

Local Congregational Social Ministry Activity in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America January 11, 2001

Social ministry is an important part of the ministry of most congregations in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Caring for others, particularly those in need, is a witness to the Gospel. In an attempt to describe the nature and extent of social ministry, the Department for Research and Evaluation, in cooperation with the Division for Church in Society, fielded two questionnaires to a sample of 700 ELCA congregations.¹ The first questionnaire was mailed in February of 1999. Four hundred sixty-two congregations returned the first questionnaire (66%). In an attempt to confirm and track the results of the first questionnaire, a second questionnaire was mailed in June 2000.² Three hundred and fifty-one congregations returned the second questionnaire (50%). The findings presented here are based on responses to the initial questionnaire. In large part, the findings of the second questionnaire matched the first.

We know that most congregations provide financial support to persons in need through their financial gifts. In a recent survey, 88 percent of ELCA congregations indicated that they provide cash assistance to families or individuals either directly or in cooperation with other agencies.³ Based on the current survey, 40 percent of congregations indicated that they provided financial support to a local community organization to help homeless persons and 38 percent are involved in some type of support for Habitat for Humanity projects. Twenty percent of congregations also noted they provide home energy (heat and utility) assistance. But, in general, this study was designed to go further—to focus on the involvement of congregations beyond financial support. We wanted to know how many congregations provided physical space for a ministry, or volunteers, or even direct oversight.⁴

Types of Social Ministry Activities?

Congregations choose a variety of ways to engage in social ministry, often dependent upon their particular ministry context. Forty-six percent of congregations are involved with a food bank with 38 percent providing space, volunteers or both. Collecting for a food bank is the most common

¹ Because we believed that the social ministry activity of congregations may vary significantly by the size of congregations, we randomly selected 100 congregations in seven different size categories for a total of 700 congregations. We determined the size of a congregation based on its baptized membership in 1998. The size categories were 1-175; 176-350; 351-500; 501-700; 701-950; 951-1500; and 1500 or more. We statistically weighted the returns presented here so that they are representative of the ELCA as a whole. In the future we will pursue difference related to size.

² For the mailing of the second questionnaire, we supplemented the first sample with a set of new randomly selected congregations in each of the appropriate size categories. We did this to replace those congregations that did not respond to the first questionnaire. As a result, the second questionnaire was mailed to a total of 700 congregations which included 411 congregations that responded to the first questionnaire and agreed to receive a second, and 289 congregations which received the questionnaire for the first time.

³ Based on data from a survey of ELCA congregations participating in the *Cooperative Congregational Studies Project*. Detailed frequencies are available upon request from the Department for Research and Evaluation, ELCA.

⁴ We defined direct oversight to mean that the “ministry is a significant part of the congregation’s life and the congregation plays a significant role in providing oversight to the persons managing or running the program and in providing or raising its financial support.”

congregational social ministry activity that goes beyond simple financial support. Thirty percent of congregations provided clothing, 23 percent have a food pantry in their church building, 22 percent provide home energy (heat and utility) and 22 percent have a preschool in their church building. Other types of activity are also presented in Figure 1.

The vast majority of congregations are not engaged in more intensive social ministry activities, but a few provide space, volunteers or direct oversight for substance abuse programs (8%), mental health services (7%), tutoring programs (6%), for soup kitchens (5%), for youth at risk (5%), for medical services (3%), job counseling (3%), and legal services (1%). (See Figure 2.)

In terms of the most significant level of social ministry involvement—13 percent of congregations provide **direct oversight** for preschools and 9 percent of congregations provide direct oversight for a food pantry and 6 percent for food bank collection activities.

How Many are Served?

It is difficult to make reliable estimates with regard to the number of people served by congregational social ministry. What do we mean, for example, by providing service? Do congregations keep actual counts? Despite these difficulties, we asked congregations that have direct oversight for a social ministry to estimate the number of persons served. It is our belief that when congregations provide direct oversight for a ministry they are more likely to know the number of persons that are being served. Table 1 shows the estimates.

