

## LDRNY Comfort & Renew Grant Program

**L**utheran Disaster Response of New York developed the Comfort & Renew Grant program, with funding from Thrivent Financial for Lutherans, to support grassroots local and regional ministries, programs and efforts designed to comfort and renew people in response to the events and wave effects of Sept 11.

These programs provided very specific services and ministry for unique neighborhood needs including 35 community based remembrance and renewal events, neighborhood outreach to 9/11-effected immigrants, programs for families experiencing 9/11 related stress, community youth programs, assistance for congregation-based meal programs experiencing an increase in demand due to 9/11, and ESL classes for families who lost loved ones.

For more information, contact Jennifer Singer, Senior Coordinator, [Jennifer@LDRNY.org](mailto:Jennifer@LDRNY.org).



22 Cortlandt Street • 20th Floor  
New York, NY 10007  
1-866-864-1600  
[www.LDRNY.org](http://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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### **Walking the Mourner's Path**

Trinity Lutheran, White Plains, established a parish neighborhood outreach using a nationally recognized model to help 9/11 mourners work through bereavement issues. This eight-week program leads grieving people through a Christ-centered journey of remembrance, conversation, and healing.

### ***A Christian Response to 9/11***

The Northeast Queens Conference has offered a series of five seminars dealing with Christianity as a resource to address the trauma generated by Sept. 11. The five seminars were held three times during the year in different congregations of the conference, each series culminating in a weekend retreat focused on commitment by the attendees to work on a project to bring members of their community together in faith.

### ***Atlantic District, Lutheran Church Missouri Synod:***

#### **Village Lutheran Church in Bronxville/ Bereavement Center of Westchester**

Village Lutheran Church in Bronxville applied for a grant for the Bereavement Center of Westchester for services after 9/11. Village Lutheran is a partner church with the center. Bereavement center events and group meetings are held on a consistent basis at the church. The Bereavement Center used the funds received from LDRNY for special groups specifically for people who lost family members at the World Trade Center.

#### **Our Savior, Rego Park**

The additional stress and insecurity experienced by families after 9/11 surfaced at the congregation and school, and emphasized a need for parenting skills education and marriage enrichment. Community and school members are also feeling the pressure from a sluggish economy and unemployment. Our Saviour Lutheran is running several parenting seminars offered to the families of its school, and the marriage enrichment seminar.