deeply care about keeping children in their Lutheran school of choice, despite the child having different learning abilities. That should never stop a child from attending the school their family chooses.

## What is your favorite thing you have learned about LSEM?

My favorite thing I've learned about LSEM is the breadth of the outreach. I was truly surprised to learn how many schools, children, and families we impact. I love how all these schools are open-minded and open-hearted enough to reach out and partner with us to provide these services. Many people shy away from children with different learning abilities, but these schools have learned that it can be easy to support these kiddos and keep them in their schools when they partner with us. How amazing is that?

### What do you see as our greatest opportunities?

Love it! The number of schools we have partnering with us is our greatest opportunity. We are already in 13 states and over 100 programs, but there is still so much room to grow. I'd love to see us focused on growing our partnerships so we can support more kids and keep more kids in Christian schools.

continued on next page >>

# [CA] [AZ] (TX)

### A Growing Outreach

LSEM started serving just a small handful of children in Michigan 1873. Now we have grown to serving thousands of children across the country and internationally.



### **QSA:** Dr. Tracie Salgado continued from previous page

### What is one thing you hope to accomplish?

Only one thing, huh? Ha. I'm going to say two things! One, I hope to grow our partnerships by demonstrating strong leadership to schools who are interested in our services. I want them to know they can depend on LSEM for their needs to keep students in their schools.

I also would love to continue to grow our teachers. We have some really impressive teachers! Their hearts

are so big, and they are truly passionate about their work. One teacher told me when a lesson doesn't go the way he expected, he has stayed up all night figuring out what went wrong and how to fix it. That is passion! Dedication!

Our teachers are the best and I am looking forward to supporting them so they can continue to offer that incredible level of service to our students.

## **God's People Joining Together for His Children**

To have this collection of teachers, board members, donors, parents, team members, congregations and friends behind us in our efforts to do God's will is beyond our understanding. Each and every one of these students — God's children — are benefiting from the efforts of this ministry. Their work in the classroom is improving daily, but more importantly, their relationship with Jesus and the Christ-centered education they are receiving has an eternal impact beyond measure.





## Make a Gift to LSEM

Join us on the journey of helping children who learn differently! There are so many ways to get involved with our ministry. The following QR code takes you to our donation page where you can take part in this legacy of love benefiting this and future generations.



Now to him who is able to do immeasurably more than all we ask or imagine, according to his power that is at work within us. Ephesians 3:20





## **One Historical Gift Transformation for a Lifetime**

The 1873 Legacy Society acknowledges individuals and families who have given Lutheran Special Education Ministries (LSEM) the highest compliment – including the ministry in their estate plans.

Membership in the 1873 Legacy Society is open to individuals who designate a gift of \$10,000 or more to LSEM through a will, trust, or other planned gift. Individuals who make an outright gift of \$10,000 or more to the Endowment Fund are also invited to join.

#### Benefits include:

- A permanent legacy at Lutheran Special Education Ministries
- Recognition on Lutheran Special Education Ministries donor wall
- Annual listing in the Annual Report
- Recognition annually at a special event honoring you for your gift during your lifetime
- Invitations to other LSEM events
- Legacy Society lapel pin

Please contact us if you have already designated an estate gift to Lutheran Special Education Ministries so that we might appropriately recognize and thank you for your generosity.



At the 2023 Christmas Tea, we honored the first members of our 1873 Legacy Society and Founders Circle. These amazing people have shown incredible dedication to helping children who learn differently. To all of our members – thank you for your heart to give and for the Legacy you have created.

### **1873 Legacy Society**

Marlene Herzog Alecia Winterstein Peter & Monica Rynearson

### Founders Circle\*

Ernest Fackler, III Jim Janetzke & Stacy McGhee Janetzke Arthur Kelsey, Jr. and Family Marsha Leiphart Peter & Monica Rynearson The Rau Family Ken & Andrea Sanke

\*Those who have a lifetime cumulative giving of over \$25,000



Each of you must bring a gift in proportion to the way the Lord your God has blessed you.