Twenty-two percent of the congregations who provide direct oversight for a social ministry reported turning persons away “due to lack of capacity.” Eleven percent reported a waiting list for some service provided by the social ministry.

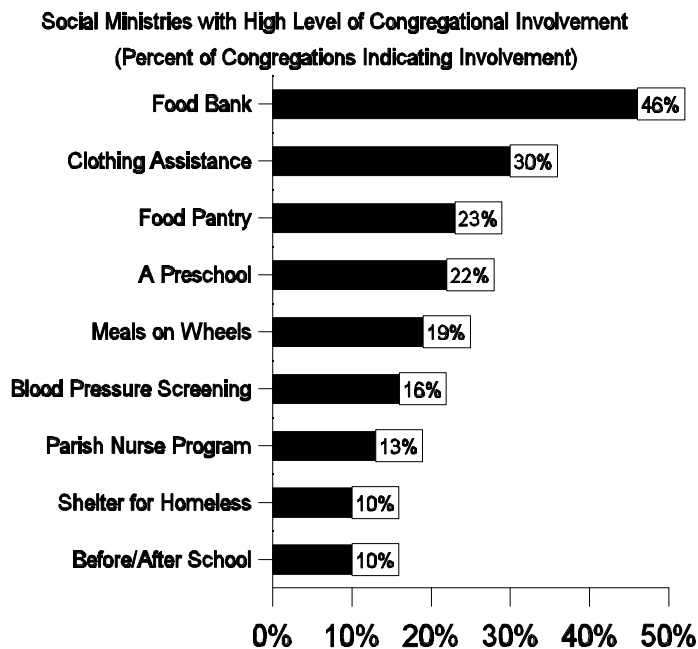


Figure 1

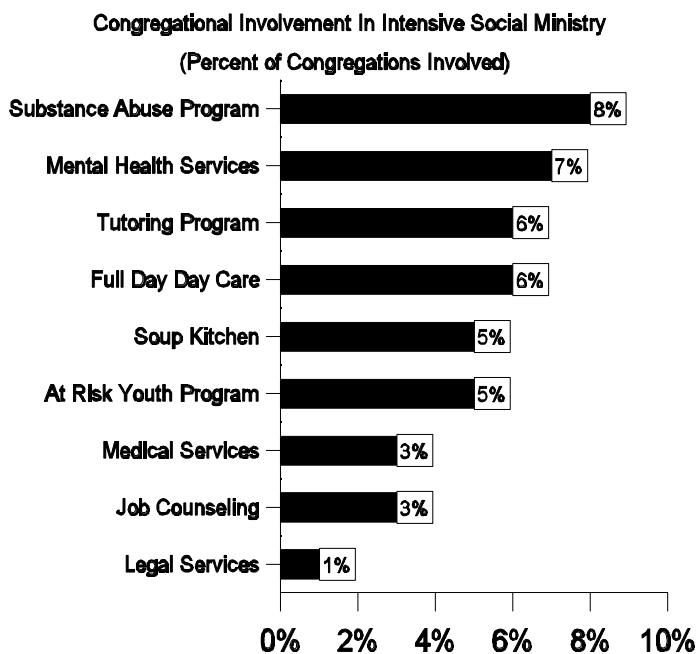


Figure 2

Table 1

Number of People Served by the Social Ministries of Congregations in the ELCA in 1998 <i>(the estimates include only programs for which congregations provide direct oversight)</i>				
Program	Percent of Congregations with Direct Oversight	Average Number of Persons Served	Estimated Total Number of Congregations in the ELCA with the Program (N=10,689)	Estimated Total Number of Persons Served by the Program
a food pantry	9.4%	1,861	1,005	1,869,870
a food bank collecting for other agencies	5.9%	2,562	631	1,615,728
a WIC program	1.1%	4,845	118	569,670
a "soup" kitchen	1.9%	1,137	231	230,914
a preschool	13.1%	58	1,400	81,215
full day child care	3.3%	82	323	28,924
before and/or after school program	7.1%	32	759	24,285
tutoring program (for children)	2.6%	27	278	7,531
program for at risk youth	1.9%	30	203	6,093

Who is Served?

