

# 2018 **IMPACT**REPORT

*United in Purpose - Igniting Hope Through Love*



Love INC

*Love In the Name of Christ  
of South Wood County*

# LOVE INC OF SOUTH WOOD COUNTY

## PURPOSE

*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 in the Name of Christ
- We respect UNITY in the Body of Christ
- We JOIN & SUPPORT churches in living out the two great commandments, 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

2018 / 2019

## LEADERSHIP TEAM

**DaNita Carlson**, Executive Director  
[Christian Life Fellowship]

**Chaplain Paul Liebherr**, Board Treasurer  
[Christian Life Fellowship]

**Dave Ecke**, Board Member  
[Saint Lawrence Catholic Church]

**Pastor Dave Mickelson**, Board Member  
[Victory Christian Church]

**Rita Nessman**, Board Member  
[Lakes Area Christian Fellowship]

**Deb Skerven**, Client Care Coordinator  
[Christian Life Fellowship]

**Jonna Kronholm**, Board Secretary  
[St. Luke's Lutheran]

**Chuck Bradbury**, 2018 Board President  
[First Baptist]

**Rick Merdan**, Board President  
[Grace Lutheran]

**Matt Casper**, Board Member  
[Calvary Baptist]

**Charlotte McDermott**, 2018 Board Secretary  
[Port Edwards United Methodist]

**Pastor Paula Graves**, Board Vice President  
[Light of Christ]

**Donna Dewitt**, Board Member  
[Faith Reformed]

**Rebecca Winter**, 2018 Board Member  
[Highland]



DaNita  
Carlson

*“From Him the whole body,  
joined and held together  
by every supporting ligament,  
grows and builds itself up in love,  
as each part does its work.”*

Ephesians 4:16

*Dear Friends. . . . .*

What a year! Love INC National said the first few years of opening a Love INC affiliate would be like climbing Mt. Everest and they were not exaggerating! There were many challenges throughout the year, but what we saw most was God's hand on this ministry. Daily we were, and still are, so thankful for God's provision.

We started 2018 at a small office located on 8<sup>th</sup> Street South in Wisconsin Rapids. On May 3<sup>rd</sup> we moved to a beautiful building which was gifted to us by New Hope Christian Reformed Church. As they made the difficult decision to close their doors, they wished to leave a legacy to the community allowing ministry to continue through Love INC and their partner churches. On August 28<sup>th</sup> the heart and soul of Love INC, the Connection Center, opened. Through the Connection Center, partner churches are able to serve the poor and neighbors in need. God loves the poor. In loving and serving the poor (and neighbors in need), we have the beautiful opportunity to love and serve Jesus. What a blessing!

In 2019 we will continue to climb Mt. Everest. From the beginning, our Board decided to build this ministry to be strong and this is happening as we trust God and look to HIM daily for guidance and wisdom. Will you help to build God's Kingdom in the South Wood County area? First and foremost, we would appreciate your prayers. And, if you haven't already, please go to our website and sign up to receive a monthly newsletter. Lastly, please watch for and attend one of the 2019 Learning Opportunities to hear more about sharing your time, talent, and treasure for the benefit of God's Kingdom.

We look forward to partnering with you in helping the Kingdom of God to come about.

Your Sister in Christ,

*DaNita*

DaNita Carlson, Director

# 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.*

## 2018 PARTNER CHURCHES

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

*The Role of Love INC* is not to replace the Church 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, to serve people in need within the South Wood County area.

In 2017 and 2018 fourteen area churches signed an SOU confirming a partnership with Love INC of SWC. The churches listed above represent 28% of the churches in our area. Of the fourteen partner churches, nine different denominations are represented. The partner churches attend quarterly breakfast meetings designed to unite the church. In 2018, 42 people were able to take part in these breakfasts which were a perfect time to share information, learn from each other, and build relationships with other Christians who have the same heart and passion.



*“Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God’s grace in its various forms.” 1 Peter 4:10*

## LEARNING OPPORTUNITIES—TRAINING CENTER



### LEADER TO LEADER™ WORKSHOPS

We partnered with Leader to Leader™ Network to offer monthly leadership workshops in our new Training Center from July through November in 2018. Leaders and teams from a wide variety of churches and area ministries came to grow in the areas of personal development, relational development, and team development. Join us in 2019 for new opportunities.

