

**Love INC**  
Love In the Name of Christ

# Herald of the Heartland

Summer 2006

## Message from the Executive Director What's in a name?

You have heard it before, our organization is called **Love INC**. You may be surprised to learn that those initials after Love are an abbreviation. The full name of the organization is **Love In the Name of Christ**. Love INC is a national organization that has been in operation for 29 years. Our own office is named Love INC, Heartland. Nationally Love INC's helped over one million people in need during 2005. Each Love INC is different, designed by community members. By utilizing church volunteers to help neighbors in need & forming ministries Love INC fills unmet needs in their community.

Our Love INC, Heartland receives referrals from social workers,

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## Love One Another

It is no secret that Jesus called us to love one another. The New Testament contains many references to reinforce that. When questioned about what is the greatest commandment Jesus replied this way; *"Jesus said to them; 'Love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your strength and with all your mind; and, 'Love your neighbor as yourself.'"* (Luke 10:26) Whether through the ministries at Love INC, Heartland or where ever you are look for ways to carry this out, simple love is transforming our community.

### OPPORTUNITIES FOR YOU TO JOIN IN THE BLESSINGS:

#### OUR CHURCH MINISTRIES

- Adopt-a-Family Christmas
- Back to school supplies
- Bedding & Linens
- Clothing
- Diapers & Infant Items
- Food Shelves
- Furniture
- Home Repair & Yard Work
- Medical Equipment
- New Toys
- Sewing & Knitting
- Transportation
- Thanksgiving & Christmas food baskets

#### CURRENT NEEDS

##### Volunteers

Client Intake  
Office staff  
Data Base Administrator  
Web manager  
Fund raising team  
Sleep Out coordination  
Gathering Items for Silent Auction  
Building maintenance & repair  
(Contact office for Volunteer application)

##### Donations

Monetary gifts for Operating Expenses & Payroll - for one employee

Gasoline cards or vouchers

- ♥ Clothing
- ♥ Bedding & Linens
- ♥ Diapers & New Infant Items
- ♥ Furniture especially twin beds

♥ Please call ahead to make arrangements

*Our mission is to mobilize the Church to transform lives and communities In the Name of Christ.*

## Board of Directors

- Jan Johnson** Delano United Methodist
- Pastor Donna Anderson** Village Free
- Rev. Jim Beard** Delano United Methodist
- Pastor Liz Jenson** Riverwood Covenant
- Marvin Johnson** Mayor Independence
- Carolyn Knutson** Delano Evangelical Free
- K.J. McDonald** Mayor Watertown
- Jodi Martinez** Immaculate Conception
- Barb Olson** Trinity Lutheran Church
- Cecilia Torgeson** St Mary's Catholic
- Kirby Wahlstrom** Watertown Free

## Partner Churches

- Delano Assembly of God Church Delano
- Delano Evangelical Free Church Delano
- Delano United Methodist Church Delano
- Faith Community Church Independence
- Light of Christ Lutheran Church Delano
- Lyndale Lutheran Church Independence
- Immaculate Conception Church Watertown
- Maple Plain Community Church Maple Plain
- Our Father's Lutheran Church Rockford
- Riverwood Covenant Church, Rockford
- St. John's Lutheran Church Howard Lake
- St. Mary's Catholic Church Waverly
- St. Paul's United Church of Christ Delano
- Trinity Lutheran Church, Watertown
- Village Evangelical Free Church, Independence
- Watertown Evangelical Free Church Watertown

## Love Stories

### Surrounded by Love

We received word from one of our churches that there was a family in need. The mother was working full time and in college full time evenings. They were managing fine. They decided as a family that it would be best if mom left her job while she finished her last semesters of college.

Just weeks after she left her job the father had sudden medical problems that left him profoundly disabled. He suffered neurological and physical ramifications that still are requiring therapy. The doctors do not have any idea how permanent any of the damage will be. (We are praying for his total healing.)

The family was cut off entirely from any income; they already had cut their budget to the bone to accommodate their decision to have mom leave her job. Now they were really struggling. House payments and necessities do not wait for the money to come in.

They called Love INC. Our volunteers mobilized quickly to help where they could. They needed basics in clothing, new undergarments and shoes for the (4) children from the clothing ministry.

Volunteers came with groceries & grocery and gas cards. They had new friends and were surrounded by caring community helping them through. Their own church family had expanded to "The Church", Christ's body of Christians encouraging and uplifting them.

Disability payments have now started to help them economically, but the love and concern of our Love INC community still is actively showing Christ's love to them.

Their thank you to us said, *"From the first prayers to the latest gallon of milk, we have been abundantly blessed, and we can't thank you all enough."*

*etc*

**Our local mission is to respond to our neighbors in need and empower and transform our communities through the Love of Christ.**

### On the Road Again

A referral came from a co-worker. There was a young single mom at work whose car had broken down. She needed transportation to keep her job and the estimate from the repair shop was overwhelming. It would take almost \$900. to repair her ailing vehicle. She already spent all she had to get it towed in for the diagnosis.

Our volunteer staff called and checked with one of the garages in the area that had volunteered shop & labor hours. After speaking with the owner he volunteered to do all the work, parts and labor for free. He had been waiting for a chance to help out and he said "this is our first opportunity to help, I won't always be able to do this, but we are anxious to be a part of the ministry."

