



HELPING CHURCHES HELP PEOPLE

IN THE SOUTH WOOD
COUNTY AREA

AUGUST 2023

Mobilizing Local Churches To Transform Their Communities In the Name Of Christ

We foster a relational response that brings together volunteers and resources to help neighbors. From the initial contact we have with a client to the end result of helping our neighbors as best we can, we are forming Godly relationships.

So everything we do revolves around relationships. Through our work at Love INC, we hope healthy relationships grow, Christian love thrives, and struggling neighbors receive support, friendship, and the kind of practical help they need.

When a call for help comes in, our Connection Center volunteers become the first Love INC contact our new clients engage with. Relationships begin to take root as we listen and care for people while exploring ways for our local churches to be helpful. We are committed to connecting anyone in need with the resources necessary to live a productive and meaningful life.

We are social beings created by God for relationships. Serving through Love INC is a way to give back to our community and see lives transformed in the name of Christ. It's also about meeting new people and building new relationships. These new friendships are often made with other Christian volunteers with like interests from other partner churches. Love INC of SWC currently partners with 19 local churches in the South Wood County area.

Often times, our church volunteers interact personally with our clients. This may happen through phone calls, caring notes, a ride to an appointment, or helping with a physical need. Those serving may become a friend, a cheerleader, a sympathetic listener, an encourager, or someone who prays for them and their situation. Regardless of the service our volunteers have agreed to help with, they are growing and building wonderful relationships while serving our community through Love INC of SWC in the name of Christ.



TRANSFORMATION *through* PARTNERSHIPS

A partnership with Love INC, Central Wisconsin Partnership for Recovery (CWPR), and the Opportunity Development Center (ODC) was formed in 2022. ODC stored furniture for our Household Items Ministry, CWPR paid a portion of the monthly storage fee, and we provided the furniture for individuals participating in the RentReady program of CWPR. Truly, an amazing collaboration that God provided for us. As the program's participants were referred by CWPR, they became Love INC clients. We then had the opportunity to introduce them to our New Hope Life Skills classes.

This Love Story is one that only God could have created! Lea* and her roommate, Anna, began attending our first class, Affirming Potential, last fall. It was an honor to walk alongside them as they began their journey to sustainability and stability. They worked hard and earned incentives that blessed them along the way, mutually participating in class while embracing trusting relationships and experiencing life change.

When Lea found out the next class was Boundaries, she told her mom, Christie, about her experience. Lea encouraged her to attend the class since boundaries were something they had struggled with in their relationship. Christie learned what God says about healthy boundaries and also began to ask questions about who God really is and how that might affect her life.

Then in Spring of 2023, we offered Healing for Damaged Emotions as a class. Not only did Lea and her mom take part in this class, but Lea's brother James also attended! Love INC volunteers walked alongside each of them as they learned how to heal from hurts in the way that Jesus desires. As the class progressed, Christie continued to seek spiritual answers and accepted Jesus Christ as her Lord and Savior last month! In addition, James is meeting with a volunteer for spiritual mentoring and Lea is considering it also. What a beautiful story of reconciliation and restoration that only God could write. We can't wait to see what God does next in this family's life!

This story serves as a perfect example as to why Love In the Name of Christ of South Wood County is investing time and resources into New Hope Life Skills classes. It's our hope that our clients will experience life transformation as people like YOU partner with us through classes and mentoring.

The changes are evident in class participants as they provide support to each other, sharing and working through personal issues at their tables. These classes invite people into deeper levels of learning and relationship, which is fertile soil for life transformation in the name of Christ.

God has directed and grown our New Hope Life Skills program. Is God attempting to grow you, too? Will you pray about taking a class, becoming involved as a volunteer, or donating financially toward this effort? There are many individuals just like Lea, Anna, Christie, and James, searching for ways to move past their frustrating and recurring patterns of need. We believe that together, the Body of Christ can transform more lives in South Wood County.

Love INC "neighbors in need" (clients), church members, and anyone in the community are welcome to attend our New Hope Life Skills courses.

