

ONE LOVE

FALL 2020



Love INC
Love In the Name of Christ

CARVER COUNTY



An estimated **9,000 diapers** and
150 boxes of baby wipes distributed
to little ones in need by the diaper
ministry of Living Christ Lutheran
Church of Chanhassen.

INSIDE

2. MESSAGE FROM
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

3. VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

4. TASHA'S STORY

A MESSAGE FROM AL NORBY, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



Virtual this and virtual that. Face masks and quarantine. Layoffs and closures. Zoom calls and Google meets. Fists pumps and distance learning. 2020 has been a year we will never forget. Since the first executive order back in April you have kept Love INC actively serving Carver County neighbors in need.

In fact, despite the challenges of COVID 19 on our culture you have cheered Love INC on to add 8 new churches, serving 4 additional communities and 1 additional school district and acquiring a new reliable delivery truck. A theme has emerged for Love INC of Carver County: **"Serve more. Serve better."**

We want to give God our best effort. We don't want to see any of our neighbors go without life's essentials. Including the essential of compassion. Thank you, friends of Love INC, for magnifying compassion in Carver County with ONE Love. After compassion comes transformation...for all of us!

With gratitude,

Al Norby, Executive Director

DONOR SPOTLIGHT

We give to Love INC for several reasons:

We don't have to look far to see people in need. Just close. To take a moment beyond oneself. Today, as we are required for health reasons to isolate, it helps us feel connected to community. We really like that Love INC unites many local churches in service to all God's people.

Giving is an expression of thanks that provides great sense of purpose to our lives and gives glory to God.

KARI & TOM STRUTHERS - ST. VICTORIA PARISH



LOCAL ROTARY CLUBS AND CHARTER BANK TEAM UP TO HELP LOVE INC CLIENTS GET MATTRESSES AND FURNITURE THEY NEED DELIVERED TO THEIR DOORSTEPS.

HOW LOVE INC. IS SERVING DURING THE PANDEMIC

COVID 19 has affected all of us non-profits, including churches, for how we are able to serve neighbors in need. Love INC and our partner churches have never stopped serving families during this pandemic.

During the initial executive order that limited our services to only "essentials" did impact some of our Gap Ministries but not all of them. And for months we have been firing on all cylinders serving this community.

Food and fuel cards have been one of the highest demands from neighbors impacted by the pandemic.

While we partner closely with local food shelves, some families

with strict dietary needs due to allergies cannot find food they need for their kids at these food shelves. Food Cards allow a family to shop at local grocers to find exactly what they need for their family.

Also, Love INC partnered with the CDA on an initiative to connect clients who qualified to apply for CARES ACT funds to assist with rent. Love INC provided over 100 hours of volunteer help to serve neighbors this way.

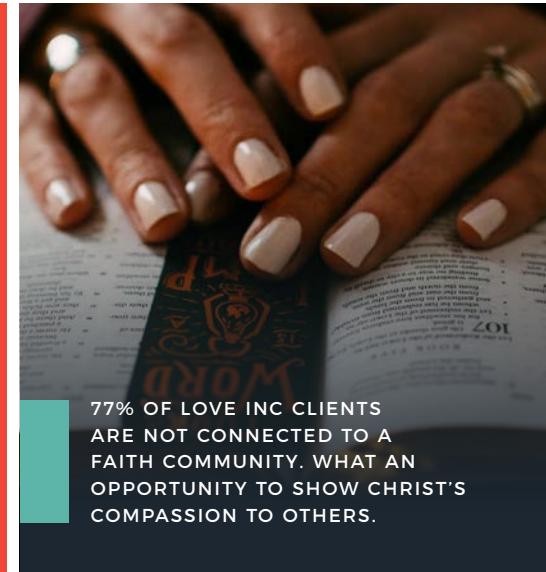
Love INC and the 33 churches haven't stopped serving during the pandemic despite the challenges COVID has brought to our day-to-day rhythm.

“WHEN GIFTS ARRIVE, LIVES CHANGE”

"When people give to Love INC, I see lives changed because people's gifts often come in the form of packages of diapers that are then passed on to families that are in need. Not only does the family receive an item that meets an immediate physical need, but the message of God's grace comes to them through those who deliver the diapers meeting spiritual needs as well. In a very real and tangible way

God's love and care is conveyed through the people who are involved in gap ministries. Through supporting Love INC, Living Christ as a church is blessed to be involved in sharing the love of Jesus in our community in ways that are meaningful, substantial, and authentic."