Table 2 shows the characteristic of the persons served in 1998 by the social ministries of congregations with direct oversight for that ministry. The congregations with direct oversight reported that 75 percent of the persons served were members of their congregation and 80 percent served came from the local community.

Table 2

Characteristics of People Served by the Social Ministries of Congregations in the ELCA in 1998 <i>(the estimates include only programs for which congregations provide direct oversight)</i>					
White	67%	Female	60%	Under age 5	21%
African American	17%	Male	40%	5 to 18	19%
Hispanic	8%			19 to 64	20%
Native American	3%	Physically disabled	5%	65 and over	22%
Asian/Pacific Islander	2%	Members of Single Parent Families	31%		
Other	1%				

What Does It Cost?

The amount of money budgeted for social ministries in 1999 was approximately \$15,000 for congregations with direct oversight of social ministries, but the amount of money actually spent was closer to \$17,000 per congregation.

Most congregations (73%) with direct oversight of ministries charge no fees for any of the social services that they provide, but about 22 percent of congregations indicated that they had turned persons away because of a lack of capacity.

Can Congregations Do More?

No more than one-third of ELCA congregations devote a significant amount of their time and budget to local social ministry activities, and the vast majority of these congregations are engaged in collecting and distributing food and clothing. While the amount of volunteer time is substantial and significant, about \$30 million is spent by ELCA congregations in local social ministry activity. The average for congregations is \$2,500 and the median is \$500. Congregations spend the vast majority of money available to them on salaries for clergy, maintaining the facilities and paying for other ministry programs and resources. About eight percent of the expenses of congregations are spent in support of the ministries of the synod and churchwide organization of the ELCA. For congregations to substantially increase their role in local social ministry, most would have to increase the size of their budgets or significantly redistribute what is available to them. Forty percent of ELCA congregations have operating budgets of less than \$74,000 a year, and fewer than 10 percent have operating expenses of more than \$275,000. Once these congregations pay the costs of full-time professional clergy, there is little left over. Other than to apply for government aid (which 10 percent report having done), the only real avenue open to congregations is to increase the level of their efforts that have low direct costs such as gathering and distributing food and clothing and/or volunteering for projects financed by others like Habitat for Humanity. This is indeed, what most congregations do. In short, it is very unlikely that local ELCA congregations could provide a significant safety net for persons in need if the government were to substantially reduce its role.

Appendix 1: Full Sample For Survey 1 and Survey 2
CONGREGATION SURVEY ON SOCIAL MINISTRY ACTIVITY
Division for Church in Society and the Department for Research and Evaluation
 Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

Survey 1: N=462

Survey 2: N=351

We want to know about the level and type of the congregation's participation with social service ministries. In this questionnaire we distinguish between **Providing Space and/or Volunteers** and **Direct Oversight**.

By **Providing Space and/or Volunteers** we mean contributing space and/or volunteers for the work of a social service ministry without being in direct oversight of that social service ministry. By **Direct Oversight** we mean that the ministry is a significant part of the congregation's life and that the congregation plays a significant role in providing oversight to the persons managing or running the program and in providing or raising its financial support.

For our purposes, **do not indicate that the congregation is participating with a social service ministry** if it provides financial support or in-kind donations, but does not provide space and/or volunteers or direct oversight to that ministry.

