

Lutheran Schools Association

The mission of the Lutheran Schools Association is to serve, support and represent the ministries of Lutheran schools in the greater metropolitan New York area, assisting them to provide quality, Christ-centered education. This mission was no more strongly felt than on Sept. 11, and during the months that followed. We continue to work with schools as they recover from the trauma. In partnership with and through funding provided by LDRNY, the Lutheran Schools Association has coordinated the following programs:

Lutheran School Tuition Assistance Program

This program benefits children who lost a parent or guardian on Sept. 11 or whose parents have lost their income as a direct result of Sept. 11. Several hundred thousand dollars have been distributed through this program.

Counseling

Any child or staff member needing help to deal with the trauma of Sept. 11 has received help and continues to receive help through various agencies. In addition, school counselors have been placed in schools which suffered the greatest number of human losses.

Crisis Training

Each school received a two-day crisis training workshop and was helped in developing their individual crisis plan. Follow-up for updating plans is provided. All plans are on file with local law enforcement and fire officials.

LDRNY

Lutheran Disaster Response
of New York

22 Cortlandt Street • 20th Floor
New York, NY 10007
1-866-864-1600
www.LDRNY.org

LDRNY MISSION STATEMENT

To respond directly and encourage and facilitate response from others to the needs of persons and their families affected both directly and indirectly by tragedy or disaster.

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Respite and Support

Teachers and administrators were and are able to take a break from both the emotional and physical pressures caused by the events of Sept. 11.



Educational

Various opportunities for exploring and fostering tolerance between different races and ethnic groups were and are being provided to parents, students and staffs.

RAINBOWS Peer Support Program

This program supports children who have suffered the trauma of any significant loss through the interaction of small support groups.

LDRNY funds tuition for students

Twins attended St. John's School in Glendale, victims of New York City's Sept. 11, extended tale of woe. Their father lost his job and their mother, who suffers from a chronic illness, valiantly tried to keep her hourly job, shopping for groceries and baby sitting for her neighbors, to help cover their mounting expenses. The family turned in their financial need to Project LIFE and the LDRNY Scholarship Fund. Thanks to the Scholarship Fund, the boys were able to stay in the sixth grade at St. John's.

A year later, the boys, now in the seventh grade, were still receiving aid from the LDRNY Scholarship Fund. Their father had been fortunate enough to find work. Their mother's health was improving. The family was even able to accept responsibility for a portion of their sons' tuition.

In September 2003, with the boys entering eighth grade at St. John's, their father lost his job for the second time. While the boys are still receiving LDRNY scholarship aid, the family can no longer afford to contribute to their sons' tuition.

The twins' mother wrote a "Thank You" note for all the help she had received from LDRNY's Scholarship Fund, but unfortunately had to take the children out of St. John's School. After one month in public school, LDRNY's Scholarship Fund stepped in a third time and resumed responsibility for the boys' tuition and they returned to their eighth grade class at St. John's.

The boys are thrilled to be back in their Lutheran School and are grateful to LDRNY for making this possible. Best of all, they will now be able to graduate with their friends. What a gift!