

# The Love Connection

#### Message from the Executive Director

We are in the "Fastening Your Seatbelt" mode again here at Love INC. God has orchestrated some divine appointments the last month and we are considering a Partnership and Pilot Project for an East Pierce County Community Resource Center with the Military! This partnership will also benefit some of our area churches who are very involved in community outreach by creating and strengthening "Team Centers" that provide those needed services.

We don't have a lot of details yet, but ask that you keep this in your prayers that this partnership will make a KINGDOM difference for the community of Pierce County.

I believe God has sent an angel before us to prepare the way and this person has already talked and gotten the support of ... Continued page 2

(not continued...:)

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## Church Budget time

It's that time of the year when everyone is looking at next year's budgets. We would like to ask that you consider putting Love INC into your local missions, or benevolence budgets if you haven't already.

About 33% of our income comes from Church donations. We know church giving has been down the last couple years, that has caused a trickle- down effect on us too. We had 3 churches who had to stop their support of the ministry for reasons we aren't sure of, but it's understandable given the current economic situations. Well, praise God! One church just emailed me and said they want to start supporting Love INC on a regular basis...as I am writing!

Given the current economic situation, Love INC is needed and used more than ever. Current statistics report:

- 77% of Pierce County's homeless families are led by a single head of household.
- 96% are female and the average age is 33.4
- Male head of households represent 4% of the total homeless families
- The average male's age is 43
- 15,576 people living in non-senior housing had incomes 50% or less of the county median family income and paying 50% or more of their income in housing costs in Pierce County.

page Love INC is receiving over 300 calls from families per month that are going through crisis situations. The average church contributes about \$100 a month to our operating expenses, but it costs us about \$75 an hour to operate, to take the calls, process the requests and find churches who can assist in helping the family through the crisis. On average, we make 4 phone calls per family to try to get them help.
75% of the families that call us aren't affiliated with a church. It is a very ripe mission field! Please consider what your church's potential is to help us

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

help those in need in our community.

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#### Adopt a Family for the Holidays

Now is the time to be thinking about, and letting our Phone center know, if your church, your care group, or your family would like to adopt families for either Thanksgiving or Christmas! Tis the Season!

Our clearinghouse number is 253-531-2365 and <u>they need to know at</u> <u>least 3-4 weeks before the holiday</u> so they can discern which families could use some holiday cheer and some "Love packages" for Thanksgiving filled with Thanksgiving foods!



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State Senators, and has talked with key stakeholders for Center of Faith-based and Neighborhood Partnerships in Washington DC, talked with representatives from the Department of Homeland Security and Department of Veterans Affairs with regard to Pilot Studies and Pilot Projects for an East Pierce County Community Resource Center.

It's not something we pursued at all, but would help us greatly expand the influence of the church throughout the County!

The possibilities to reach many new families for Jesus is mind boggling! Churches could be a part of local mission's team at one campus that has services and ministry opportunities as varied as the gifts of different believers! People don't get bounced around from place to place getting needs met. I've heard many times before that Churches are short of space so don't have many outreach opportunities at their sites, well here would be an opportunity to participate, that has the "Stuff" at one site but many Christians can come from different congregations and serve where their heart desires to serve! You may desire to help with a food pantry for example, but your church doesn't have one. We may! You may want to help with a furniture bank, but your church doesn't have one. We may!

Maybe Budget training at one location, on an ongoing basis taught by people from our partnering churches, but at the community center.

Keep this in your prayers! This is not an organization, but a movement of God! More to come.

Sherry Phinisey



Love's Treasury is trying to gather musical instruments in good shape that can be used for students in the Puyallup School District (to start) that can't afford instruments. Our plan is to work directly with the music teachers who identify and teach these students and the instruments would be loaned directly to the teachers. If you have small instruments you can donate please bring them by the Bookstore at 10213 139<sup>th</sup> St. Ct. E. # B1 Tuesday – Saturday between 10:00 a.m. and 6:00 p.m. I bet there is instruments just sitting in a lot of homes, not being used that could really bless and change a life!