Finally, if a particular question does not seem applicable to your congregation or you do not readily know the answer, skip it and move on to the next question. When filling in the circles, please **completely fill** in the circle (●). **Please do not place a ✓ or an X in or on top of the circles.**

1. Please indicate below any childcare or early childhood ministries for which your congregation provides space and/or volunteers or direct oversight. **Do not** include nursery during Sunday Services or Christian education activities (Sunday School, VBS, etc.) *(Fill in the circle next to all that apply and then indicate your type of involvement where appropriate)*

Space/Volunteers or Oversight? (Fill in the circle if the answer is "Yes")	How? <i>(fill in one circle only)</i>	Provide Volunteers <u>Only</u>	Provide Space <u>Only</u>	Provide Both Volunteers and Space	Provide Direct Oversight	Approximate Number of Persons Served in 1998/1999
22.1%	a preschool	0.2%	7.1	1.6	13.1	58 avg.
22.9		-	9.1	1.3	12.3	48 avg.
5.8	full day child care	-	1.7	0.5	3.3	82 avg.
5.8		-	1.7	0.4	3.7	49 avg.
2.4	Head Start	-	1.8	0.5	0.1	28 avg.
3.4		-	-	3.0	0.4	16 avg.
1.6	an elementary school	0.3	0.7	0.1	0.5	82 avg.
2.7		0.6	0.9	-	1.2	122 avg.
10.1	before and/or after school program	0.3	1.8	1.4	6.5	32 avg.
10.7		0.1	2.7	0.8	7.0	38 avg.
6.1	tutoring program (for children)	1.0	1.6	0.9	2.6	27 avg.
6.4		2.4	1.6	0.8	1.5	48 avg.
4.8	program for at risk youth	0.8	1.3	0.8	1.9	30 avg.
4.2		0.6	1.0	1.0	1.5	29 avg.

If you indicated the congregation provides Direct Oversight for any of the social ministries listed above, please answer Question 2. Otherwise, skip to Question 3.

2. Do you provide aid in any of the following ways to the children (or parents/guardians) who participate in the congregation's programs? *(Fill in the circle next to all that apply)*

13.8%	14.2	offer scholarships to low-income children
2.6	2.4	accept vouchers to subsidize low-income children
2.3	2.3	use government programs to help subsidize cost of food

3. Is your congregation involved in providing shelter for those in need in any of the following ways? (For this question, providing financial support alone is considered involvement. Fill in the circle next to all that apply.)

- 10.4%** 11.1 make beds and shelter available for the homeless
- 46.5** 40.4 provide financial support to a local community organization to help homeless persons
- 36.4** 38.4 involved in Habitat for Humanity projects
- 21.7** 20.4 provide home energy (heat and utility) assistance
- 8.9** 8.8 involved in other forms of housing activities

4. Does your congregation provide space and/or volunteers or direct oversight to any program(s) that provide(s) food for those in need in any of the following ways? (Fill in the circle next to all that apply and then indicate the nature of involvement where appropriate)

Space/Volunteers or Oversight? (Fill in the circle if the answer is "Yes")	How? (fill in one circle only)	Provide Volunteers Only	Provide Space Only	Provide Both Volunteers and Space	Provide Direct Oversight	Approximate Number of Persons Served in 1998/1999
22.5% 16.1	a food pantry in church building	3.6 3.4	1.6 0.3	7.5 4.6	9.4 7.1	1861 avg. 1708 avg.
45.7 43.7	a food bank to collect for agencies	19.4 19.6	3.6 4.7	15.3 13.9	5.9 3.5	2562 avg. 175 avg.
5.2 4.0	a "soup" kitchen in the church building	2.5 1.4	-	0.9 0.5	1.9 2.1	1137 avg. 2854 avg.
3.1 3.7	a WIC program	0.2 0.4	1.5 3.0	-	1.1 -	4845 avg. 169 avg.
19.1 22.2	Meals on Wheels program	17.1 20.0	-	1.0 1.5	0.7 0.4	196 avg. 378 avg.

