



CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES OF SOUTHERN NEBRASKA

Hope in the Good Life

October 2024

St. Faustina/Lincoln Family Support Services

Carrying Forward St. Faustina's Mission of Mercy

Known as the "Secretary of God's Mercy," St. Maria Faustina Kowalska was given the mission of living out and communicating Jesus' mercy to the world. From a young age, St. Faustina displayed a deep love for prayer, work, obedience, and service to the poor. Because of her openness to the Lord, her soul was still enough to hear and receive His Word.

St. Faustina joined the Congregation of the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, where she experienced profound visions of Jesus. Through these encounters, Jesus revealed the depth and magnitude of His Divine Mercy, calling the world to healing, love, and compassion.

This message of mercy inspires and encourages us to live out Jesus' command in Luke's Gospel: "*Be merciful, even as your Father in Heaven is merciful*" (Luke 6:36).

The mission of Catholic Social Services is to perform the Works of Mercy in response to the call of God. Every day, individuals and families facing hardship

seek this same healing, love and compassion from CSS.

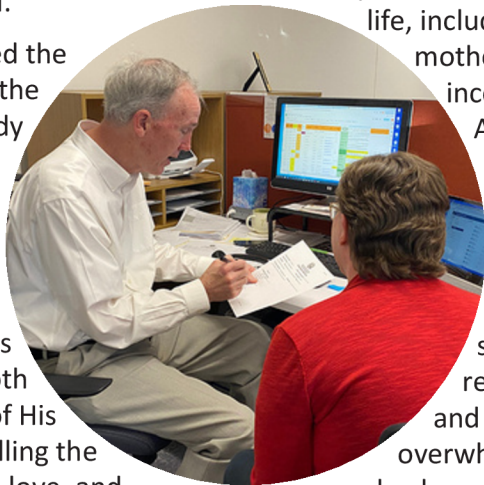
In addition to providing food, clothing, furniture, and shelter, CSS serves a steady stream of individuals and families in need of assistance with rent, utilities, medical bills, or car repairs.

People come to us from all walks of life, including many single mothers, with barely enough income to pay their bills. A single unexpected event occurs, such as reduced hours at work, their car stops running, or they undertake a serious illness which requires doctors visits, and they are plunged into overwhelming uncertainty and a downward financial spiral.

Often, they are burdened by multiple adversities at the same time and ask for help to escape the cycle of juggling bills screaming the loudest – rent, electric, car repair or medical.

Here are two stories of families who recently found hope through Lincoln Family Support Services.

(Continued on back page)



IMPACT LINCOLN FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES JAN - SEPT 2024



151 HOUSEHOLDS RECEIVED FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE



\$97,215.75 TOTAL MONETARY ASSISTANCE PROVIDED



\$36,091 ST. LOUISE GIFT & THRIFT GIFT CARDS PROVIDED



\$44,631 VALUE OF FURNITURE PROVIDED



PO Box 30425
Lincoln NE 68503-0425



#HopeintheGoodLife

Carrying Forward St. Faustina's Mission of Mercy (cont.)

Lisa's Story

"Lisa", a 30-year-old single mother with a daughter in fourth grade, is expecting a baby in two months. Her pregnancy has been difficult and caused her to miss work for doctor appointments and medical interventions. Because of this, she lost her job last July. The child's father is incarcerated so there is no child support. Lisa's only income comes from Medicaid and food stamps. She used her final paycheck to cover part of her rent, but by August, she was facing eviction. She was also behind on a car loan and feared repossession. FSS stepped in, covered a month's rent, and kept eviction at bay. This gave Lisa a reprieve and space to focus on finding a new job, giving her a chance to get back on top of her finances.

Alyssa's Story

"Alyssa", a 50-year-old single mother with a 13-year-old son and 12-year-old daughter, has been struggling to pay rent after being diagnosed with congestive heart failure, which has prevented her from working. She has applied for and is hoping to receive disability assistance. FSS provided a month's rent to help Alyssa and her children while they wait for the outcome of her disability application.

Thanks to the generosity of our donors, stories like Lisa's and Alyssa's are possible. Through ongoing support, we are able to carry out our mission daily, providing compassion to families in their most vulnerable moments.

We ask for the intercession of St. Faustina, who celebrates her feast day on October 5th: **St. Faustina, patroness of mercy, pray for us!**

CSS PUBLICATIONS SURVEY

*What do you like to hear about?
How often do you like to hear from us?*

We appreciate your feedback!

Send in your response by Nov 1 for a chance to win a \$100 CSS SWAG GIFT CARD!

Thank you for supporting **HOPE IN THE GOOD LIFE!**