

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Lutherwood Residents Give Back to Community through Volunteerism on Father's Day
Youth Spend Time at Neighboring Nursing Homes to Celebrate Holidays

(Indianapolis, Indiana) Children from Lutherwood Residential Treatment Facility are bridging the gap between generations by volunteering at Rosewalk Village, a neighboring senior community offering health care and assisted living to older adults.

Lutherwood students are anxious to spend time with the men at Rosewalk by giving them gifts and enjoying each other's company. All of the students made gift bags and included handmade cards and a handful of Hershey's kisses.

For Mother's Day, clients at Lutherwood decorated sun visors and made friendship bracelets and picture frames for the women of Rosewalk. Lutherwood students really enjoyed the time that was spent at Rosewalk and are excited to return for Father's Day to give gifts to the men at the facility.

One of Lutherwood's residents said she had a great time giving to others. "I am happy because giving is better than taking and if you give somebody something it makes them smile," said Krystal.

Community service helps the children understand the privileges of citizenship and realize that their gifts of time and talent are of value to others. Lutherwood is a residential treatment center licensed to serve children ages 6-21 who are recovering from the effects of abuse, neglect or abandonment.

"These kids are accustomed to being on the receiving end of charity so it is an eye-opener and really rewarding for them to be able to give to others," Seania Stephens, Assistant Director of Programming, said.

"I think it's a mutually beneficial relationship. The kids at Lutherwood and residents at Rosewalk have developed a great bond," said Rod Mitchell, Lutherwood Programs Director. "The seniors are nurturing to our clients and they really love having young people visit with them."

About LCFS:

Lutheran Child & Family Services (LCFS) is a multi-service, nonprofit 501(c)(3) member agency of United Way of Central Indiana and provides services that strengthen vulnerable youth and families. LCFS' services include: Lutherwood Residential Treatment Facility (providing specialized treatment for youth in crisis); Lutherwood Education Academy (a satellite partnership with IPS); Trinity Group Home (where young men transition to independent living); Mentoring, Parenting Instruction, Family Preservation Initiatives; Adoption & Foster Care Services; and the Sharing Place Food and Clothing Pantry. LCFS serves approximately 30,000 people annually.

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