



IOWA LUTHERAN SCHOOL
TUITION ORGANIZATION

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me..."

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

SCHOOL YEAR 2023-2024

SCHOOL	ENROLLMENT	\$ AWARDED
Boone	114	\$22,005
Clarinda	81	\$31,500
Denison	73	\$82,219
Fort Dodge	84	\$63,000
Paullina	65	\$94,949
Sioux City	28	\$15,750
Spencer	119	\$33,600
Cedar Falls	114	\$142,607
Cedar Rapids	206	\$104,247
Davenport	352	\$125,997
Latimer	34	\$16,000
Newhall	132	\$59,970
Readlyn	37	\$7,200
Williamsburg	92	\$17,325

\$616,449.67 DONATIONS
IN 2023



**200 FAMILIES
RECEIVED AID**

**337
STUDENTS
HELPED**



**170
DONORS**

1553

STUDENTS IN
IOWA LUTHERAN
SCHOOLS

14% INCREASE IN ENROLLMENT

IMPACT OF EDUCATION SAVINGS ACCOUNTS

The ESA implementation went very well considering the quick turnaround between the program's passage and implementation this fall. The impact on the Student Tuition Organization (STO) was felt in several ways. Since many of the students were now eligible for the ESA, less students needed the STO. However, the need was far greater for those who did not qualify for the ESA funding. For this past year, STO funds were directed at families who still qualified for the STO funds but did not qualify for the ESA funds. Also, several of our schools have tuition amounts over the ESA amount so some STO funds were directed to those families as well. Since income guidelines for the ESA will change again for next year, the funding formula for the STO will also likely change. Legislative action this spring could also cause changes to the STO formula.

One of the areas that has received the most attention since the school year started is tuition rates. Many of our Lutheran schools have tuition amounts far below the cost of education for each student. Over the years and well before the passage of the ESA bill, schools have been adjusting tuition to move closer to the actual cost to educate. The Iowa Association of Christian Schools (IACS) reports: "Iowa is seeing fewer private schools close and more look to open since the trend has begun to change old, unsustainable models to modern ones that provide more opportunities for students and afford schools the ability to compete for talent."

Iowa Alliance for Choice in Christian Education also stated: "The move to tuition models that are more closely aligned with costs will help, over time, private schools to attract faculty and staff (their biggest hurdle moving forward) and to reverse the trend of private school closures that have plagued the private education sector nationwide for two decades."

Despite the ESA program, there is still a need for the STO program. The tuition assistance awarded by the STO program will fill the financial need created by the ESA program, increase in school tuition, decrease in church funding, and decrease in fundraising events. Our schools have seen an increase in stability with the ESA program and in the past several years have seen an increase in enrollment due to the ESA program as well as other factors. - Dewey Torkelson, Program Manager

WAYS TO GIVE

 **GRAIN
DONATION**

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DONATION** 

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DONATION**

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CHOICE
DOLLARS** 

 **MAIL A
CHECK**

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