5. Is your congregation, by itself or in cooperation with other congregations or agencies, participating in the development of low-income rent subsidized housing for seniors or other persons? (For this question, providing financial support alone is considered involvement. Fill in the circle next to all that apply)

- 3.8%** 3.1 yes, exclusively for seniors
- 8.0** 7.2 yes, for other persons
- 64.5** 61.3 no
- 0.2** 0.7 don't know

6. Does your congregation provide space and/or volunteers or provide direct oversight to any social service ministries that provide any of the following? (Fill in the circle next to all that apply and indicate the number of persons served as appropriate)

Provide Space and/or Volunteers, or Provide Direct Oversight?		Approximate Number Served in 1998	Approximate Number Served in 1999
9.1%	7.9 a mentoring program	15 avg.	41 avg.
2.5	1.6 job training, interview training, etc.	31 avg.	11 avg.
2.9	1.6 job counseling	15 avg.	15 avg.
5.9	2.6 assistance with job searching	15 avg.	15 avg.
2.6	3.5 transportation to job interviews	7 avg.	17 avg.
3.3	2.0 education programs such as GED	36 avg.	231 avg.
-	0.4 participate in Charitable Choice Program	-	-
3.9	1.9 help poor apply for Medicaid assistance, etc.	28 avg.	17 avg.
0.5	1.6 participate in State Children's Health Insurance	6 avg.	-
12.6	14.6 a parish nurse program	95 avg.	123 avg.

Provide Space and/or Volunteers,
or Provide Direct Oversight?

Approximate
Number Served in 1998

Approximate
Number Served in 1999

16.1%	18.9	blood pressure screening	126 avg.	93 avg.
3.2	4.9	a community health clinic	41 avg.	147 avg.
3.9	5.5	health care volunteers for the community	29 ave.	67 avg.
29.7	27.7	clothing	1088 avg.	305 avg.
1.2	1.8	legal services	5 avg.	136 avg.
3.1	5.7	medical services	64 avg.	89 avg.
6.5	8.9	mental health services	37 avg.	393 avg.
8.2	6.1	substance abuse treatment	141 avg.	90 avg.

If you indicated you provided **Direct Oversight** to any social service ministry noted in any of the above questions, please answer Questions 7 through 14. **Otherwise, please skip to Question 15.**

7. Do the persons served by the social service ministries under the congregation's direct oversight come from one or all of the following? *(Fill in the circles for all that apply)* **32.0% of the congregations answered this question on the first survey and 37.3% answered this question on the second survey. Of those...**

75.0%	66.4	the congregation
80.4	81.7	the local community
40.5	42.0	by referral from other agencies/congregations
3.4	4.6	other

8. Please consider all the people served in the **last year** by the social service ministries for which the congregation provided direct oversight. To the best of your ability, estimate the approximate percentage of those people in the following categories:

A. White	66.8%	B. Female	60.0%	E. Under age 5	20.6%
African-American or Black	16.8	Male	40.5	Age 5 to 18	19.1
Hispanic	8.4			Age 19 to 64	38.3
Asian or Pacific Islander	1.6	C. Physically or Developmentally Disabled	5.1	Age 65/over	22.0
American Indian or Alaskan Native	3.4	D. Members of Single Parent Families	30.7		

9. Is there a waiting list for any of the social service ministries for which the congregation provides direct oversight? **34.6% of the congregations answered this question on the first survey and 36.5% answered this question on the second survey. Of those...**

89.4%	89.8	no	10.6	10.2	yes
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10. Does the congregation have to turn people away from any of the social service ministries for which the congregation provides direct oversight due to lack of capacity? **34.0% of the congregations answered this question on the first survey and 37.3% answered this question on the second survey. Of those...**

77.7%	80.2	no	Do you make referrals to those who you do turn away?		
22.3	19.8	yes	15.9%	9.9	most of the time
			4.5	5.3	some of the time
			1.9	14.6	seldom or hardly ever

