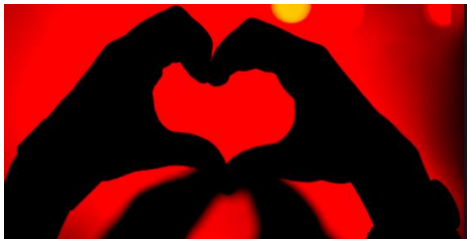




**LOVE IN THE NAME OF CHRIST OF SOUTH WOOD COUNTY
HELPING CHURCHES HELP PEOPLE**



Love Story

(Names have been changed)

Sally had moved to Wisconsin Rapids in hopes of finding a new job. Before moving, she saved enough money to stay in a motel for one week. Sally immediately found employment but was unable to move into a place of her own without assistance. She contacted Love INC's Connection Center for help. We were able to hear her story and connect Sally with several services available in our community.

After staying in the motel for three weeks, Sally found a place to rent. She needed financial assistance with first month's rent and security deposit. Sally met with a local agency and learned she qualified for assistance with first month's rent. She also met with a partner church who helped her with a portion of her security deposit. While meeting with the Pastor, she was also able to meet with the Youth Pastor. She was excited to hear about the Wednesday evening youth program. She thought this would be a great place for her daughter to make new friends.

Sally will be moving into her new home very soon. We will continue to discuss budgeting with Sally and will help Sally find furniture for her new home.

December 2019



Center Data

The Love INC Connection Center received 100 calls in October including 36 requests for needs. As of the end of October, 24 families were receiving help from this ministry. Top needs for the month included:

- Financial Assistance (22)
- Services (8)
- Material Items (4)
- Transportation (3)

When clients contact Love INC we go through the detailed intake process and capture the "stated need". This is typically different than the true need. For instance, a stated need for financial assistance typically indicates deeper, long term needs for change in their lives. Short-term needs are usually a reflection of much deeper needs, which is where the biblical philosophy of Redemption Compassion comes in. As we follow this philosophy supportive relationships are developed and ultimately a personal relationship with our Lord and Savior.



Gap Ministries

Through the first ten months of the year the top stated needs are listed below.

**Love INC of South Wood County
2019 Stated Need Summary**

Rank	"Stated Need"	Calls
1	Rental/Security Deposit	45
2	Utilities	32
3	Gas Cards	22
4	Moving	21
5	Emergency Housing	21

There is no surprise financial needs are the most frequently stated needs. However, another consistent need has been moving. This need has been met frequently with volunteers from several partner churches. As we follow the Love INC model, the next step after establishing the Connection Center is addressing gaps in service within our community, then forming "Gap Ministries". Our first Gap Ministry will be developing a consistent solution to those needing help with moving. So far, over 20 people from a few partner churches have expressed interest in helping with this ministry.

As this ministry is developed, we will welcome help, especially from those who have the passion and resources available in the area of moving.



DONOR APPEAL

December, the last month of the year, full of busyness, advent, and the preparation for the anniversary of the birth of our Savior, Jesus Christ.

It is at this time that we send out our annual end-of-year donor appeal.

Our goal for the coming year is to increase our capacity to engage our partner churches with the addition of a Volunteer Coordinator position.

It is only through your consistent support that we are able to mobilize our partner churches to transform lives and our communities in the name of Christ. We ask that you prayerfully consider making Love INC a part of your generous giving on a consistent basis by making a sustaining gift this year.

[Donorbox Giving Options](#)



CLIENT QUOTE

"Thank you so much for what you have done for me! GOD BLESS EVERYONE AT LOVE INC AND ALL THE CHURCHES.

AMEN."

- Love INC Client



TOYS FOR TOTS

DATES AND LOCATIONS:

- **Referrals Due Date:** All referrals must be received at SWEPS no later than November 27, 2019.
- **Toy Pick-Up Location:** Please note we have a new toy pick-up location this year! McDonald Trucking / Midwest Cold Storage located at: 1909 32nd St N, Wisconsin Rapids, WI 54494.
- **Toy Pick-Up Date:** December 14, 2019 (Families will be mailed a pickup time slot prior to this date.) An alternative pickup time will be determined after the distribution date.
- **Food Basket Distribution:** December 21, 2019 at SWEPS located at: 331 12th Ave South, Wisconsin Rapids. This is the ONLY date for food basket pick-up.

Volunteers are needed for sorting and distribution at McDonald Trucking, 1909 32nd Street North.

- Sorting: Dec. 10 & 11 9 am
- Distribution: Dec 14 at 9:30 am

Questions? Please call SWEPS at 715-422-2050. Thank you!

LOVE INC 101

Would you like to learn more about Love INC of South Wood County? Please consider attending a **one-hour informational session** which includes a **building tour**. Sessions are held the **third Thursday of each month at Noon and 6:00pm**. Coming sessions are;

- **Thursday, December 19th**
- **Thursday, January 16th**

RSVPs are requested

REDEMPTIVE COMPASSION

We have **Redemptive Compassion Lunch-n-Learns** scheduled for 2020. Redemptive Compassion® is a biblical philosophy offering wholistic help to those we serve. It is based upon six core principles:

1. Everyone has value
2. We are called to invest relationally in others
3. Everyone has capacity and potential
4. Mutual participation is important
5. We must use wisdom & discernment
6. What we do should transform

Learn more about how we can change the way need is addressed during this 7-week lunch-n-learn series. *Please bring your own sack lunch*. Each one-hour session will build upon the previous session. All sessions are held every other **Wednesday at Noon**. Dates are;

- January 8th, 22nd
- February 5th, 19th
- March 4th, 18th
- April 1st

Prayer

"Suppose a brother or sister is without clothes and daily food. If one of you says to hi, 'Go, I wish you well; keep warm and well fed' but does nothing about his physical needs, what good is it? In the same way, faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead."
— James 2:15-17

Lord, open our eyes to the physical needs of our neighbors. May we act toward them in love, as You would have us live-not hardened to their distress but sensitive and willing to help them in their trouble.
Amen.