*Names are pseudonyms.



Thank you Jan & Maribeth!

An exciting thing is when a staff member comes to you and says, "I feel God is leading me to ____." That statement means they work in an environment that nurtures the voice of God and obedience to His voice. It appears that God is calling two of our staff to other ministries!

Jan Fisher (on left) has resigned as Volunteer Coordinator to become a volunteer co-manager (along with Karen Bencke) of the "Love It Again" Thrift Store. Jan has worked for Love INC for over two years, and in her position was very skilled at placing people in volunteer positions.

Maribeth Crawford (right) has resigned as Church Mobilization Coordinator to begin a new position (Program Coordinator and Recovery Coach) at Mary's Place. Maribeth has worked for us for just over a year. In her time of serving, Transformational Ministry has grown by leaps and bounds. Even though both will no longer be in our offices, we will continue to work together in their new roles. I personally and publicly want to say "THANK YOU" for serving Christ through Love INC.

SAVE THE DATE

FOR THESE LOVE INC OF SOUTH WOOD COUNTY EVENTS



LOVE IN THE NAME OF CHRIST
NEW HOPE
LIFE SKILLS CLASSES

AFFIRMING POTENTIAL

Do you desire
a more
meaningful life?

JOIN US FOR AFFIRMING POTENTIAL

Experience this 12-week New Hope Life Skills course designed to help participants face and accept their past, better understand the present, and embrace their future. It builds on the foundation that God created each of us with intrinsic worth and unique potential.

Thursdays, September 14th to December 7th

6:30PM — 7:30PM

Love In the Name of Christ Building
710 20th Avenue South, Wisconsin Rapids, WI

**Please come early and join us for dinner at
6:00PM on September 14th**

**Our course will be facilitated by Jonna Kronholm
with video teaching by Lois Tuypi. We will address:**

- Community—Sharing our journey with others
- Physical—Our "stuff" or needs do not define us
- Emotions—Taking control rather than feeling out of control
- Relationships—How they influence our lives
- Spirituality—What or Who determines truth for us
- Dreaming—An important component in moving forward
- Life Purpose Statement—Helps us define our legacy
- Dream Selection Kit—A tool to kick-start the process
- Filtering Dreams—Validity and season of life
- Setting Goals and Action Steps—To set and execute the plan

Call Love In the
Name of Christ for
more information or
to register:
715.424.LOVE(5683)
Please RSVP by
Thursday,
September 7th

THRIFTY SHOPPING WORKSHOP

JOIN CONNIE EISCH FOR THIS INSPIRING WORKSHOP
SPONSORED BY NEW HOPE LIFE SKILLS!

THURSDAY, AUGUST 17th, 6:30-7:30 PM

At the Love INC Building, 710 20th Avenue South, Wisconsin Rapids

FREE! EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

Come learn and share ways to save at the grocery store and still provide healthy, delicious and nutritious meals for you and your family. We will use store ads, coupons and substitution ideas to get the most out of your food dollars.

SEE YOU THERE!



Junk Electronics Drop-Off Saturday, August 19th



**HELD AT: Immanuel Lutheran Church
Parking Lot
9am -1pm 160 8th Street
Wis. Rapids**

Sponsored by: Love INC of South Wood County

Accepted Electronics at NO COST!

Flatscreen TVs, Cell
Phones, Microwaves,
Keyboards & Mice, Power
Tools & Battery Packs,
Desktop Printers, Tube
TVs — All Sizes, Stereos,
Scanners, Servers,
Telephones, Fax Machines

2-Way Radios, DVD Players,
Household Batteries, Copiers,
Computers, Hard Drives,
Cables, Wires, Monitors,
Laptops, Circuit Boards, Video
Game Systems, All Batteries
Including Vehicle Batteries,
and more

Service Provided By



Elite Energy Distribution

"Better Recycling Through Higher Standards" 3545 N. 127th Street Brookfield, WI

Questions? Call Ray 414-702-5655



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