**Deuteronomy 16:17** 

### A Look Around...







### **Golf Outing**

We had a great day for our Golf Outing in September! With sun, good food, and even better people, we golfed and raised funds for the incredible kids we serve across the country and around the world.

### **Board Retreat**

The LSEM Board of
Directors came together
and met with staff to
discuss the mission, vision,
and future of LSEM. We're
working hard to find better
and more innovative
ways to help children who
learn differently receive
the education they need
to succeed in a Christian
environment.







Let us not become weary in doing good, for at the proper time we will reap a harvest if we do not give up. Galations 6:9

## ...Lutheran Special Education Ministries





### **Grace Lorano Retires**

In December, we honored Grace Lorano and celebrated her retirement after a faith-filled and dedicated 23 years of working for LSEM. Her family and LSEM team joined to congratulate her on a job well-done over the years and wish her a happy retirement.











For where two or three gather in my name, there am I with them. Matthew 18:20

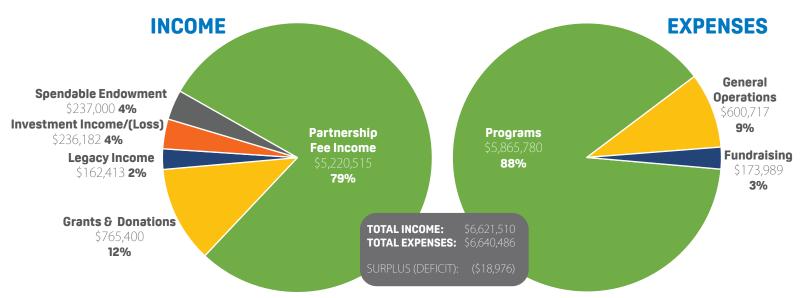


by KEITH TRENT ST. PAUL LUTHERAN SCHOOL IN WESTLAKE, OH

was introduced to LSEM at my previous call at a Lutheran school in Saginaw, MI. There, I was able to work with LSEM to assess students and to receive professional development for my staff on strategies and ways to accommodate in the classroom, along with training on response to intervention.

I am currently serving in Cleveland, OH in a Lutheran school. One of the first tasks that I was asked to do was to work on making the resource program stronger and unified. There was a parttime intervention specialist who resigned the October before, a full-time tutor, and a part-time tutor who we paid with EANS funds. Those funds ran out at the end of the first year I was here. So, I needed some help to rebuild the resource program.

I reached out to LSEM and they assisted me in bringing in a full-time resource specialist to work with me to get the program stable. LSEM helped with finding a teacher, developing strategies, and organizing our process for evaluating students who qualify for services. The LSEM team was very helpful and worked with us to bring my vision and needs to fruition for our program.









2022-23 Annual Report



In this podcast we explore trends, issues, and events surrounding Lutheran education. In each episode we invite educational experts to shed light on topics that support educators, administrators, and staff, and inform parents. With over 35 episodes currently available and many more to come, listen in to a wealth of knowledge and don't miss out!













### **150th Banquet**

On June 15, 2023, we celebrated the incredible blessing of 150 years of God's work in the lives of His special children. While it was dreary and rainy outside, our hearts were filled with warmth and joy as we gathered together with you. 57 of our teachers were able to join us from classrooms across the country and share the impact of your support and be recognized for their service. John Beilein, former head men's basketball coach at the University of Michigan, spoke to us about the importance of faith, legacy, and building character. It was a fun and memorable evening. We are so excited to see the future God has in store for this ministry, for you, and for His amazing children.



### Board of Trustees

Peter Rynearson, Chair

Keith Altenburg, Vice Chair & Secretary

Ernie Fackler, Treasurer

Rev. Daryl L. Andrzejewski, Board Member

Dr. John Brandt, Board Member

Dr. Linda Hensel, Board Member

Sean Martens, Board Member

Angela Schiller, Board Member

Thomas Wrege, Board Member

Leaving A LEGACY OF LOVE for future generations



3773 Geddes Rd. Ann Arbor, MI 48105-3028

Phone: 248-419-3390 Fax: 248-419-3394

Web: www.luthsped.org

