

# LOVE INC 2019 IMPACT REPORT



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

# LOVE INC OF SOUTH WOOD COUNTY

## 2019 LEADERSHIP

**DaNita Carlson**  
Executive Director

**Chaplain Paul Liebherr**  
Board Treasurer

**Dave Ecke**  
Board Member

**Deb Skerven**  
Client Care Coordinator

**Jonna Kronholm**  
Board Secretary

**Pastor Dave Mickelson**  
Board Member

**Rick Merdan**  
Board President

**Matt Casper**  
Board Member

**Penny Antell**  
Board Member

**Pastor Paula Graves**  
Board Vice President

**Donna Dewitt**  
Board Member

**Phyllis Neahous**  
Board Member

## MISSION

*Mobilizing local churches  
to transform lives and communities  
In the Name of Christ*

## VALUES

- PRAYER is an integral part of who we are
- We value TRANSFORMATION in the lives of people and communities
- We value building CHRIST-LIKE RELATIONSHIPS, recognizing these represent the "fullness of life"
- We are CHRISTIAN—What we think, say, and do is done In the Name of Christ
- We respect UNITY in the Body of Christ
- We JOIN & SUPPORT churches in living out the great commandment, to love God and to love our neighbor
- We honor the CONNECTEDNESS of the Love INC Movement
- We model EXCELLENCE in our operation—including our stewardship of all resources

*"The Lord is good to all, and His tender mercies are over all His works." Psalm 145:9*



## Dear Friends.....

Let me start by saying GOD IS SO GOOD! Last year I mentioned building a Love INC affiliate is like climbing Mt. Everest. The climb continued in 2019 with many blessings being showered upon us along the way.

I am a visionary who sees clearly what is, but also imagines "what could be." Seeing huge possibilities can sometimes be overwhelming, but thankfully I have an amazing team praying for me and the ministry, and coming along-side to map out baby steps that need to be taken. Some days may seem to be filled with "meaningless busy-work," but I'm repeatedly reminded that each small task is accomplishing something much greater. Consistent progress is being made towards the huge goal of uniting the church and growing God's Kingdom. Here are several 2019 highlights:

- Many people (like you) joined our Love INC Ministry Team and funded two critical positions at Love INC (the Client Care Coordinator and my position).
- Ambassadors were identified at each of our Partner Churches, serving as the communication liaison between Love INC and the church. Two local churches chose to join Love INC of SWC, taking our Partner Church total to 16. Relationships were built and strengthened with 22 local churches and 39 agencies/organizations.
- The Connection Center (call center) mobilized local churches, agencies and organizations to meet 363 needs and relationships were built with 131 families in need.
- We hosted 20 Love INC Informational sessions, 14 Redemptive Compassion sessions, 6 Leadership workshops, 4 Partner Church breakfast gatherings, 4 Partner Church Ambassador meetings, and 1 Business Leader dinner.
- In September, Love INC National visited and approved this ministry as a "fully operational Love INC Affiliate".
- In December, the Board approved hiring a third staff member as a Volunteer Coordinator. Within weeks after approval, a Partner Church pledged a generous financial gift to support this position.

So much has been accomplished in 2019 by so many passionate people! I'm excited to see what God has planned for us in the coming year and hope you will experience it with me! Please consider sharing your time, talent or treasure with this ministry. Through the work of Love INC, Partner Churches, and people like you, lives and communities will be transformed in the Name of Christ.

Your Sister in Christ,

*DaNita*  
DaNita Carlson

# MOBILIZING CHURCHES

*Christian churches, unified and coordinated, are poised to be the perfect catalyst in changing how we address and answer the cries of our neighbors. The defining difference is not so much what we do, but how and why we do it.*

## 2019 PARTNER CHURCHES

- Bethlehem Lutheran
- Christian Life Fellowship
- Crossview
- Faith Reformed
- First Baptist
- Grace Lutheran
- Highland
- Immanuel Lutheran
- Lakes Area Christian Fellowship
- Light of Christ
- Port Edwards United Methodist
- River Cities Christian Church
- Saint Lawrence Catholic
- St. Luke's Lutheran
- Victory Christian Church
- Wisconsin Rapids United Methodist

*“Love INC’s model for helping people has a long track record of building redemptive relationships! Our congregation has been excited to partner in bringing this ministry to South Wood County. I’ve personally experienced the difference Love INC has made in coordinating our efforts to bring real, lasting transformation in the lives of hurting people in the name of Jesus!”*

Pastor Vance Elzinga - Faith Reformed Church

## THE ROLE OF LOVE IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

The role of LOVE INC is not to replace ministries, but to help churches distribute their gifts, talents, resources, and love to communities in need—in the Name of Christ. Churches who partner with Love INC of SWC sign a Statement of Understanding (SOU) stating their commitment to work together across denominational lines, serving people in need within the South Wood County area.



