

The Love Connection

What is Love INC.....really

Message from the Executive Director

Save the Date Love INC Auction

Love INC will hold an auction this year on September 24th, 2010 at the Tacoma Christian Reformed Community Church at 2419 72nd St. E. Come enjoy desserts, coffee, or tea while browsing and bidding at the silent auction. Entertainment will be provided by a quartet called, "Livewires".

Admission will be \$5.00

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If we wish to see God, we should look at the point where a caring Christian intersects with a person in need. Ted Engstrom, founder of World Vision said of Love INC in 1988 in his forward of a book called, "Help is just around the Corner" that in the parable of the wise builder, Jesus challenged His followers with a very simple formula, "He who believes in Me and hears My word and then does it, is like..." If the church is to become the salt it was ordained to be, particularly in light of the limitation of governmental resources and our societies headlong rush toward materialism, Dr. Gulker's (the Love INC) message is one that the church must not only hear, but then step out in faith to do. It is a refreshing approach that offers unlimited possibilities. It is an idea that I believe comes through the Holy Spirit."

1John 3:18, TLB Little Children, let us stop just saying we love people; let us really love them and show it by our actions.

Being a part of Love INC, it has been a privilege to really come in contact with (and I may be partial) the cream of the crop of the caring Christians. I believe that Christians do care about the needs of people around them ~ the elderly people who can no longer completely care for themselves, single parents who need material assistance and personal support, people who are disabled, unemployed, and homeless.

We come to the Church with a structure of ministry that helps connect people in need, with Christians that care. There is tremendous potential in the Body of Christ to respond to the needs of people in our society. It is our goal to help them connect. We exist to foster the engagement in ministry between the Church and their neighbors in need not replace the Church in meeting needs.

We are a clearinghouse of resources and through the phone center we screen the calls that are referred to us to ensure the needs are specific, legitimate and manageable.

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

Talent Tithe Updates

Love INC has asked that members of local churches become involved in responding to individual and family needs which arise, or currently exist, in the area surrounding their churches. Our church has agreed to participate in this program because we believe it will give each church member a precious opportunity to put his/her Christian faith and love to work in the service of those in need.

Love INC will refer neighbors with legitimate and manageable needs to the trained contact person from our church. This contact person will give you the opportunity to provide the service you indicate on this inventory. Name: Address: Email: Phone: Church Note: If you are unable to help when called upon, you may simply decline that opportunity. Available hours: (please check) Morning Afternoon Evening Tues Sat Wed Thurs I AM WILLING TO VOLUNTEER IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS: (Please Check) ___ Assist with Shopping one or two times a month _Money Management counseling (we can train you) _Plumbing ___Carpentry ___Painting __Assist people in filling out various forms (Seniors) Provide short term emergency housing __Transporting people to medical appt once or twice a month _Help family with meal planning and cooking from scratch __Deliver food occasionally with adequate notice ___Tutor Children ___Tutor Adults (English as second language) __visit shut-ins, elderly, or disabled or handicapped ___Donate baby supplies _Visit and encourage people who have no family/ friends to _Donate Beds, dressers, Linens & blankets _Respite care for a single parent or those living with ____ Temporary baby-sitting or child care handicapped person ___ Financial aid (rent, utility bills, medicine) _Companionship for the elderly ____ Make Holding Crosses (We have the templates) Make Bags for the holding crosses (We have samples) __Transport Furniture in your Truck _Phone Angel caring friend for someone who is alone ___Do yard work for disabled and elderly _Volunteer to help at Love INC call center in Lakewood ___Volunteer to help at Love INC's Christian Bookstore in Puyallup _Share skills: __Auto __Appliance ___ Other talents, skills you want to help with_____

> Please Mail to: Love INC 10213 139th St. Ct. E. #B1 Puyallup, WA 98374

Who's calling for help.....

About a month ago I took a call from Mary (not her real name) for help with her utility bill. This lady called Love INC four other times since 2005. I noticed that she was a single adult with two kids ages 11 and 16. Her sixteen year old, now had a 2 week old baby.

This client had exhausted her maximum months for state assistance. She paid \$0 for rent and really had no great expenses. I had a long week and at first I was judgmental. I bounced off the situation to our office manager. See I didn't want to enable this lady and just get her bill paid.

