

BOLD

Transformation

2010 Annual Report



Lutheran Immigration
and Refugee Service



You

can transform the
conversation by
adding your voice



[facebook.com/lirsorg](https://www.facebook.com/lirsorg)



twitter.com/lirsorg



lirsblog.org

Learn More About Our
Transformative Work

LIRS.org

Bold as a...

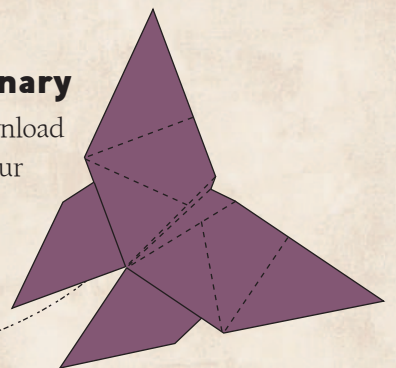
Butterfly?

The simile may seem strange, but the butterfly is a fitting symbol of bold transformation. It is through the strenuous journey of metamorphosis and the struggle to emerge from its cocoon that a butterfly becomes a triumphant gift to all who enjoy its beauty and watch it soar.

Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service celebrates the bold butterfly spirit of migrants and refugees. We welcome our new neighbors as gifts, and we embrace the call to service and prophetic witness as we work with newcomers to create beautiful communities of welcome. We are grateful for your partnership in these bold endeavors!

Transform the ordinary

Visit lirs.org/AR2010 to download instructions for making your own origami butterfly out of ordinary paper.

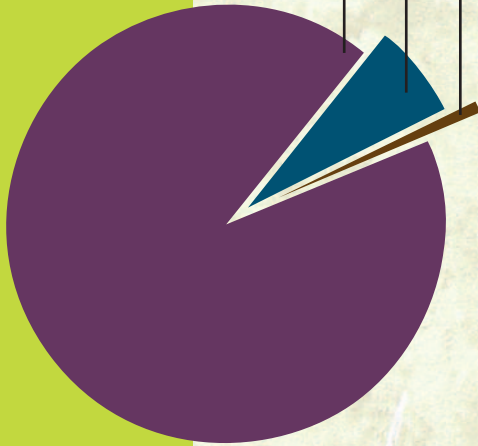


You stewarded resources responsibly

Your gifts to Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service are a sound investment in our shared mission of welcome. You can be confident that the public funds and private donations we are entrusted with are handled with careful stewardship. The following figures, from LIRS's audited financial data for the year ending December 31, 2010, demonstrate our commitment to responsible fiscal management. Dollar figures are in thousands.

Operating Expenses

Serving Newcomers 91.9%
Administering Services 7.0%
Securing Financial Support 1.1%



Beginning Net Assets	\$ 5,853
Operating Activities	
Support & Revenue	
Participating Church Bodies	\$ 853
Contributions and Foundations	326
U.S. Government	38,183
Loan Servicing Fees	1,294
Other Revenue	89
Total Support & Revenue	\$ 40,745
Expenses	
Program Services	
U.S. Government-Funded Activities	\$ 35,617
Other Program Activities	1,118
Administrative Services	2,793
Fund Raising	430
Total Operating Expenses	\$ 39,957
Non-Operating Activities	
Investment Earnings	\$ 194
Change in Net Assets	\$ 982
Ending Net Assets	\$ 6,835

The following is from LIRS's audited financial statements, available at LIRS.org/AR2010, as of December 31, 2009. Dollar figures are in thousands.

Assets		Liabilities	
Cash	\$ 4,334	Accounts payable & accrued expenses	\$ 6,034
Investments, at market value	1,961	Long-term debt	2,685
Accounts receivable		Total Liabilities	\$ 8,718
U.S. Government	5,040	Net Assets	
Miscellaneous	225	Unrestricted	6,325
Loans receivable (refugee travel)	128	Temporarily Restricted	510
Prepaid expenses and other assets	122	Total Net Assets	\$ 6,835
Investment in Lutheran Center Corporation	3,382	Total Liabilities & Net Assets	\$ 15,553
Funds held by trustee	335		
Furnishings & improvements (net of depreciation)	25		
Total Assets	\$ 15,553		

LIRS's 2011 Board of Directors

Bishop E. Roy Riley (Chair)
 Ruth Henrichs (Vice Chair)
 The Rev. Jotham Johann, J.D. (Secretary)
 Kathi Anderson
 Richmond Appleton
 The Rev. Dr. Stephen Bouman
 Sen. Betty Boyd

Elaine Richter Bryant
 The Rev. Dr. Gary Danielsen
 Dr. Judith A. Diers
 Christine Grumm
 The Rev. Carlos Hernandez
 Randel K. Johnson
 The Rev. Yohannes Mengsteab
 The Rev. Dr. Kristine Suna-Koro

You
made
change
happen



From the President and CEO

Dear Friend,

Thank you! Your bold engagement with the mission of Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service, your compassion for the migrants and refugees we serve, and your generous support of our work helped make change happen in 2010. Your gifts aided in the transformation LIRS experienced last year as well as the transforming service we provided for newcomers.