11. What amount did the congregation budget in 1999 and in 2000 for all the social service ministries for which it provides direct oversight?
- \$14,739 avg. in 1999** \$ 14,356 avg. in 2000
12. What amount did the congregation spend for all the social service ministries for which it provided direct oversight in the year ...
- 1997 **\$16,624 avg.** 1998 **\$17,041 avg.** 1999 **\$219,633 avg.** (average jumps due to a very large grant received by one congregation.)
13. Does the congregation charge fees for any of the social services ministries that were mentioned above?
37.2% of the congregations answered this question on the first survey and 35.9% answered this question on the second survey. Of those...
- 26.7%** 16.7 yes
73.3 83.3 no
14. In the last year, have you referred people who ask for charitable assistance to other congregations or social service ministries?
- 72.9%** 68.5 yes
17.5 22.4 no
9.4 9.1 no response
15. Is the congregation currently served by a full-time paid pastor?
- 20.8%** no
78.9 yes
16. Does the congregation employ other full-time staff?
- 69.8%** no
27.9 yes
2.3 no response
17. Does the congregation employ part-time staff?
- 11.4** no
87.4 yes
1.2 no response
18. Does the congregation have a Women of the ELCA unit?
- 27.0%** 26.4 no
72.5 71.0 yes
- Does the Women of the ELCA unit at your church provide any of the following services?
- 6.8%** 9.3 food pantry
1.8 10.5 child care
6.2 14.3 transportation assistance
20.0 16.5 other

The following questions were only part of the second survey:

a. Has your congregation applied for any type of government aid for the programs for which you provide direct oversight? **37.6% of the congregations answered this question.**

-	Yes, but we did not qualify for or did not receive any aid
10.6%	Yes, and we did receive governmental aid
89.4	no

b, Does your congregation employ any staff whose primary responsibility is for social service ministry programs?

85.8%	no
6.7	yes
7.4	no response

CONGREGATION SURVEY ON SOCIAL MINISTRY ACTIVITY

Division for Church in Society and the Department for Research and Evaluation

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

N=212

Survey 1

Survey
2

We want to know about the level and type of the congregation's participation with social service ministries. In this questionnaire we distinguish between **Providing Space and/or Volunteers** and **Direct Oversight**.

By **Providing Space and/or Volunteers** we mean contributing space and/or volunteers for the work of a social service ministry without being in direct oversight of that social service ministry. By **Direct Oversight** we mean that the ministry is a significant part of the congregation's life and that the congregation plays a significant role in providing oversight to the persons managing or running the program and in providing or raising its financial support.

For our purposes, **do not indicate that the congregation is participating with a social service ministry** if it provides financial support or in-kind donations but does not provide space and/or volunteers or direct oversight to that ministry.

Finally, if a particular question does not seem applicable to your congregation or you do not readily know the answer, skip it and move on to the next question. When filling in the circles, please **completely fill** in the circle (●). **Please do not place a ✓ or an X in or on top of the circles.**

1. Please indicate below any childcare or early childhood ministries for which your congregation provides space and/or volunteers or direct oversight. **Do not** include nursery during Sunday Services or Christian education activities (Sunday School, VBS, etc.) *(Fill in the circle next to all that apply and then indicate your type of involvement where appropriate)*

Space/Volunteers or Oversight? (Fill in the circle if the answer is "Yes")	How? <i>(fill in one circle only)</i>	Provide Volunteers <u>Only</u>	Provide Space <u>Only</u>	Provide Both Volunteers and Space	Provide Direct Oversight	Approximate Number of Persons Served in 1998/1999
24.8%	a preschool	-	8.1%	1.3	15.8	43 avg.
25.9		-	10.4	0.7	14.6	49 avg.
7.3	full day child care	-	1.7	0.2	5.4	88 avg.
7.4		-	2.3	0.7	4.5	47 avg.
1.2	Head Start	-	1.0	0.2	-	32 avg.
2.1		-	1.5	0.7	-	15 avg.
1.0	an elementary school	-	0.3	0.2	0.5	174 avg.
2.2		0.8	0.9	-	0.5	126 avg.
8.5	before and/or after school program	0.2	2.1	0.4	5.9	43 avg.
13.9		0.2	4.4	0.3	8.6	38 avg.
6.1	tutoring program (for children)	1.5	1.3	0.8	2.4	24 avg.
6.4		1.6	1.5	0.9	2.4	29 avg.
4.5	program for at risk youth	1.6	1.6	0.3	0.9	45 avg.
4.5		1.0	1.6	-	1.6	32 avg.

