



National Advocacy Priorities 2009-2010

Lutheran Community Services Northwest partners for health, justice and hope. We live out our mission through our programs, people and principles. As such, we believe in the role of the people in affecting public policy and legislation.

We strongly advocate for the following issues:

Healthcare Reform: Lutheran Services of America states “Reform involves everyone pulling together toward affordable, sustainable, quality health care for all.” LCSNW seeks healthcare reform that includes:

- Universal Access: Healthcare reform with no exclusions, with full continuity of care and complete portability.
- Parity: Mental healthcare shall have equal value and coverage and include substance abuse treatment.
- Public Option: Akin to Medicare, the public option enables healthcare that is available to anyone regardless of circumstances.

Immigration Reform: LCSNW seeks “just and humane immigration reform”. As defined by Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Services, we recognize that immigrants and their families are harmed by increased U.S. government enforcement that is often arbitrary and unjust. We urge reform that is compassionate, fair and consistent with our values as an immigrant nation and nation of family values. As such we encourage:

- Active participation by our legislators in the Refugee Caucus
- Due Process and pathways to citizenship for refugees and immigrants
- Enforcement policies that respect family unity and protects children
- Humane and fair enforcement practices

Call to Action: Please write your local legislators and encourage them to support the above efforts to strengthen and protect our families and communities. Your representatives can be reached at:

The Honorable (Senator’s Full Name)
U.S. Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510 Washington, D.C. 20515

OR

The Honorable (Representative’s Full Name)
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20510 Washington, D.C. 20515