

His Light



Volume 1 Issue 1

March 2019

Love In the Name of Christ of Southern Chautauqua County

Our Mission

To mobilize the local churches to transform lives and communities in the Name of Christ

Our Vision

To see Christian Churches united in purpose and fully engaged in actively living out their faith by lovingly serving people in need

Helping Churches Help People



Love INC
Love In the Name of Christ
of Southern Chautauqua County

Love Your Neighbor as Yourself

Our Mission at **Love In the Name of Christ** is to mobilize the local church to transform lives and communities in the name of Christ. What do mobilization and transformation look like in Southern Chautauqua County? A neighbor in need can call the Love INC Clearinghouse Call Center to seek assistance. The Clearinghouse serves as a networking center to connect those neighbors in need with resources, in the form of agencies, goods and services. Each neighbor in need completes an extensive intake process, where a volunteer from an area church serves by seeking to understand the neighbor's story and how they came to be in the situation they are currently in. The volunteers have the opportunity to share the love of Christ and be His light through loving, encouragement and non-judgmental grace.

Once the story has been gathered, the verification process begins. References the neighbor in need has provided such as friends, family members, caseworkers and landlords are contacted. The verification process allows Love INC to gain a deep understanding of the neighbors need and clarifies the genuine needs from those that may be less than genuine. Once a father called for assistance with school supplies, as school was starting. It became very apparent through the verification process that the needs were much greater, as the volunteer learned from a reference that the family did not have furniture, allowing for a greater life impact on the neighbors we serve. This need was met through donations of household furnishings from individuals, which were delivered by a volunteer from an area church giving the volunteer the opportunity to share the love of Christ and be His light through loving, encouragement and non-judgmental grace. Love INC provides for a variety of needs including, minor household repairs, rides to appointments, minor car repairs, toiletries, baby items and household items. If Love INC does not have the means to provide the needed assistance, we will refer the neighbor in need to those agencies and organizations that can provide for that need. All our neighbors in need are empowered to be a part of the solution by Love INC providing the necessary information, follow-up and accountability.

What makes Love INC distinctly different from other agencies? We are seeking to offer a hand up in the form of assistance from the one who can ultimately change lives, Jesus Christ. Scripture tells us to make the most of every opportunity. We, the staff, volunteers and board of Love INC seek to shine God's love and His grace to transform lives and communities in the name of Christ.

Did you know you can donate you used household items to Love INC? We will take used items in good condition with no rips, stains or broken pieces. Call 338-9705 for more information on how you can invest in the lives of your neighbors in need by donating your used household items.

Pastors Breakfast Annual Meeting

On Tuesday, January 29th Love INC held its Annual Meeting with a Pastors Breakfast at the Gateway Center. While the pastors enjoyed breakfast provided by the board and staff, the highlights of 2018 were shared. Scripture tells us in John 16:33 “In this world, you will have trouble...” Love INC has experienced some troubles and trials. From the unexpected relocation in 2017 which brought additional expenses with rent, utilities and upkeep. Then the 2018 cancellation of a major fundraiser, Love INC’s Golf Marathon, due to a lack of golfers has left a large shortfall.

The remainder of John 16:33 says... “but take heart I have overcome the world.” Love INC has experienced an incredibly busy year as we received and distributed 2–2.5 times the number of donated items to our *neighbors in need* from the

previous year. An increase in giving from both churches and the public offers the organization more stability than previously. A volunteer had the opportunity to explain to three generations in one family the true meaning of Easter. We have seen neighbors in need reach out to our volunteers from area churches because they needed a friend. We have seen more volunteers give of their time with an almost 500-hour increase over last year and we hosted our first Toy Giveaway that was run by a partner church, REALiFE Church. (Love INC only served as a guide.)