If you indicated the congregation provides Direct Oversight for any of the social ministries listed above, please answer Question 2. Otherwise, skip to Question 3.

2. Do you provide aid in any of the following ways to the children (or parents/guardians) who participate in the congregation's programs? *(Fill in the circle next to all that apply)*

12.5%	14.3	offer scholarships to low-income children
3.1	3.9	accept vouchers to subsidize low-income children
2.4	4.9	use government programs to help subsidize cost of food

3. Is your congregation involved in providing shelter for those in need in any of the following ways? (For this question, providing financial support alone is considered involvement. Fill in the circle next to all that apply.)

11.5% 11.6 make beds and shelter available for the homeless
43.2 40.0 provide financial support to a local community organization to help homeless persons
40.1 43.7 involved in Habitat for Humanity projects
24.4 21.7 provide home energy (heat and utility) assistance
8.8 9.0 involved in other forms of housing activities

4. Does your congregation provide space and/or volunteers or direct oversight to any program(s) that provide(s) food for those in need in any of the following ways? (Fill in the circle next to all that apply and then indicate the nature of involvement where appropriate)

Space/Volunteers or Oversight? (Fill in the circle if the answer is "Yes")	How? (fill in one circle only)	Provide Volunteers Only	Provide Space Only	Provide Both Volunteers and Space	Provide Direct Oversight	Approximate Number of Persons Served in 1998/1999
20.2% 15.8	a food pantry in church building	3.9 3.1	1.1 0.5	8.8 4.2	6.3 7.0	671 avg. 1941 avg.
46.3 43.3	a food bank to collect for agencies	22.5 18.6	2.0 4.8	12.6 15.6	8.0 3.3	1128 avg. 193 avg.
7.8 4.1	a "soup" kitchen in the church building	3.7 0.9	-	1.5 0.2	2.6 2.9	1450 avg. 2482 avg.
3.5 4.7	a WIC program	- 0.5	3.0 3.7	- 0.5	-	403 avg. 169 avg.
23.9 26.4	Meals on Wheels program	21.2 25.1	-	1.2 1.1	1.4 0.3	231 avg. 57 avg.

5. Is your congregation, by itself or in cooperation with other congregations or agencies, participating in the development of low-income rent subsidized housing for seniors or other persons? (For this question, providing financial support alone is considered involvement. Fill in the circle next to all that apply)

3.5% 3.6 yes, exclusively for seniors
5.9 7.8 yes, for other persons
57.9 61.8 no
0.4 1.2 don't know

6. Does your congregation provide space and/or volunteers or provide direct oversight to any social service ministries that provide any of the following? (Fill in the circle next to all that apply and indicate the number of persons served as appropriate)

Provide Space and/or Volunteers, or Provide Direct Oversight?		Approximate Number Served in 1998	Approximate Number Served in 1999
9.5%	8.0 a mentoring program	23 avg.	27 avg.
1.9	1.6 job training, interview training, etc.	23 avg.	11 avg.
3.7	2.6 job counseling	5 avg.	15 avg.
5.5	3.1 assistance with job searching	0 avg.	16 avg.
3.0	4.5 transportation to job interviews	5 avg.	10 avg.
2.3	1.9 education programs such as GED	36 avg.	320 avg.
-	0.6 participate in Charitable Choice Program	-	-
3.1	2.8 help poor apply for Medicaid assistance, etc.	22 avg.	17 avg.
0.6	2.0 participate in State Children's Health Insurance	6 avg.	-
11.1	14.2 a parish nurse program	95 avg.	93 avg.