### 2019 LOVE INC AMBASSADORS

Ambassadors serve as the communication liaison between their churches and Love INC. They assist in mobilizing their church members to serve our neighbors in need.

## TRAINING CENTER LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES

Our role is to equip and to empower the church. In 2019, we offered Fourteen Redemptive Compassion Lunch and Learn sessions and six Leader to Leader™ workshops. Leaders and teams from a wide variety of churches and area ministries came to grow in the areas of redemptive compassion, personal development, relational development, and team development.



CROSSVIEW WOMEN'S MINISTRY TEAM ATTENDING A DISCOVER WORKSHOP

## THE NAME OF CHRIST

Sixteen area churches signed an SOU confirming a partnership with Love INC of SWC. The churches listed above represent 30% of the churches in our area, and 9 denominations are represented. The partner churches attend quarterly breakfast meetings designed to unite the church. Approximately 175 people were able to take part in these breakfasts which were a perfect time to share information, build relationships, and brainstorm for the future.

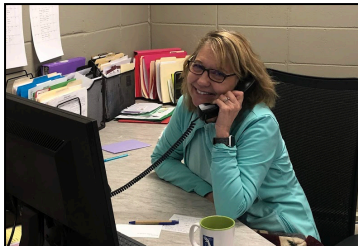


# TRANSFORMING LIVES

**Love In the Name of Christ** is a volunteer-based proven model that brings local churches, church volunteers, and community organizations together to respond to needs in the community. Our core values, rooted in Christian faith and the wholistic, Biblically-based principles of Redemptive Compassion, are designed to strengthen the faith of both volunteers and the people we serve so together we become a living sign of our Lord's love and compassion.

Love INC volunteers enter into a relationship with their neighbors in need, not just responding with transactional charity to a crisis or need but responding in developmental compassion and mutual support. The relationships developed through the Love INC ministry create "Love Stories" for both our volunteers and our neighbors. We believe lives are transformed when we deepen our faith and find commonality in these relationships. The Result: Lives are transformed through love.

## LIVES ARE TRANSFORMED THROUGH LOVE IN ACTION



## HEARING AIDS . . .

*"Thank you for all your help. God is showing us little miracles. With the help we have received (from Love INC partner churches) my husband got his hearing aids and I have never been so moved in my life by such a simple thing many take for granted. He got into the car and started it and heard the ignition start beeping and asked if it always did that. I laughed and said yes. Then we turned right and when he put on the directional, he heard it and said I can hear the directional! He heard the train in the house, and I rushed him outside to hear it blow its horn. I felt so moved by God's presence and blessings. I can't wait for him to hear birds and the crickets this summer. Our second little miracle was I started a new antidepressant 2 weeks ago and am not as depressed as what I was. Things are looking up. Thank you and all your prayer warriors... Hugs"*



LOVE INC volunteer, Pat Bradbury spending time with Evelyn at her assisted living home.

## LOVE & HOPE

*"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,  
Volunteer Connection Center Intake Specialist

## Love Story

*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.*

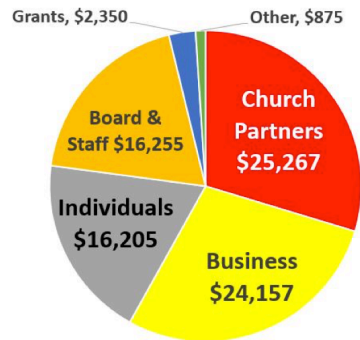
*She contacted Love INC's Connection Center for help. We were able to hear her story and connect Sally with several services available in our community. After staying in the motel for three weeks, Sally found a place to rent. She needed financial assistance with first month's rent and security deposit. 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.*

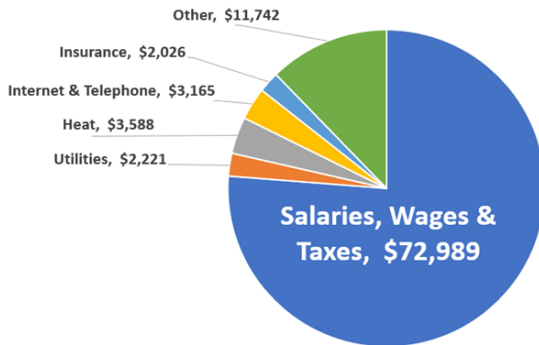


# FINANCIAL REPORT

## 2019 INCOME



## 2019 EXPENSES



To set up a recurring donation  
or one-time gift go to:  
[www.loveincswc.org/donate/](http://www.loveincswc.org/donate/)

### FROM A MONTHLY DONOR:

We believe in the mission and vision of Love INC, and we are committed supporters—both financially, and through volunteering. It's great to see so many people working together to better help our neighbors in need.

We've been part of this community since the 1970's, and this is the first time we have seen so many church leaders commit to working together to make a transformational difference. It's very exciting to be part of the Love INC movement in South Wood County!



Bob &  
Diane  
O'Connor

## LOVE INC OF SOUTH WOOD COUNTY

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