*“I did want to say how AWESOME it is that Love INC spends the time learning the stories and also vetting people. Today I was able to spend time listening to “Irma” and sitting with her as she continues to grieve the loss of her husband and father. I didn’t have to worry about all the paper work or checking to see if the needs are real or valid. I was able to sit with her and listen and then pray with her. THANK YOU! Having Love INC allows us to be the church!!! It’s great! Love what you guys are doing!”*

Pastor Eric Dunker, CLF

# TRANSFORMING LIVES

*“There is just one requirement that cannot be lost in the midst of all the challenges and hurdles of living out faith and building community. Did you remember the poor?”*

Remember the Poor: Caring for the Least, the Last, and the Lost



*My heart yearns to serve those in need like Jesus did. Jesus not only addressed people's physical needs, but he also affirmed people's dignity. Every time someone reaches out to Love INC with a need, it is an opportunity for us to follow in Jesus' footsteps.*

I have been in awe of God's provisions for the Love INC Connection Center the past six months. He has provided volunteers who have a passion to help those in need, churches whose hearts are for missional work locally, and agencies who we continue to build relationships with in the community.

God is leading Love INC on a journey of transforming lives in South Wood County. I am excited to see God do what only He can do in 2019.

*Deb*

Deb Skerven, Client Care Coordinator



*“Recently we had a woman from our church move into an assisted living facility. Since our church is small, we asked the woman to contact Love INC. Love INC worked with our church and arranged for another church to also help with the move. Even though the temperature was well below freezing, we all bundled up and were glad to help! The woman saw God's love through His people and was very thankful that the move went well.”*

Pastor Chuck Bradbury  
First Baptist Church

*For people in need and the Christians who want to help them, a Love INC partnership of churches is an answer to prayer. Love INC helps neighbors who find it difficult to manage all alone by offering: compassion, collaboration, generosity, action, and the amazing power of love. The neighbors our Love INC partner churches serve include: single parents, the unemployed, elderly, couples, children, and youth . . . anyone lacking a needed resource—including the resource of friendship.*



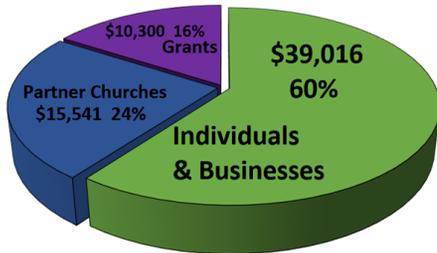
*After being hospitalized for six months in the spring of 2018, Sam was severely disabled. He was referred to Love INC by United Way 2-1-1. He needed help with snow removal. He did not have any friends or family in the area. As our Intake Specialist (Jean) listened to Sam tell his story, she learned Sam also wanted to improve his relationship with his daughters. They ended their conversation with prayer and Jean let him know we would add him to our prayer list.*

*A Love INC volunteer (Bob) went to Sam's home to shovel after the next snowfall. A neighbor stopped by and said that he just got a new snowblower and he would snow blow the driveway. That evening Sam left a voice message for Jean: “You sent Bob over to shovel for me. Thank you very much. I really appreciate it. It helped me out very, very much.”*

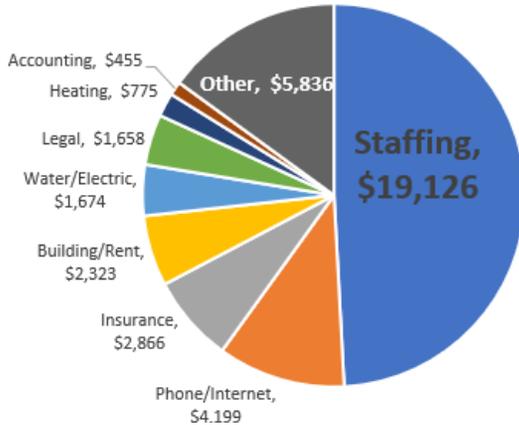
*When we followed up with Sam a couple weeks later, Sam said the neighbor is continuing to remove the snow and he no longer needs assistance with snow removal. He was also excited to share that his daughter had come to visit him over Christmas. This is a great reminder of the power of prayer. God not only met the need of snow removal but Sam's relationship with his daughter is deepening and he has a new relationship with his neighbor.*

# FINANCIAL REPORT

## 2018 INCOME



## 2018 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 have a certain amount of dollars allotted for charities each year and choose to support organizations with a good faith background.*

*We were drawn to Love INC of South Wood County for three reasons:*

- The ministry was a great opportunity for the local community to grow in their faith.*
- The goal of mobilizing and uniting the church was important to us.*
- We knew the people involved and trusted them.*

*Over a year ago we decided to support Love INC with a monthly donation and believe they are doing great things for the Lord."*

Pete and Betsy Wood

## LOVE INC OF SOUTH WOOD COUNTY

EMAIL: [loveincswc@gmail.com](mailto:loveincswc@gmail.com)

PHONE: 715.424.LOVE (5683)

WEBSITE: [www.loveincswc.org](http://www.loveincswc.org)

FACEBOOK: [@loveincswc](https://www.facebook.com/loveincswc)

