



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Media Statement

Re: Decision to Discontinue LSI Residential Program in Waverly

After several discussions and careful deliberations with officials at the Iowa Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), and in recognizing there are other providers more fully equipped to provide the high level of care required for these youth, Lutheran Services in Iowa (LSI) has determined that they will transition out of residential services programming. Staff at LSI are working with HHS to transition the young women currently placed at the Bremwood Campus in Waverly to other residential facilities across the state over the next 30 days.

“It is important to note that the **Bremwood campus is NOT closing,**” said Renee Hardman, LSI President and CEO. “LSI will still have employees at Bremwood and will continue to provide other critical services for youth and families.

Hardman said LSI wants to do what is best for the young women who require intensive, therapeutic care on a 24/7 basis. She also stated that this change will allow LSI to fully focus on and elevate the agency’s core services including early childhood education, disability services, mental health programs, adoption and foster care, and immigrant and refugee services.

LSI’s priorities in the next few weeks are to ensure a smooth and collaborative transition for each of the young women in their care and to connect LSI staff impacted by this decision to alternative job opportunities.

“LSI has had a strong presence in the Waverly community for more than 20 years,” Hardman said. “We are grateful for the steadfast support from the citizens of Waverly and for the businesses, churches, City, and community organizations that have worked closely with us. We look forward to a continued partnership with this generous and supportive community.”

LSI is the 6th largest nonprofit agency in Iowa and serves thousands of Iowans annually to ensure parents have access to early childhood education, Iowans with disabilities are finding their independence, and children and families are receiving the mental health care (in a non-residential setting) they need to thrive. LSI is nationally accredited and proudly serves people of all ages, abilities, religions, sexes, gender identities, national origins, ethnicities, races, and sexual orientations. To learn more, visit LSIowa.org. Join us on Facebook at [Facebook.com/LSI.iowa](https://www.facebook.com/LSI.iowa).

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