



LOVE IN THE NAME OF CHRIST OF SOUTH WOOD COUNTY
United in Purpose - Igniting Hope Through Love

September 2019



Above: Wisconsin Love INC Affiliates from Sheboygan County and South Wood County.

LOVE INC NATIONAL GATHERING

The annual Love INC National Gathering was August 14-16 in Chaska Minnesota at the Westwood Community Church. There were affiliates attending from across the nation including seven from Kenya. Attending from our affiliate were DaNita Carlson, Deb Skerven, Paula Graves, and Rick Merdan. There were tracks covering several areas of interest to affiliates including;

- Faith & Finances
- Work Life
- Affirming Potential
- Leadership
- Peacemaker
- Redemptive Compassion
- Love INC Core
- Marketing & Communications



The Love INC movement is experiencing exponential growth with 39 additional affiliates in development.

The new national strategic direction includes four areas of focused action:

- Increasing the diversity of the national and affiliate staff and boards
- Increasing the number of youth, those in their teens and twenties, involved in the affiliates
- Breaching the model into more urban areas as most are in rural areas
- Having the Love INC model seen as a national role model and thought leader

JULY LOVE STORY

(Names have been changed)

Arnie and his wife are faithful followers of Christ. He is a Veteran who served in the Vietnam War and has always had a heart for helping others. Arnie has difficulty breathing and moving around due to the effects of exposure to Agent Orange while serving our country. He contacted Love INC because he needed dependable help with snow removal. With the gracious network of Love INC churches, Love INC has been able to provide not only snow removal but also spring yard clean-up, rain gutter cleaning, and continued help with mowing and trimming of his yard.

While volunteers were at his home helping and conversing, they heard a truck having trouble starting across the street. Upon hearing this, Arnie hobbled over and tried to help the two gentlemen with their truck. Because of his health issues he was unable to help for long but opened his garage for the gentlemen and told them where to find all the tools they needed to help get their truck running again. Nothing like “paying it forward”!

This is a great example of the Lord not only providing the much-needed help for Arnie and his wife through Love INC churches, but also blessing others in the process.



Faith Reformed is having an outdoor service at Lake Wazeecha by the Red Sands Shelter House on **Sunday, September 8th** at 10:00am. In the event of inclement weather, they will worship in the shelter house. Everyone is warmly invited to attend.

Saint Lawrence is having their 16th Annual Harvest Buffet on **Wednesday, September 25th** from 11:00am – 1:00 pm in the church hall at 530 10th Avenue North. The menu includes hot dishes, pasta & fruit salads, desserts & beverages. Cost: Adults - \$9, Children ages 4-9 - \$5. Everyone is welcome!

Port Edwards United Methodist is dedicating their newly repaired Fellowship Hall, lounge and kitchen area during the 10:00am church service on **Sunday, September 29th** followed by a lunch. All are invited to attend.



JULY DATA

For the month of July, the Connection Center received 89 calls with 35 new requests for assistance. There was a total of 15 referrals to our partner churches helping to mobilize the “people in the pews”.

The top needs were:

- Financial Assistance – 22
- Service Needs – 10
- Material Needs – 7
- Transportation – 2



VOLUNTEER QUOTE

“Volunteering as an Intake Specialist at Love INC has been a special experience for me. I have grown in my faith and am learning more about helping others in need. It has been personally rewarding to listen to the stories of people who call, and to offer them God’s love and hope by praying with them. I have appreciated the support and guidance of Deb Skerven, as well as the other wonderful volunteers I have met. I always feel a sense of peace and calm after a day of volunteering!”

- Sharon Toellner, Connection Center Intake Specialist

LOVE INC NATIONAL VISIT



At the next Partner Church Breakfast on **Tuesday, September 17th**, we will be welcoming Richard Strick, Love INC National Director of New and Transitioning Affiliates as part of our certification as an operating affiliate.

Please join us at Love INC for breakfast from 7:30 – 8:00am and a program to follow from 8:00 – 9:30am

NEW PARTNER CHURCH



We welcome Pastor Scott Kaczorowski and the congregation of our 16th and newest partner church, River Cities Christian Church, 869 Hwy 73 South, Wisconsin Rapids.

River Cities Christian Church is a non-denominational, Bible-believing church. Their website states: We hold firmly to the historic Christian faith and its central beliefs as they have been understood for almost 2,000 years.

Prayer

“But just as you excel in everything – in faith, in speech, in knowledge, in complete earnestness, and in your love for us – see that you also excel in the grace of giving.”
– 2 Corinthians 8:7

Thank you Lord, for the precious people who have shown generosity in their gifts to Love INC. We praise You for their obedience to exercise the gift of giving. Bless them as they have blessed us and provide for their needs as well.
Amen.

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