



SARAH'S STORY

Sarah (not her real name) was overwhelmed as she reached out to Love INC in November. Her husband had died suddenly. The bills were coming in and she needed financial assistance to get her through the next couple of months. Her husband provided their only income. She had contacted social security, food share and energy assistance, but these things take time.

Sarah was attending a church who was there for her the day her husband passed away. Love INC reached out to two partner churches. They were able to provide financial assistance for rent, utilities, and a furnace repair bill. They also delivered food for a Christmas meal.

Today Sarah is attending a Grief Share Support Group weekly at one of our partner churches. And, a partner church continues to reach out to Sarah through phone calls and texts a couple times per week.

This has been a deep valley for Sarah to travel. However, with the help of Love INC and our partner churches, she did not have to go through this journey alone. The church will continue to provide spiritual support and prayer to Sarah in the weeks and months ahead.

March 2019

POVERTY SIMULATION

The Poverty Simulation is an interactive, professional development tool that provides a window into the lives of low-income families and the struggles they face to overcome barriers of joblessness, homelessness, crime, illiteracy and lack of quality childcare. Participants are assigned a role within a family and provided with background information regarding their income and expenses. Family units are then asked to achieve goals over the "4-week" simulation, such as pay bills, feed children, get them to school, go to work or get a job, access community resources, etc. Participants gain a better understanding of the challenges associated with living in poverty and emerge with a greater sensitivity to the plight and needs of low-income families and individuals. This simulation is open to all and we are seeking both volunteers to serve as vendors/service providers, and participants to be given a family scenario. **Registration is required by calling Wendy at the Extension Wood County office at 715-421-8437 by March 29th.**

PRAYER TEAM

Love INC has a dedicated prayer team that prays for specific needs including prayers for our clients and others. If you have a prayer request that you would like included, please call 715-424-LOVE (5683) or send it to DaNita at danita@loveincswc.org



DONATION OPTIONS

Donorbox is our new giving platform that utilizes both Stripe and PayPal for donation processing. We have heard from donors who desire more options to give; specifically sustained giving options (monthly, etc.) Based on some great input from fundraising experts we have set up an account. This will allow ACH (Automatic Clearing House – direct bank transfers) from any financial institution. Click on the link below to explore these new options!

[Donorbox Giving Options](#)



SAVE THE DATE

Love INC will be holding its first ever annual meeting on Thursday, May 9th, at our building starting at 5:30. The agenda will include: dinner, a short program, and volunteer recognition. RSVPs are required for dinner preparations. Call 715-424-LOVE (5683) to RSVP.

JANUARY DATA

For the month of January, the connection center received 78 calls with 15 new requests for assistance. We had 7 referrals from partner churches and 4 from community agencies.

The top needs were for:

- Financial Assistance – 11
- Service Needs – 5
- Material Needs – 3
- Transportation - 2

Through our partners we are helping ten families in their progress towards transformation. This would not be possible without the generous support from our partner churches and donors, 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 starting February 21st. For your convenience, we have sessions scheduled for both Noon and 6:00pm. The next session will be Thursday, March 21st. If this month doesn't work for you, plan to come to another session in the coming months.



**THRIVENT
FINANCIAL®**

If you are a Thrivent Financial member you can sponsor up to two Action Teams per year, each for \$250 in seed money for a project. We just used one for the Redemptive Compassion educational series to pay for the books used in the trainings. This is a great way to support Love INC!



MARCH LEADER TO LEADER WORKSHOPS

Do you have any goals? Are they clearly in focus or still pretty fuzzy? In 2 two-hour Ziglar Legacy sessions, Dr. Richelle Hoekstra Anderson will share the power of dreaming, how to identify specific goals, the 7-step formula for setting goals, the power of commitment, and how to make time your ally. "What you get by achieving your goals is not as important as who you become by achieving your goals." – Zig Ziglar

Tuesdays, March 4th & 11th

Time: 6:30–8:30 pm

Place: Love INC

Facilitator: Dr. Richelle Hoekstra - Anderson

Cost: \$25 per person which includes the workshop and Ziglar workbook.

[Register Here](#)



Q. What is Love INC of South Wood County's geographical area?

A. Love INC of South Wood County mainly serves the area which includes the following zip codes: 54410, 54413, 54457, 54466, 54469, 54475, 54489, 54494, 54495. We also have a partner church in Portage County as well, which allows us to serve neighbors in need in the Stevens Point/Plover area.

REDEMPTIVE COMPASSION

We have **Redemptive Compassion Lunch-n-Learns** scheduled for 2019. Redemptive Compassion® is a biblical philosophy offering wholistic help to those we serve. It has evolved over fifteen years of working daily with people who find themselves struggling with needs in their life and unable to overcome them on their own. It challenges many current and common ways of addressing need 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 scheduled February 27th, March 13th and 27th, April 10th and 24th, and May 8th.

Prayer:

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

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