Provide Space and/or Volunteers,
or Provide Direct Oversight?

Approximate
Number Served in 1998

Approximate
Number Served in 1999

17.0%	17.4	blood pressure screening	83 avg.	93 avg.
4.2	6.4	a community health clinic	41 avg.	173 avg.
6.1	7.1	health care volunteers for the community	25 ave.	55 avg.
29.4	26.2	clothing	273 avg.	430 avg.
0.7	2.9	legal services	10 avg.	136 avg.
3.4	6.4	medical services	57 avg.	89 avg.
5.6	6.3	mental health services	45 avg.	326 avg.
6.6	6.7	substance abuse treatment	137 avg.	96 avg.

If you indicated you provided **Direct Oversight** to any social service ministry noted in any of the above questions, please answer Questions 7 through 14. **Otherwise, please skip to Question 15.**

7. Do the persons served by the social service ministries under the congregation's direct oversight come from one or all of the following? *(Fill in the circles for all that apply)* **28.3% of the congregations answered this question on the first survey and 35.4% answered this question on both the first and second survey. Of those...**

68.3%	70.7	the congregation
83.3	90.7	the local community
38.3	46.7	by referral from other agencies/congregations
3.3	2.7	other

8. Please consider all the people served in the **last year** by the social service ministries for which the congregation provided direct oversight. To the best of your ability, estimate the approximate percentage of those people in the following categories:

A. White	70.4%	B. Female	56.1%	E. Under age 5	24.7%
African-American or Black	19.2	Male	46.4	Age 5 to 18	22.0
Hispanic	4.2			Age 19 to 64	33.1
Asian or Pacific Islander	2.2	C. Physically or Developmentally Disabled	6.2	Age 65/over	17.7
American Indian or Alaskan Native	3.2	D. Members of Single Parent Families	33.6		

9. Is there a waiting list for any of the social service ministries for which the congregation provides direct oversight? **28.8% of the congregations answered this question on the first survey and 36.5% answered this question on the second survey. Of those...**

88.5%	89.8	no	11.5	10.2	yes
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10. Does the congregation have to turn people away from any of the social service ministries for which the congregation provides direct oversight due to lack of capacity? **28.8% of the congregations answered this question on the first survey and 37.3% answered this question on the second survey. Of those...**

78.7%	80.2	no			
21.3	19.8	yes	Do you make referrals to those who you do turn away?		
			14.8%	9.9	most of the time
			1.6	5.3	some of the time
			4.9	14.6	seldom or hardly ever

11. What amount did the congregation budget in 1999 and in 2000 for all the social service ministries for which it provides direct oversight?

\$14,185 avg. in 1999 \$ 14,356 avg. in 2000

12. What amount did the congregation spend for all the social service ministries for which it provided direct oversight in the year ...

1997 **\$23,877** avg. 1998 **\$19,805** avg. 1999 \$219,633 avg. (average jumps due to a very large grant received by one congregation.)

13. In the last year, have you referred people who ask for charitable assistance to other congregations or social service ministries?

70.7%	68.5	yes
16.3	22.4	no
12.7	9.1	no response

14. Does the congregation have a Women of the ELCA unit?

26.9%	26.3	no
73.1	69.8	yes

Does the Women of the ELCA unit at your church provide any of the following services?

6.1%	8.0	food pantry
1.6	10.5	child care
4.0	0.4	transportation assistance
20.5	13.1	other

The following questions were only part of the second survey:

b, Does your congregation employ any staff whose primary responsibility is for social service ministry programs?

85.8%	no
6.7	yes
7.4	no response

THANK YOU FOR YOUR PARTICIPATION!
Please return to
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