PASTOR MARK TEWES
LIVING CHRIST LUTHERAN CHURCH
CHANHASSEN, MN 55317



77% OF LOVE INC CLIENTS ARE NOT CONNECTED TO A FAITH COMMUNITY. WHAT AN OPPORTUNITY TO SHOW CHRIST'S COMPASSION TO OTHERS.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

11,500 VOLUNTEER HOURS. 420 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED IN 2020. OVER 1,900 NEEDS MET.

People seem so appreciative of the sincere empathy and interest the Love INC volunteer extends to their challenging life situation. **"How can we help you today?"** is often met with bewilderment. The realization that Love INC actually cares, often leads to an outpouring of first, anguish, and then, appreciation before even addressing the material needs which prompted the call in the first place.

JIM JOHNSON
HELPLINE VOLUNTEER



CUSTOM BUILDING BEDS FOR KIDS FROM BUILD-A-BED MINISTRY. HOSTED BY VALLEY EVANGELICAL FREE CHURCH OF CHASKA.



RESIDENTS OF THE LANDING SR. APARTMENTS HANDMADE THOUSANDS OF FACE MASKS FOR KIDS AND ADULTS.



VISIT LOVEINCCC.COM

WHAT DOES IT MEAN TO BE A “LOVE INC CHURCH”?

33 Churches from 11 denominations serving together with 1 Love don't just write their name on a piece of Love INC paper and say, "keep up the good work." All the churches in the Love INC partnership have made a choice NOT to sit in the bleachers. Rather, these churches are actively serving Carver County in unsung ways.

Love INC churches put a lot of "skin in the game."

- Churches affirm the apostles' creed. We are a Christian organization and the model of our compassion for others comes from the person of Jesus Christ. Compassion precedes transformation.
- Churches give financially to the sustainability of Love INC ensuring that people can find the help they need.
- Churches provide leadership and infrastructure to the "Gap Ministries" that are the hands and feet of Christ to this community.
- Churches supply volunteers to collect donated items, organize and manage inventory and to deliver needed items with compassion to our clients in need.
- Churches inform their congregations about Love INC and how to engage with the movement of serving Carver County.
- Churches give refuge and hope to clients who aren't connected to a faith community. 77% of Love INC clients say they do not belong to a faith community.
- Churches refer the other 23% (who are connected to a faith community) to the Love INC network of help that goes beyond what just one church could do alone for a family or an individual.

The compassion of the churches is sincere and potent. When churches serve together with ONE Love...Lives change. Communities change. Compassion is contagious.

We hope you catch the bug!



HELPING TO TRANSFORM LIVES AND THIS COMMUNITY.

Tasha is a single mother struggling to provide for her son. She only had one good mattress for the two of them. Tasha chose to sleep on the floor in order that her son could get a good night's rest on the mattress. After calling Love INC, a new bed was delivered the next day. The Helpline volunteer asked if Tasha wanted her and her son to receive Christmas gifts through the Love INC Christmas event hosted by Mt Olivet West. This is an annual event where each family member who participates receives one gift. Tasha gratefully accepted but asked if she opted NOT to receive her one gift could her son instead receive two gifts.

SAVE THE DATE

ONE LOVE CELEBRATION

TUESDAY, APRIL 27- 2021

5-8:30 P.M.

VISIT LOVEINCCC.ORG FOR MORE INFORMATION

"A donation is much bigger than the dollars that support programs. When people give to Love INC, they assure people in need that their community cares about them and wants to support them. Giving to Love INC is an act of love from neighbor to neighbor."

JORDAN ZAHRT

LOVE INC CARVER COUNTY BOARD CHAIR

GIVING MADE EASY. VISIT LOVEINCCC.ORG AND CLICK ON THE “DONATE” BUTTON.



Love INC
Love In the Name of Christ
CARVER COUNTY

NOW SERVING MORE OF CARVER COUNTY
CHASKA | CHANHASSEN | CARVER | VICTORIA
ST. BONI | WACONIA | NEW GERMANY | COLOGNE
SCHOOL DISTRICTS 110 AND 112