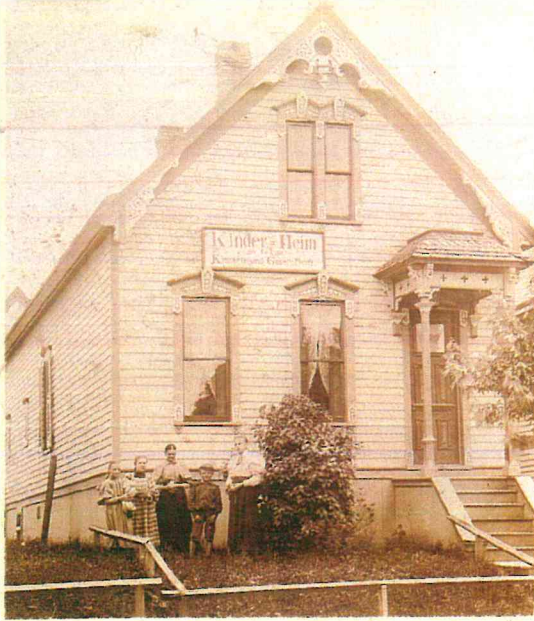


# The century



First foster home

## In 1896 ...

➤ Grover Cleveland was president of the United States; Adlai Ewing Stevenson was vice-president.

➤ The first motorcar produced by Duryea Motor Wagon Co., Springfield, Mass, was offered for public sale. Bicycles were popular because newly invented rubber tires improved the ride over the iron tires of the past. Streetcars appeared in Milwaukee in the early '90s.

➤ The first public showing of a motion picture took place in New York.

➤ A gold rush to Canada's Klondike near the Alaskan border begins.

➤ The Milwaukee Sentinel sold for 3¢.

➤ Cracker Jacks, Tootsie Rolls and match books were introduced in 1896. The Post Office offered Rural Free Delivery in Virginia for the first time anywhere.

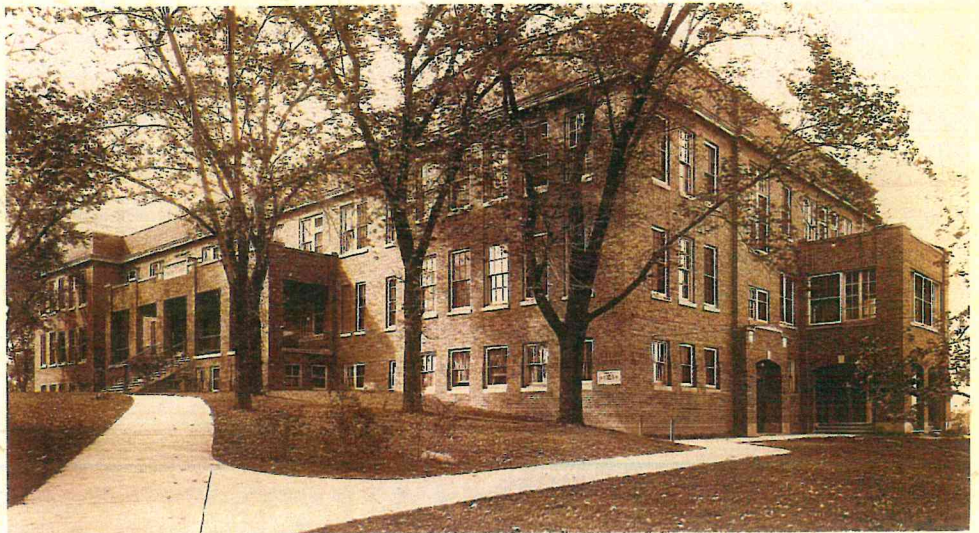
➤ LCFS paid foster parents \$3 a week for care of one child, 50¢ for each additional child.

➤ Diphtheria took 400 lives in Milwaukee in 1892. The same year 244 died of small pox. Many children were orphaned.

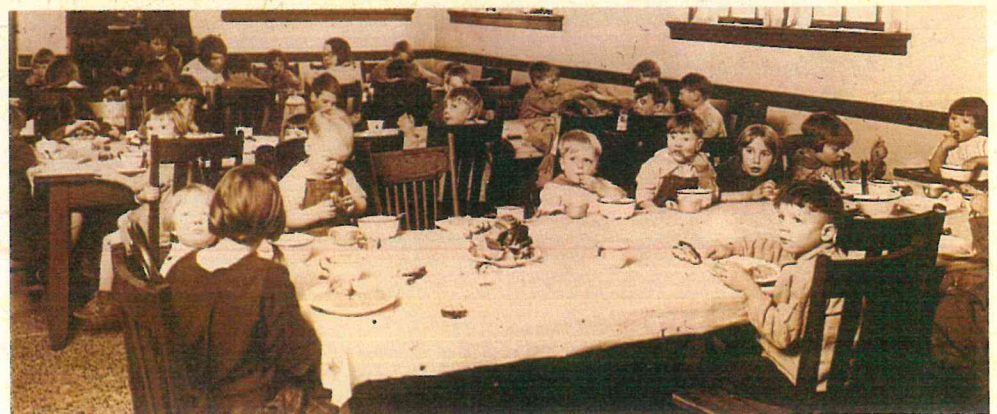
1896 marked the beginning of a century of caring for LCFS. A group of influential Lutheran laymen and pastors had a revolutionary concept for caring for "homeless, dependent and neglected" children who were housed permanently in orphanages. The Evangelical Lutheran Kinderfreund (Children's Friend) Society of Wisconsin's objective was to "care for them by placing them in suitable family homes,

either for adoption, or for care and training ..." The founders described the organization as a "home-finding" society.

Many long-time Lutherans remember the children's home on Harwood Avenue in Wauwatosa. The building, dedicated in 1924, was expanded in 1926 because of the pressing need for child care services. LCFS became Lutheran Children's Friend Society in 1941.



Kinderheim, Wauwatosa, circa: 1926.



Kinderheim children in dining hall, circa: 1935.