



Dear Friend,

There's nothing like a charity auction to capture guests' attention – the thrill of competition, shopping with impact for a meaningful cause, the communal feeling of goodwill and the exclusivity of the limited time and availability of auction items. We hope you'll consider donating an auction item and be at the center of this!

The 36th Annual LCFS Harvest Festival will be held on **Friday, October 24th, 2025** at Butterfield Country Club in Oak Brook and we expect a crowd of about 200 guests. Every year, our Live and Silent auctions are a stand out and a much-anticipated draw. This year's event will have a new twist—a **Western-themed celebration**—and we would be honored to call you “pardner.” Your donation is an act of generosity that will help raise vital funds for local children and families in need.

Please see our in-kind flyer with details. We hope you will also consider attending this festive, fun, and meaningful event. To learn more, please visit www.lcfs.org/harvestfestival.

With sincere appreciation,

The 2025 Harvest Festival Committee: *Nancy Ansorge, Barbara Benington, Angela Crews, Anne Deis, Ladan Hayes, Marian Fick, Melissa Gonzalez, Susie Jones, Beth Kos, Mandy Lesko, Samantha Lucki, Kris Mahon, Amy Phillips, Mary Ryan, Krista Talley, Carolyn Weintelbaum, Cheryl Wendt, Mandy Widtfeldt*



WILD WEST HARVEST FEST



SUPPORT FOSTER CHILDREN WHILE GAINING EXPOSURE!

We invite you to be part of Lutheran Child and Family Services of Illinois' 36th Annual Harvest Fest on **Friday, October 24th, 2025 at Butterfield Country Club** with a tax-deductible in-kind donation that will help us raise vital funds for children and families in need. This year's event will have a new twist—a Western-themed celebration—and we would be honored to call you “pardner.”

In addition to helping foster children, a donation of an auction item offers great exposure for your business. Your donation will be showcased on our mobile bidding site and get the attention of our **200** guests (you are welcome to include marketing materials with your donation). It can also be featured in Facebook posts and in emails sent to **over 2,000** of our supporters. If you have a unique donation idea or specific way you'd like to be acknowledged, we'd love to discuss it. Please reach out to Mandy Widtfeldt at mandy_widtfeldt@lcfs.org.

What We're Looking For:

- Items for auction packages/baskets
- Gift cards
- Services or talents (i.e. catering, pickle ball lessons, live music for a party)
- Vacation home stays, event tickets, experiences

About the Event:

The Harvest Fest is LCFS' only fundraiser of the year. With over 200 guests in attendance, the live and silent auctions play a key role in making this event a success. Our attendees are excited to participate and bid on amazing items from our generous donors. Last year, we raised more than \$44,000 in the auctions alone!



WHAT YOUR DONATION SUPPORTS:

As one of Illinois' largest private child welfare providers, LCFS is dedicated to protecting children, strengthening families, and helping those who have faced trauma. Your support enables us to continue our vital work serving thousands across Illinois and provide very specific help to children such as Oscar:

Oscar dreaded lunch period. He had moved to a new foster home and a new school. Other sixth graders made fun of his peanut butter sandwiches cut into bite-size pieces. Oscar's teeth didn't line up right, making chewing and even saying some words hard. Funds raised covered the oral surgery that Medicaid wouldn't. Now lunch is his favorite part of the school day.

Thank you for considering supporting LCFS. Together, we can make a significant difference in the lives of children who need it most.

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 19, 2025 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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