

## Who Is My Neighbor?

Encourage church members, family members and friends to make a contribution (*even as little as \$1.00*) to the Good Samaritan Effect.

Have your church Treasurer write a check out for the total amount collected, and mail it to the Liberty Center office at:

231 N. 63rd Street,  
Philadelphia, PA 19139.  
Attn: Pam Barnes



Checks should be made payable to:  
Lutheran Children and Family Service  
c/o of Liberty Center (*in check memo*)

Your donation may be eligible for a tax deduction and your church's name will be placed on the list of donors in Liberty Lutheran Services' annual report.

If you have it in your heart, adopt a neighbor family through our Refugee Resettlement Program

Phone: 215.747.7500

Fax: 215.747.7707

Email: [pamelab@lcsinpa.org](mailto:pamelab@lcsinpa.org)



*Who is my neighbor?*

**Luke 10:29-37 (NKJV)** ... *Who is my neighbor? Then Jesus answered and said: "A certain man went down from Jerusalem to Jericho, and fell among thieves, who stripped him of his clothing, wounded him, and departed, leaving him half dead. Now by chance a certain priest came down that road. And when he saw him, he passed by on the other side. Likewise a Levite, when he arrived at the place, came and looked, and passed by on the other side. But a certain Samaritan, as he journeyed, came where he was. And when he saw him, he had compassion. So he went to him and bandaged his wounds, pouring on oil and wine; and he set him on his own animal, brought him to an inn, and took care of him. On the next day, when he departed, he took out two denarii, gave them to the innkeeper, and said to him, take care of him, when I come again, I will repay you. So which of these three do you think was neighbor to him who fell among the thieves?" And he said "He who showed mercy on him" Then Jesus said to him, "Go and do likewise."*

## WHO IS MY NEIGHBOR?

Lutheran Children and Family Service  
c/o Liberty Center  
231 N. 63rd Street / Philadelphia, PA

WHO IS MY  
NEIGHBOR?

***...Love the Lord  
your God with all  
your heart, and  
with all your soul,  
and with all your  
mind...***

***And... love thy  
neighbor as  
thyself***



The Liberty Center is  
a Project of:  
**Lutheran Children and Family  
Service**



An Affiliate of



**The Good Samaritan Effect**

## Who Is My Neighbor?

Many of the neighbors you see everyday have traveled to this country fearing religious and other types of persecution.

Many neighbors leave their children and family behind, running in fear for their lives for speaking against the evils that exist in their native environment.

They come here in hope of freedom and are in many cases, rejected by our citizens. We think they take our jobs. We think they speak funny. We think they should immediately learn our language. Neighbors come with their children who are



*Who is my neighbor?*

sometimes taunted and often hurt in schools by other children because they are different.

Neighbor-children often have to speak for their parents who, sometimes, do not understand the language.

*Imagine having your child speak for you!*

Most come with little, or no hope. They have no shelter, no food, and no money.

***Similar to the victim in the good Samaritan story in Luke Chapter 10.***

Beaten and bruised, mentally and physically and left half dead on the road-so to speak.

Many new neighbors come here with visions

of family members hurt, maimed or killed, yet must move past these visions to survive and obtain access to living space, food, work and clothing. Children must function by going to school, being obedient to their parents, at times, having to speak for a parent who does not understand the language. Many parents, who have brought their children to this country, have cultural disciplines, which they enforce, and then their children are taken away because they believe children should not rule the home. Their children are growing and learning the freedoms of this country which appear to be somewhat different from other cultures.

### **Lutheran Children and Family Service**

*is a non profit organization,*

***an affiliate of Liberty Lutheran Services***

Many newcomers have been served through the generosity of a cadre of Lutheran Churches who help our neighbors settle into a new environment by:

adopting a family-literally taking responsibility for a family for three months, supplying food and shelter, while empowering new neighbors to become self sufficient.

*An excellent example of a good Samaritan!!*

### **The Liberty Center for Survivors of Torture (LC)**

The Liberty Center (LC) was initiated in October 2001 with a six-year grant from the Department of Health and Human Services. In addition, many organizations and individual donors have supported the LC through their eight-year existence. Due to diminished financial support, the LC will be unable to continue to serve as a good Samaritan. Our Parent companies, Liberty Lutheran Services and Lutheran Children and Family Service (*non profits*) can no longer carry the weight of the LC. The Liberty Center for the past eight years

has served over 400 families and individual victims of torture by assisting in the reconstruction of their lives while empowering them to regain a sense of self-worth and the potential to reassert themselves into new communities. Our neighbors have many mountains to climb to remain in this country. They must obtain food and shelter, take the steps necessary (*and there are many*) to obtain a work permit. If they are eligible, they must attain a job to support themselves and family, and at the same time push aside in their minds, the horrors they have escaped in their country, all while applying for a green card (*which takes years to obtain*) to be able to remain in this country. Many women participants come from cultures where actions taken against them, by their spouse, would be considered domestic violence in this country. Women are afraid to come forward because domestic violence is an immediate reason for deportation back to the country they fled. Spouse's keep paperwork that would empower woman to the freedoms of this country-keeping them in bondage.

### **What are our fears?**

We, in this country, believe our new neighbors are taking our jobs, social security funds, food stamps and medical assistance. In reality, our new neighbors perform the task we chose not to do.

Many are working and paying into the social security system and are unable to receive those benefits.

Some are disabled and need food stamps and medical assistance to get on their feet, but are generally ineligible.

One example is a 61-year old woman, who takes 3 buses, at 4 a.m., to get to a job which starts at 7 a.m. The position does not offer medical coverage and the salary is barely enough to cover her \$400/mo rent. She applied for and was eligible for food stamps which helps sustain her. She was not eligible for medical assistance which she needs due to daily chronic pain.

Survivors have suffered acts of tortures that have profound impact upon their health and ability to function in society. Our mission is to help repair some of the wreckage, while confirming our commitment to human dignity and freedom.

**We are stretching our hands out to the children of God, organizations, individuals, and families that we may continue to support victims of torture and their families.**