



PLANTING POSSIBILITY: Harvesting Hope

Dear Friend,

We are gearing up once again for our much-anticipated **35th annual Harvest Festival fundraiser on Friday, October 25th**, aimed at raising crucial funds for child welfare and children and families in need.

We'd love for your business to be a part of it! This is an opportunity to make a difference for children in Illinois who've experienced trauma while spotlighting your business. Your support makes a significant impact in the lives of countless children in need and ensures the success of an event that attracts both existing and new supporters to join together in supporting LCFS' mission.

Please consider donating an auction item to the **LCFS Harvest Festival being held Friday, October 25, 2024 at Hinsdale Golf Club**. Your support makes a difference for the more than 2,000 foster children we will serve this year. When children are removed from their parents, the citizens of Illinois become their legal guardians. Foster children are truly the responsibility of every one of us.

Our live and silent auctions are a huge part of the evening's success and something our generous guests really enjoy. Examples of auction items include gift certificates, baskets of products, handcrafted items, outings and experiences, sports memorabilia and activities, and big ticket items like travel, designer bags and jewelry.

We would love to have all in-kind donations by Friday, September 27 so we have time to package and promote them.

The In-Kind donation flyer is enclosed for your review. We can't wait to hear from you! And, I hope you'll consider joining us for this meaningful, fun evening! Please learn more at www.LCFS.org/harvestfestival.

With warm regards,

The 2024 Harvest Festival Committee,

Nancy Ansorge
Lisa Barrett
Barbara Benington
Angela Crews
Anne Deis
Marian Fick

Dianne Frantzis (Honorary)
Debra Gordon
Susie Jones
Beth Kos
Mandy Lesko
Kris Mahon

Amy Phillips
Mary Ryan
Krista Talley
Karen Trayser
Carolyn Weizelbaum

And LCFS Staff: Mandy Widtfeldt, Cheryl Wendt, Melissa Gonzalez



Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois
One Oakbrook Terrace, Suite 501 | Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181
630.470.3853 | Mandy_Widtfeldt@lcfs.org | LCFS.org/Harvestfestival



Harvest Festival

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IN-KIND DONATIONS

Your Goods or Services Will Get Noticed While You Help Foster Children

Please consider supporting Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois with an in-kind donation today. We need items, gift cards, services, vacation homes and talents for our Live and Silent Auctions. Your donation's photo, description and business name will be featured on our mobile bidding site and possibly previewed in Facebook posts and emails to our supporters that go out to about 2,000 people. Our professional auctioneer will give detailed descriptions of live auction items and thank the donors. We welcome discussions if you have ideas for something you'd like to donate and how you'd like to be acknowledged. Please email mandy_widtfeldt@lcfs.org.

The Event

2024 marks the 35th year of the Harvest Festival. This is LCFS' only fundraiser of the year and we expect 200 people to attend. This fun and meaningful event will take place on Friday, October 25, 2024 at Hinsdale Golf Club. Our attendees love participating in our Live and Silent auctions, and the auctions are a big part of the event's success!

What Your In-Kind Donation Supports

As one of the largest private child welfare providers in Illinois, LCFS protects children, strengthens families and builds futures for those who have experienced trauma. We are proud to be one of the leading providers serving teenagers in foster care in the state and to be a leader in dismantling racism in the foster care system.



In **2023**, our supporters helped:

- Our **300+** essential direct care staff ensure **2,146** children were cared for in foster families
- Find **196** children their forever families through adoption
- **441** foster children find a permanent home with **286** able to return to their birth families
- Strengthen **256** at-risk families through preventative services
- Provide counseling services to **405** children and birth families involved in foster care or preventative programs
- **44** youth receive emergency shelter services at Southern Thirty Adolescent Center

Please consider a donation this year to ensure we can do even more good for children and families in what continues to be challenging times!



IN-KIND DONATION FORM

DESCRIPTION

Donation Description: _____

Expiration Date: _____ Estimated Fair Market Value: _____

- I would like myself/my business to be listed on the mobile bidding site.
- I prefer my name/my business name to not be listed with my donation.
- I am emailing a photo of my donation to mandy_widtfeldt@lcfs.org.
- Donation included with form.
- Contact me to arrange pick up.

Donors will receive an acknowledgment letter for tax deduction purposes.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Business Name _____

Contact Person _____

Address _____ City _____ State _____ ZIP _____

Telephone _____ Email _____ Website _____

Please return this form by Friday, September 27, 2024 to LCFS Events, One Oakbrook Terrace, Suite 501, Oakbrook Terrace, IL 60181. Our Tax ID # is 36-2167778.

Questions? Contact Mandy Widtfeldt at 630-470-3853 or mandy_widtfeldt@lcfs.org



Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois
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