



Love INC
Love In the Name of Christ
Heartland

Good News!

We've found a home in Delano

Love INC Heartland has found a home in Delano. We will be leasing the former Dave's Carpet building, located on Highway 12 next to Jim Dorn Auto. Our goal is to have the Love INC Heartland office up and running by early September.

There is a lot of work that needs to be done to get our office cleaned up and ready to go. Painting and general cleanup began August 1. If you would like to help with this cleanup and painting work, please contact Chris Schanus at 763-257-2158.

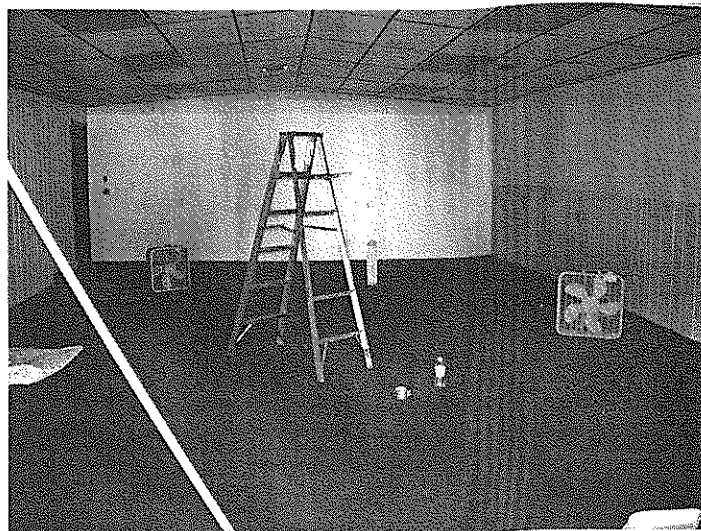
Office volunteers will be needed to answer phones, fill out intake forms for clients requesting help, assist with verification of the client's needs, filing of client records and other office tasks. If you have some spare time during regular office hours and would like to volunteer, please contact Chris Schanus.

The Love INC Heartland office will also be home to the Clothing Ministry, which is a joint effort between Light of Christ Lutheran, Delano United Methodist and Delano Evangelical Free. In the future, we are hoping that extra space may also be used to house other exciting ministries. Stay tuned for more details.

The roof is going to be replaced by the building owners, which will require the sign to be removed. We hope to be able to build a new sign and have it painted by some volunteers who work in the sign business. There is also some other various work that needs to be done - some by the landlords and some by us.

Come to our Open House

The public is invited to an Open House at our offices in Delano Sunday, September 25 from 1 to 4 p.m. Come see what Love INC Heartland is doing to love and serve those in need in our communities.



The interior has been turned from a dark brown to a sunny yellow. Thank you volunteers!



The exterior of Love INC Heartland's new home. We'll get right to work on a new sign.

Love INC Heartland is a 501c3 charitable organization which combines the efforts of 13 churches serving the communities of Delano, Howard Lake, Maple Plain, Montrose, Rockford, Watertown and Waverly. Our mission is to respond to our neighbors in need and to empower and transform our communities through the love of Christ. Member churches are Delano: Delano Evangelical Free, Delano United Methodist, Light of Christ Lutheran, St. Paul's United Church of Christ; Howard Lake: St. John's Lutheran; Maple Plain: Faith Community, Maple Plain Community, Village Evangelical Free; Rockford: Our Father's Lutheran, Riverwood Covenant; Watertown: Trinity Lutheran, Watertown Evangelical Free; Waverly: St. Mary's Catholic.

Our doors aren't open, but we're already helping

Love INC Heartland has not even opened its doors to the public yet, but the needs in our community are so great, that Love INC Heartland Executive Director Chris Schanus already receives 2-3 phone calls per week.

Social service agencies such as Wright County Community Action, West Community Action and St. Cloud Legal Aid have found out about us and are referring people in need to us. Here is the story of one person who has been helped by Love INC Heartland.

Rachel (name changed to protect identity) is a single mom trying to escape from a violent relationship. Rachel and her two young children sought refuge at a local shelter for domestic abuse victims. The shelter helped Rachel and her children find a new, safer place to live, but the new apartment did not have any furniture.

After hearing about Rachel's problem, a local furniture store agreed to donate beds, a couch and dinette set, but because of store policy, the items could not be delivered to Rachel's home. That's when Rachel turned to Love INC.

Rachel contacted Pastor Jim Beard at Delano United Methodist Church, a member of the Love INC Heartland network. Pastor Beard called Love INC and within hours, the Love INC Heartland furniture ministry, based at Trinity Lutheran Church in Watertown, was making arrangements to pick up the donated furniture and deliver it to Rachel's apartment.

"Except for a \$5 TV and some kitchen stuff, Rachel's apartment was empty," said Love INC board member and volunteer Barb Olson. "Helping Rachel was a good experience."

Through Love INC Heartland, Rachel felt the love of Jesus Christ through church volunteers who helped in her time of need. By joining together, the 13 member churches of Love INC Heartland have found they can be more effective than as single churches

working alone. In this once instance, three individual churches worked together to serve Rachel. Love INC Heartland volunteers, working with a generous local business, made certain that Rachel and her children wouldn't have to eat and sleep on the floor again.

Rachel isn't the only person who has come to Love INC Heartland seeking help. The needs of our community have become evident as the number of people seeking help has grown, and before we officially opened our doors. Social service agencies such as Wright County Community Action, Western Communities Action Network (WeCAN) and St. Cloud Legal Aid have already started referring clients to us. The volunteer time and donations that have been given to Love INC Heartland are already bearing fruit.

We need you

Have you wanted to serve in the Lord's Kingdom, but didn't know how? Love INC Heartland helps the Body of Christ to love and serve those in need, right here in our community. Volunteers and donations are needed.

Our ministries right now include furniture, clothing, bedding and car care. Local social service agencies have told us that transitional housing and transportation are huge needs in our area. We will be working to develop these ministries and others. You don't have to have a skill in one of these areas to volunteer. We will find a place for those who want to serve.

To volunteer or donate, contact Chris Schanus at 763-972-6547 or write PO Box 143, Delano, MN 55328

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