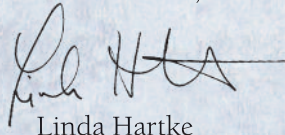
2010 was a year of clarifying and transforming our identity as an organization. I joined LIRS as president and CEO just as we were developing a new strategic plan that reframed our vision, mission, values, and goals. These principles now guide our work as we seek to create a culture of welcome in our communities and in our world.

LIRS took bold stands in 2010, refusing to compromise our high standards of human care. We made the difficult but necessary decision to end a significant federal contract when it became clear that the program was not compatible with child welfare principles. And we made bold strides forward. We secured a long-overdue increase of U.S. State Department funding, doubling the grant for initial services provided to each refugee admitted to the United States. Our legislative advocacy successes included protecting Haitians in the United States from being deported to their earthquake-ravaged homeland.

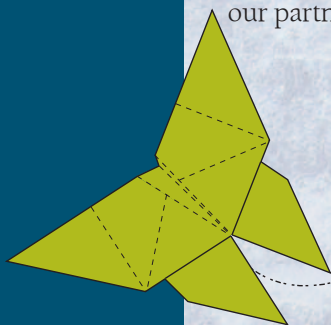
All this in addition to our bold work of transformation—coming alongside tens of thousands of refugees, vulnerable children, torture survivors, and other migrants at risk as they restored their dignity, rebuilt their lives, and rekindled their dreams.

We are grateful for your gifts that helped so many newcomers find safety, support, and success in 2010. We look forward to continuing our partnership in boldly building communities of welcome.

Yours in faith,



Linda Hartke



You brought families together



Your gifts enable Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service to work boldly to reunite families. Maria came to the United States from Honduras to build a better life for her family. She started her own business, sent money to relatives caring for her three children back in Honduras, and for five years saved every dollar she could in order to bring them to the United States.

When the children's living situation became unsafe, relatives sent the children to the United States to reunite with their mother. They arrived safely, but ended up in federal immigration custody hundreds of miles away from Maria. That's when LIRS staff went into action. Our dedicated staff worked diligently to reconnect the family across the miles, visiting Maria's home, making sure Maria was able to visit the children during the process, and following up to make sure the family was doing well once they were reunited.

You safeguarded vulnerable migrants



With your financial and advocacy support, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service speaks boldly for migrant and refugee protection. When the devastating earthquake struck Haiti in January 2010, LIRS knew that it would be unsafe for Haitian migrants in the United States to return home. Boldly and swiftly we called on the U.S. government to authorize Temporary Protected Status for Haitians, allowing them to remain safely in the United States.

Other organizations followed our lead, and LIRS rallied record breaking numbers of advocates to add their voices, and the call for protection was successful. Our online advocacy campaign won a national award. Days later, LIRS ensured this national victory made local impact by training thousands of legal service providers to better serve Haitians applying for protection.

You
created
welcoming
communities



Your spirit of generous giving and generous welcome enables Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service to transform lives and communities. LifeBridge Lutheran Church in Houston Texas helped LIRS resettle a refugee family in the spring of 2010 for the first time. When LIRS President Linda Hartke visited with the family a few months later, it was clear that they were successfully integrating into the community.

The relationships and practical support of this loving congregation made all the difference. LifeBridge continues to connect with the refugee community in Houston. Through a special children's outreach program they provided a summer vacation Bible school and school supplies for more than 300 kids. LifeBridge's pastor says that the former refugees the congregation has met have "impacted our lives probably more than we did theirs!"

You
supported
innovated
hosted
placed
referred
reunited
trained
received
protected
inspired
informed
welcomed
transformed
in 2010
through your
gifts to LIRS.

- 3** refugee microenterprise programs
- 4** recertification guides for refugee accountants and medical professionals
- 42** participants for a Lutheran Immigration Leadership Summit
- 99** unaccompanied refugee children in loving foster homes
- 262** detained torture survivors to pro bono legal representation
- 325** migrant children with family members in the United States
- 350** refugee employment service professionals
- 900** visits per month to the new blog at LIRSBlog.org
- 5,000** migrant children in federal immigration custody
- 9,105** e-mails to elected officials through the LIRS Action Center
- 9,242** migrants about their legal rights and options
- 10,134** refugees, including many from Burma, Iraq, and Bhutan
- 1** world into a more welcoming place for migrants and refugees

for boldly welcoming newcomers!

For a list of LIRS's 2010 supporters, visit LIRS.org/AR2010