I think God pulled on my heart and reminded me about the kids and how they had no part in this situation. I then decided to get the help anyway, for the kids. As I called one of our networking Churches, I told them the whole story, even my opinion. We both agreed to get the help.

I called Mary back to tell her that the bill was being taking care of, I shared my own experience with her. I shared about being raised on welfare and never being taught about making and reaching goals. I then shared how I have children and have chosen to break the cycle. I want my children to succeed in life, so I'm working and trying to go back to school, and have a great support network in my Church to come along side of me. I told her that our children will do what we do. She then shared how she has been doing a GED class and has failed her math test three times, and that she needed to hear what I said to her. I told her to never give up, that rewards will be great. I'm so glad that God tugged on my heart. My lesson in this is to not be afraid to be assertive with some clients, because it can be the push that someone needs. She also let me pray with her. Thank you Jesus!

Sarah Intake Advisor

A big **THANK YOU** to Excel Business Systems in Tacoma for their generous donation of a Canon Image runner c3200 Color Laser Printer & Copier! Mark and Scott have treated us like royalty!

We are so thankful for helping us save money with this instead of our old inkjet printers.

Continued from page 1... What is Love INC, really

If your church is in Pierce County, we can partner together, if you want to. I've had some lay leaders say, Well it's great that you are in Puyallup, helping the Puyallup Churches, but that's not our community. (I'm glad you can't see my face right now ③) Love INC's clearinghouse IS A PHONE CENTER. It's not long distance anywhere in the County I don't think and just an FYI, our P.O. Box is in Puyallup, our Furniture Storehouse is in Tacoma and our Clearinghouse phone center is in Lakewood! If you have a phone we are just a call away. Oh yeah our new 2nd hand Christian Bookstore is on South Hill between Puyallup and Graham!

Ok, now that I've done my venting © "Create in me a clean heart Oh, God, and renew a right spirit within me." Love INC is a bridge for the Christians who want to help, to their neighbors in need. Why does your church need a bridge? Ask the people in the pews how many homeless people they can name? Odds are, unless you are one of our Freezing Nights churches and helpers, people can't name any, because they don't know any. Love INC recruits Church volunteers. Then, when people are referred to us for screening by agencies and churches, we screen the calls and then refer them to agencies that are set up to help with certain things already, or with Churches or people in the churches who have told us ahead of time what they are able to help with. That is where the Talent Tithe Sheet comes in. See page 2. Sorry about the order of things here, but I have more room to write on page 4 than page 2.

Church leaders: Please consider having a time where you can share with the congregation about the Love INC network and assign a point person to work directly with us, if you don't already have one. That point person will be our contact person. If training is needed we would love the opportunity to train folks on how we can best work together. Just call the office to set it up. The point person would then present Love INC to the congregation or Sherry Phinisey, our Executive Director would welcome the opportunity and introduce the Talent Tithe sheets on page two. This opens the door to ministry opportunities for people who may not have found their place to serve and their opportunities, to mature as God's love shine forth because they are a conduit of that love to those in their community.

Individuals: If you are getting our newsletter, you know about the ministry. Please update us on what you'd like to be available for by filling out the Talent Tithe in your newsletter and mailing it back to us. Judy in our office will give you training and "Best Practices" for certain types of opportunities that can help those who call us. Together, we can do so much more than any one..... of us alone!

Blessed to be a blessing, Sherry Phinisey

Love's Treasury 2nd Hand Christian Bookstore "Features in August"

We have over **180 VHS** Leadership and Self Help training tapes! Some are listed below:

Mentoring Engaged and Newlywed Couples

Simply Romantic Secrets

Kingdom Life: Jesus' Way to True Happiness

The Ministries of the Holy Spirit

Pat Robertson teaches: The Holy Spirit in Your Life

Making Love Last Forever Leadership Video Seminar

Evidence for Faith
The Leading Edge
Intimate Encounters
Speaking Solid Ground

Life on the Edge

Woman: Now and Then

Lessons From the Early Church: Romans 12:6-8

The Soul Winning Series
Jesus: A Biography

Improving Your Serve: The Art of Unselfish Living

No! The Positive Answer Jesus Home Video Package

The Body: Being Light in Darkness

Homes of Honor

Parrott & Parrott

Mark Whitlock

John MacArthur Jr

John MacArthur Jr

Pat Robertson

Gary Smalley

Brown

Josh McDowell

Johnny Derouen

David & Teresa Ferguson Rick Hicks & John Trent

James Dobson

Jill Briscoe

Lloyd Jones & D Martyn

Ron Hood

Lor Productions, Inc

Charles Swindoll

Josh McDowell

New Life Resources

Charles Colson

Gary Smalley

We look forward to sharing all
Our Treasures with you! Come in and visit us at
10213 139th St. Ct. E. # B1 in Puyallup

