

November 2008

NORTH TEXAS

Disaster Response Hurricane Update: Lutheran Social Services Disaster Response (LSSDR) has been working to provide emergency assistance and support where possible, while helping with coordination of resources and materials to meet a multitude of immediate needs. In the Rio Grande Valley, we have conducted training and provided consultation for local long-term recovery for Hurricane Dolly. We anticipate having a long-term role in recovery from Hurricane Ike and are working to define our long-term recovery role for Hurricane Gustav in Louisiana. Our initial goal is to raise \$1 million to provide critical support for our response efforts. For a disaster response update, please visit www.LSSS.org and click on *Disaster Response*.

Children's Christmas card available. The LSS Christmas card for 2008, called "Bethlehem Star," was designed by a 15-year-old resident of the Nelson Children's Center in Denton. It features a large yellow star surrounded by smaller stars over a light-blue background. Six other designs are also available. Proceeds from the sale of these cards are used to help purchase Bibles for children in the LSS foster care program and at LSS children's centers. You can view and order your cards online at www.LSSS.org, or call (800) 938-5777.

November is National Adoption Month and LSS urges you to consider giving a child a "forever family." Thousands of children are living with foster families who would love to belong to a permanent family they can call their own. LSS has placed more than 7,000 children with loving families! Read about the experiences of some of those families by visiting www.LSSS.org. Please prayerfully consider adoption. Call (866) 700-0014.

The annual Christmas Angels for Nelson Kids project is getting under way. Churches can request paper angels that have the name of a resident of the Nelson Center and a Christmas gift "wish." Individuals can pick an angel and provide the child with the gift. **Call Rebekah Chase at (940) 484-8232 to find out more.** Congregations are also invited to help decorate the Nelson Center for Christmas and/or host a Christmas party for the children