



MOBILIZING LOCAL CHURCHES TO TRANSFORM LIVES AND COMMUNITIES IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

LOVE STORY

January 2021

Paige started her journey with Love INC several months ago after a referral from a local church ministry. She was homeless in Florida and came to central Wisconsin to get help from a former spouse who lived in this area. She was able to stay with him while she looked for housing. While talking with our Intake Specialists she shared about her move to Wisconsin and how she was dealing with several medical issues that made it nearly impossible for her to gain employment. She explained that her former spouse was helping her pay for rent and she literally had nothing in her home. She told us she was having a hard time sleeping because she slept on a leaky air mattress that would continually go flat. She did not even have a bed.

After several months, Paige found housing through the Wisconsin Rapids Housing Authority and moved into her new apartment. "Moving in" is a term I would use loosely in her situation. Paige owned only a love seat and the air mattress. After the Connection Center verification process was complete, we were able to connect Paige with the new Household Items (HHI) Gap Ministry. She had a list of needed items, so the HHI Ministry Team went to work filling her

needs. When Paige received a bed, she thanked us and told us how much she appreciated being able to sleep on a regular bed.

Paige also had a few items listed that were considered a "wish". Paige loves to bake and asked if we had a set of mixing bowls. The HHI Ministry did not have any in stock so our Volunteer Coordinator, Wendy, put out a request to our volunteers. It wasn't long before we received responses. We didn't get one set or even two, but three sets of mixing bowls that were offered to Paige. One volunteer asked if she could purchase some baking supplies to bring to Paige when she dropped the bowls off as an extra gift to her. Not only were we able to bless Paige with the bowls but our volunteers went above and beyond to show Christ's love to her.

Paige has been blessed not only by the items she has received but by the connection with every Love INC volunteer she encountered. It is exciting to see God at work despite all the restrictions Covid-19 has put on all our lives. His joy can be found in something as small as a mixing bowl.

WITH GRATITUDE

In December, we had 3 individuals who finished their term on the Board of Directors. We would like to express our sincere gratitude to Matt Casper, Donna Dewitt, and Dave Ecke for their hard work and dedication. Each of these outgoing members have been true assets to our board and the people they served in South Wood County.

WELCOME



Love INC is a partnership of local Christian churches working in a coordinated way to address and respond to the needs of their neighbors – In the Name of Christ. We are blessed and happy to announce that Woodland Lutheran Church, in the town of Rome, has become our newest Church Partner! We are so thankful for all of our Love INC Church Partners! For additional information on Woodland Lutheran Church, you may follow these links to their [webpage](#) and/or [Facebook page](#).

CONNECTION CENTER DATA FOR NOVEMBER 2020

We received 23 requests for assistance in the Connection Center in November.

- Financial Need - 10
- Services - 2
- Material Needs - 10
- Unknown - 1

The Intake Specialists did a wonderful job of connecting with clients and our Client Care Coordinator while they were working from home for most of the month.

Donations Procedure

Unfortunately in December, we had someone once again drop off a couch at our office that we were not able to use or store.

When this happens, we have to contact a volunteer to pick up the item and pay to dispose of it. Our process is for people to contact us. We then determine if we have a need for the item or have space to store it. At times, we do not accept the item if it's the wrong size or is poor quality. Please help us spread the word, we are not a drop off site for any items.

Boundaries Training

In December, Scott Webb from the Department of Health Services did a virtual Boundaries training for all Love INC volunteers and staff.

Personal Boundaries are important because they set the basic guidelines of how you want to be treated. Boundaries are basic guidelines that people create to establish how others are able to behave around them. ... Setting boundaries can ensure that relationships can be mutually respectful, appropriate, and caring. To access the 50 minute private training link, please contact Wendy at volunteer@loveincswc.org.

"Therefore, my dear brothers and sisters, stand firm. Let nothing move you. Always give yourselves fully to the work of the Lord, because you know that your labor in the Lord is not in vain."

1 Corinthians 15:58

Prayer: Father, may the light of Your love shine through us so that others may see You. Help us to demonstrate Your sacrificial love, so that those who do not yet believe would be drawn to You and find salvation in You. Amen



Church Partner Spotlight

This year, we hope to highlight our Church Partners in our monthly newsletters. The first spotlight is shining on Bethlehem Lutheran Church in Nekoosa. They aim to grow the body of Christ by providing an inviting atmosphere that educates according to God's truth, encourages everyone in the love of Jesus, and equips people of all ages to spread the good news of the Gospel. Church

secretary, Judy Resheske said, "As we seek to serve those in need in our community, it is so good to have Love INC come alongside us so that we can give the proper help! We welcome the opportunity to update our congregation on the ministries that are available that they may choose to volunteer along with members of other churches."

Visit their Facebook page [here](#). Visit their website [here](#).

Volunteer Opportunities

If you are looking to become a Love INC volunteer, please click on the button below to complete an online application. Wendy, our Volunteer Coordinator, will review your submission and get back to you as soon as possible.

[Volunteer Application](#)

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