#### In Memory of Marianne Boogerd



Marianne Boogerd, beloved wife, mom, grandma, and great-grandma went to be with the Lord after a long, brave struggle with cancer. Mary was a wonderful example of a Christian servant to her family and all those around her. She volunteered at local charities, Love INC being one of them, and her church, Tacoma CRC, where she was a member for over 42 years. Mary is survived by her husband Jim of 55 years and 4 sons and their wives, 12 grandkids, and 4 great grandkids. Mary helped us here at Love INC in the very early years when our accounting system was mostly manual and from a check book. I was so thankful for her knowledge of bookkeeping and helping me to establish payroll and payroll taxes and the L&I quarterly reports. Mary & Jim continued to support Love INC financially for at least the past 6 years or more. It was her wish that in lieu of flowers for her memorial service, she asked that donations be made to Love INC. As expected, the sanctuary was full of her family and friends. You will be greatly missed! We wanted to give a special thank you to all who honored her and her wishes, and sent a donation to Love INC this month.

Anonomous Cash donors, AI & Emily Isakson, Audrie & Glen Shagren, Bev & Bert Buck, Catherine & John Townsend, The Co-workers of Don Boogerd, Daniel Besito ~ IBA Inc., Dawn & Terry Noteboom, Doug & Jaci Terpstra, Gert & Tony DeKruyf, Grace & John Kamstra, Janice & Paul Masselink, Jennie & Lloyd Underwood, Jim Boogerd, John & Mary Wildhaber, Kathy & Chuck Brauhn, Lee & Lucy Deheer, Linda & Rob Buck, Luella & Leland Swanson, Mathew & Julia Brislawn, Meindert Devries, Rod & Judy VanderLey, Sharon & Bill Colyn, Sherry & Earnest Phinisey, Ted & Tena Tel, Walt & Evie Werkhoven, Yvonne & Morgan Olson. Spread the word! Love's Treasury has 150 + beautiful prom dresses that we are renting out for \$25.00 a night. We are still accepting donations of prom dresses and men's tuxes, if you have them!!!









We are also asking for sponsors to help pay the rental fee, should a girl not be able to afford even that fee. We want everyone to have the opportunity to be a part of the social events for their schools.

See the back sheet for details on sponsorships.

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### 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 <sup>(i)</sup>) <u>This is our most</u> <u>needed area and the toughest, unfortunately.</u> <u>Please consider helping us.</u>

We could use a refill for the Caring Card Ministry. We send out 10-12 handmade cards per week to clients just to let them know we are praying for them and also thinking about them. Please spread the word to those ladies who like to make cards that we could use some more!!

We are looking for donated Home School Curriculum, Prom Dresses, Musical Instruments, <u>All- sized Career Clothing</u>, (Cleaned if possible.)

If you can help with any of these things, contact Sherry at 253-468-6236. Her new email address is: <u>ExecDir@loveincpiercecounty.com</u> 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!

#### Thank you to the following donors who gave a donation to Love INC in memory of Alice Dahl

Keith & Deanne Miller

| This is not an Organization, it's a movement of God!   |
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| 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:<br>Card #   |
| Card #<br>Expiration date  |
|  |
| Your Name  |
| Email address:   |
| Billing Address  |
| City/State/Zip   |
| Phone number   |
| Donations can now be made directly on our website at <u>www.loveincpiercecounty.org</u>  |
| OR   |
| Please fill out the coupon and return it with your TAX DEDUCTIBLE financial gift to the address below:<br>If you'd like to mail your donation, kindly make checks payable to Love INC and mail to:<br>Love INC, 10213 139 <sup>th</sup> St. Ct. E. #B1 Puyallup, WA 98374<br>Thank you for being an answer to prayer! Love In the Name of Christ is a 501 (c) 3 corporation and your<br>contributions are completely tax deductible. You will receive a tax receipt letter thanking you for your gift! |