We are off Meridian, across the street from Firgrove Elementary School

Clearinghouse Information of families calling us and Volunteers helping to meet the needs for the 1st half of 2010

- Partnering Churches: 149 (that help us help people)
- Other Churches in the county on our Mailing list: 347
- Organizations we network with: 187
- 5 office staff paid the equivalent of 2.5 FTE for a 40 hour week
- Manpower supplemented by volunteers (see below)
- Calls Received: 1515

(FYI: for every call received it takes at least 4 calls from our office staff to verify the situations, call churches to coordinate assistance and follow-up with clients) over 6060 calls to help these families in 6 months.)

- Needs met: 613
- Unmet needs: 197

(Unmet for various reasons, got help in the past, didn't return our calls to do the screening, asked for plane tickets out of state, or no help available for their excessive financial requests)

- Adults in the households of those who called us: 2024
- Children in the households of those who called us: 1604
- 205 times people volunteered at the Phone Center
- They put in 1544 hours of volunteer service
- Church Volunteers that served on behalf of Love INC: 629
- Church Volunteer hours: 318

Announcements

Judy in our clearinghouse center needs volunteers to help with data entry of client info into our online database that the churches have access to.

Sarah and Lisa would love to have help with doing the intakes for clients. If you are one who likes giving people advice all the time, (that's a good thing here ③) This is our most needed area and the toughest, unfortunately. Please consider helping us.

Sharon would love some help with our New Fall Auction Event. If you'd like to help us solicit for auction items we'd appreciate it so much! If you'd like to put together a basket of goodies sponsored by you or your church that would be great too! Call the office at 253-531-2365 for more info.

Sherry is looking for volunteers to help in the new Puyallup 2nd Hand Christian Book and Thrift store!

She also needs <u>someone who will take clothes that we aren't selling to our local Graham</u> Churches clothing bank for us on Friday mornings once a month.

She needs people to help scanning book information that we will use for our bookstore website inventory, and people who will help on the store floor sell items and representing Jesus to the folks coming in! The days help is most needed are Wed & Saturdays.

We are looking for donated Home School Curriculum, Prom Dresses, Musical Instruments, All sized Career Clothing,

If you can help with any of these things Contact Sherry at 253-468-6236. Her new email address is: ExecDir@loveincpiercecounty.com It's so fun to add a walk in ministry component to Love INC!

If your church would like to have Sherry come and talk to the leadership team or your congregation about how your church can get involved with more outreach please give her a call at 253-468-6236. We await your invitation!

This is not an Organization, it's a movement of God!

We recognize that a piece of your heart is included when you write that check and we appreciate and guard your trust, support and your partnering with us to make a difference in our community.

*Yes, I will help meet the financial needs of Love In The Name of Christ as indicated below:
Special Gift of \$25 \$50 \$100 \$250 \$500 Other \$
I'd like to help with Love's Treasury Ministry
I'd like to sponsor a child for a prom dress (\$25.00 will cover the dress and the cleaning)
I'd like to sponosor a child for a musical instrument (\$40.00 will cover maintanance, repairs, pads reeds)
Charge my credit card for easier processing: Card # Expiration date
Your Name
Email address:
Billing Address
City/State/Zip
Phone number
Donations can now be made directly on our website at _www.loveincpiercecounty.org_
OR

Please fill out the coupon and return it with your TAX DEDUCTIBLE financial gift to the address below: If you'd like to mail your donation kindly make checks payable to Love INC and mail to:

Love INC, 10213 139th St. Ct. E. #B1 Puyallup, WA 98374

Thank You, for being an answer to prayer! Love In the Name of Christ is a 501 (c) 3 corporation and your contributions are completely tax deductible. You will receive a tax receipt letter thanking you for your gift!