She is miraculously back on the road again. With some help from volunteers to make sure she did not miss work, she was able to keep her job. None of this could have been possible with out the Love INC network of volunteers eager to change our community with uncommon love.

### Medical Crisis calls for extreme Love

Families devastated by medical crises have received hope & help. One such family moved here to get treatment for their young child with leukemia. They wanted to keep the family together during this tough time. A kind business owner who works with Love INC had given the father a job. They sold their house and left jobs and family and came to Minnesota to receive life sustaining treatment.

The call came to us; there are six children and one on the way. They needed a place of their own. Volunteers came with trucks and trailers to pack and move them. Storage for their belongings was donated. The Love INC office volunteers found a rental home for them. Someone offered a brief hotel stay with a pool to give them a break. The Love INC network of volunteers reached out and surrounded this family with love and concern. Their two year old was able to continue treatments and the whole family has been able to stay together.

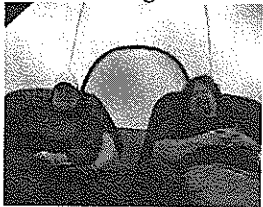
# Announcements

## Fall Clothing Drive Saturday September 16<sup>th</sup> 9-noon

Please bring your new and barely used fall and winter clothing to the Love INC office, 343 Babcock Ave. Your donations become gifts of love and warmth to our neighbors in need.

Children's warm gear in good condition is especially needed.

All of our gifts reflect the Love of Christ, we give hand ups, not hand me downs. This is why we stress that donations are in good condition. Our desire is to bless our neighbors with clothing that is not torn, stained, missing buttons, having broken zippers etc... This insures that our gifts reflect the Love of Christ in all we do, we give hand ups not hand me downs. Thank you for your understanding.



### Sleep Out Kick Off

An event for the whole family! Donations from this annual fundraiser help continue this vital ministry to our community.

Come see our silent auction including spectacular quilts by local textile artists, many priceless items made with love along with some wonderful donations from area businesses. (Continued on page four)

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churches, and individuals alerting us to someone in need. The office volunteers gather information to verify if the need is true. Then we connect the neighbor in need with existing resources. In the occasion that there is not an agency or organization already in place to help, we turn to the volunteer resources in our affiliate churches and ministries.

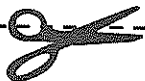
Church members are then able to become part of the blessing, showing our neighbors the Love of Christ in tangible ways. By simply delivering prescriptions and toilet paper to an older neighbor who is not well enough to get out or by taking the time to help deliver a bed to a child who has always slept on the floor, and to see their joy. These are the simple ways Love INC's volunteers are making a difference for families in our area. Our volunteers helped to serve, clothe, encourage and care for over **570** neighbors in need over the last six months.

Love INC does **not** give out money; we offer volunteer time, talent, donated items and energy to assist others.

There are many ways you can be a part of Love INC, Heartland. Come join in with us sharing the joy, someone in our community needs help from a person just like you.

*Jerri Harris*

Executive Director



You can help make a difference in the lives of people in need.

- I want to help with a monthly pledge of \_\_\_\$25 \_\_\_\$50 \_\_\_\$75 \_\_\_\$100 \_\_\_ Other
- One time gift of \$ \_\_\_\_\_
- Please send me information about volunteering in the Love INC Heartland office.

Mail to:

Love INC Heartland  
P.O. Box 143  
343 Babcock Blvd.  
Delano, MN 55328

Tel. 763.972.6547  
Fax 763.972.6548

loveinc@frontiernet.net

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_

State \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

Work Phone ( \_\_\_\_\_ ) \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail \_\_\_\_\_

Church Affiliation \_\_\_\_\_

Delano  
Greenfield  
Howard Lake  
Independence  
Loretto  
Maple Plain  
Mayer  
Montrose  
Rockford  
Watertown  
Waverly

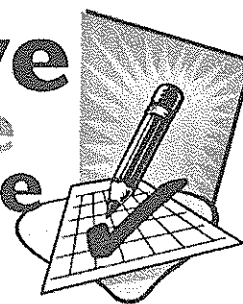
Office Hours:

Monday, Tuesday & Wednesday 9:00am – 4:00pm  
Friday's 9:00am – noon.

If you have an item to donate you may call...

Clothing: Cindee Nelson – 612-683-5990  
Bedding: Laurie Hanson – 763-477-4834  
Furniture: Norm Olson – 952-955-1134 or  
Roger Nelson – 762-972-3491  
Toys and infant items: Jodi Martinez – 952-955-2526

**Save  
the  
Date**



**Saturday November 4<sup>th</sup> 6:00 pm.**

Delano Assembly of God on Hwy 12

Join us for the second Annual Love INC Sleep Out Kickoff

Family fun for all

Spaghetti Dinner

Silent Auction

Family music and entertainment by the Madsen Family Singers

Good times with Good friends benefit our Love INC, Heartland.

Our fundraiser insures that we can continue to transform our community by helping our neighbors in need.

*Do you desire to be part of this amazing team? Please call the office if you would like to gather a group to sleep out, collect items for the silent auction or help gathering donations.*

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