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**Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan to Transfer  
Private Domestic Adoption Program to Holt International**  
*Key employees joining Holt team to assure a smooth transition*

WEST ALLIS, Wis. (May 16, 2019) – [Holt International Children's Services](#) and [Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan](#) (LSS) announced today that LSS will transfer its private domestic adoption program to Holt International. The transition of the program will be complete by June 3, 2019.

Approximately 60 families awaiting adoption will have the option to transfer their cases to Holt International. Holt has been expanding its presence in Wisconsin and has recently established a license in the state. To ensure a smooth transition, some members of the LSS adoption team will join the Holt team.

While Holt is best known for their pioneering work in international adoption and child welfare services, Holt also has a long history of helping to find loving, permanent families for children in the U.S. through domestic foster care and infant adoption. Families transferring from LSS will work with Holt's Illinois/Wisconsin branch office located in Bolingbrook, Illinois, where Holt began providing domestic adoption services in 2014.

"For more than 60 years, Holt International has been helping to build families through adoption. We are very excited to be adding the LSS domestic adoption program to our existing programs and look forward to helping even more children and families," said Amy Trotter, director of Holt's Illinois/Wisconsin branch. "We look forward to meeting with the families to assist them on the path toward creating their forever families."

LSS will continue to provide adoption services in the state of Wisconsin through public adoption. LSS works in partnership with the State of Wisconsin to place children from the foster care system into loving adoptive homes.

"LSS has made a difference in the lives of so many families through adoption. While this is a difficult decision, we are pleased that the program will continue with Holt International, which is internationally known for its adoption programs," said Héctor Colón, president and CEO of LSS. "Holt International shares our values of compassion and courage. We know the families awaiting adoption will be served well throughout this transition."

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***About Holt International***

Holt International seeks a world where every child has a loving and secure home. Since our founding in 1956, we have worked toward our vision through programs that strengthen and preserve families that are at risk of separation; by providing critical care and support to orphaned and vulnerable children; and by leading the global community in finding families for children who need them and providing the pre- and post-adoption support and resources they need to thrive. Always, we focus on each child's unique needs — keeping the child's best interest at the forefront of every decision. To learn more, visit [holtinternational.org](http://holtinternational.org).

***About Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan, Inc.***

Lutheran Social Services of Wisconsin and Upper Michigan strives to build healthy communities filled with people using their God-given gifts to serve. For more than 100 years, this has been our goal. At LSS we value compassion, co-creation, change and courage, instilling these core values in every community and residential program we offer. We believe in the infinite worth of every individual and because of this, we are committed to the growth and empowerment of others. To learn more about how LSS acts compassionately, serves humbly and leads courageously, visit [www.LSSwis.org](http://www.LSSwis.org).

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