



## Some New Faces in LSS

June was a busy month for LSS across Montana. We brought on three new staff members in three different offices, and we are excited for you to make their acquaintance.



First meet our new Executive Director, **Kathryn Sabol**, who has taken up residence in the Lillis Center at St. John's Lutheran Ministries in Billings.

Kathryn's personal and professional journey has meandered amiably, for many years, across the arts and the sciences. After teaching English at Montana State University in Billings for more than 20 years, she embarked on a new career, conducting methamphetamine research through UCLA, and then presenting the results to diverse audiences, nationwide. She has also worked as a public health specialist, a drug court coordinator, a college administrator, and a Peace Corps volunteer, where she learned to row a boat, very fast, through the jungles of South America.

Kathryn's bachelor's degree is in English Literature, and she holds a multidisciplinary Master of Education, with a specialization in psychology. She strives to bring peace and passion to all that she does, and she believes that in her work with Lutheran Social Services and through St. John's Lutheran Ministries, she has found her perfect place.



Next is **Carrie Sunwall**, the new Birth-parent/Adoption Counselor in the Great Falls office.

Carrie, a Great Falls native, received her BSW from the University of Montana in 2002. Following graduation, she moved to Albuquerque working with college students as the Team Leader with InterVarsity Christian Fellowship at the University of New Mexico. Carrie's passion for social justice and love for the poor allowed her to participate in five short-term mission trips to Kenya, East Africa, and Thailand, which included work among the orphans, Burmese refugees, children in the northern hill tribes, and bar girls in the red-light district in Bangkok.

Three years ago she moved back to Big Sky Country and worked for the Great Falls Rescue Mission Women and Family Shelter before joining the LSS staff team. Most of all, Carrie is excited to be a part of what God is doing as He brings healing and beauty into people's lives.



And finally we have **Tinalynne Haugen**, our new Birth-parent/Adoption Counselor in Missoula, who

is a licensed clinical social worker, holding a master's degree in Social Work.

Tinalynne is a "transplant" from Massachusetts where she earned her degree at Boston College and spent 10 years working with children, adults, and families in various settings. Tinalynne has been living in the Missoula area for over 8 years now and has fallen in love with the "quirky" town and the open skies. Tinalynne states, "I have always been fascinated with stars and space travel, even though I don't particularly like to fly! Nothing can compare to the night sky of Montana!"

In her free time Tinalynne works in the marriage preparation ministry at her church. Tinalynne is excited about working at LSS; she states: "Working for a faith-based organization that is dedicated to providing the best services to birth parents and adoptive families is an honor and I am excited to be part of this organization."

## THIS IS OUR LAST

### LSS NEWSLETTER . . . .

In this format, at least! We are working on some more efficient, up-to-date, dynamic ways to communicate with our friends, and this is what we've come up with:

**1** Stay up to date with LSS news by checking out our Website at [www.lssmt.org](http://www.lssmt.org). We are committed to keeping our Website brimming with our activities, pictures, and stories, and we'll be updating it regularly.

**2** Actively participate in our LSS conversations and information sessions by becoming a friend on our Facebook page. You can find our page by entering LSS of Montana in the search box. And please be sure to "Like" us when you find us!

**3** Read all about us in St. John Lutheran Ministries' official newsletter, **Rimrock Echoes**, which we send out to our friends three times each year. You may already be a subscriber, but if you aren't, please send an email to Sheila Howe at [sheilah@lssmt.org](mailto:sheilah@lssmt.org), and we will add you to our mailing list.

## Call FOR PHOTOS

If you have spent any time on the LSS Website, you've probably seen some wonderful photos like these:



We are always looking for pictures to tell the story of our ministry, and we would love to include pictures of our own adoptive families, in both our Website photo gallery and on our new Facebook page. If you would like us to post photos that bring your own personal journey to life, either as a birth parent, an adoptive family, or an adoptee, please send a JPEG to Kathryn Sabol at [ksabol@sjlm.org](mailto:ksabol@sjlm.org), including a brief description of the photo you would like us to use, as well as the story behind the photo. We'd love to hear from you, and to add your pictures to our growing gallery of friends.

## Call FOR ADOPTION STORIES

November of 2011 will mark the 60th Anniversary of Lutheran Social Services of Montana, and we would like to celebrate by publishing a collection of stories from birthparents, adoptive families, adoptees, and anyone else who has been touched by the beautiful gift of adoption. Would you be willing to share your story with us? Our goal is to receive a wide variety of perspectives about how adoption has touched people's hearts, across Montana and beyond. If you would like to be included in our publication, please contact Kathryn Sabol at [ksabol@sjlm.org](mailto:ksabol@sjlm.org). Those whose stories are chosen for publication will receive a free copy of our 60th Anniversary "Joining Hearts in Hope" collection. We are hoping to publish up to 20 adoption stories, with a word count limit of 500 words, along with a picture to illustrate each story. Submissions received before September 15, 2011, will have priority, but we will be accepting stories until 5:00 p.m. on the 1st of October.