“In this world, you will have trouble but take heart I have overcome the world.
John 16:33

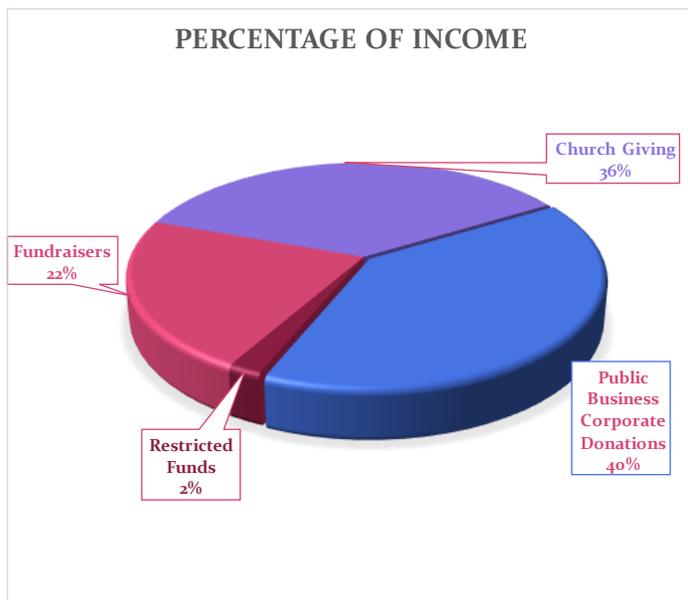
Overall it was a good year, but we still have some goals the organization is working on and your help is needed:

-Volunteers to serve: in the call center, to assist *neighbors in need*, serve on fundraiser event teams, as Board Members and Church Ministry Coordinators (as an ambassador for your church)

-Individuals, Businesses and Churches to financially invest in serving our *neighbors in need*

2018 Stats

- Total Calls Received—595 (2017 was 328)
- Total Intakes Completed –258 (2017 was 177)
- Volunteer Hours- 1,514 (2017 was 1,047)
- Total Churches Mobilized –24 (2017 was 27)



From the Neighbors We Serve:

Thank you for the Christmas card and everything you have done for me and my children. It has brought tears of joy being blessed to have you guys in my life. You guys are such wonderful people and organization...We just want to thank you so much! - *single mom with health issues and 3 kids, needed to move because of high lead levels in her former apartment. She was assisted with some appliances but is still on the waiting list for a gas stove.*

A View from the Executive Director's Desk ...

On Saturday, December 15, 2018, Love INC partnered with REALiFE Church and Greater Chautauqua Credit Union to host a pop-up Christmas Toy Shop. A warm and inviting Christmas party atmosphere at **REALiFE Church** at 21 East 3rd Street, 4th floor downtown Jamestown was complete with gifts, gift wrapping, homemade Christmas cookies and more. Each of the neighbors in need was given an assigned arrival time, where they were greeted by members of the congregation of **REALiFE Church**. Each neighbor was guided through the shopping experience and assisted with selecting and carrying gifts that were donated by the **Greater Chautauqua Credit Union and their patrons**. Then a team of gift wrappers beautifully wrapped each of the gifts, while our neighbors enjoyed some fellowship and refreshments. Hearing the laughter come from the fellowship room confirmed in my heart, as the Executive Director of Love INC, we are *servi*ng in the best way possible at Christmas time. The day was summarized by one of our neighbors in need said, a "very warm, comfortable environment, which is needed by many of us (at) this time of year."

Thank you to Pastor Tim Smart and all of the elves at **REALiFE Church** who served their neighbors in need on a cold December day in downtown Jamestown. Thank you to **Greater Chautauqua Credit Union and its patrons** for providing the toys and gifts.

If you or your church are interested in serving your neighbors in need, please contact us at 338-9828 or email susan.loveinc@gmail.com to learn more.

Give Electronically!

Go to our **Facebook** page **Love INC of Southern Chautauqua County** or **website** LoveINCSCC.org and **Click** on the **Donate link**

Staff

Susan L. Justham
Executive Director
Lakewood Baptist Church

Kristy Adams
Clearinghouse Coordinator
Trinity United Methodist Church

Board of Directors

Lory Hatfield– Board Chair
New Hope Community Church

Vernon Craven –Vice Chair
Zion Covenant Church

Ann Knepschild –Secretary
Church on the Rock

Ruth Ostrom– Treasurer
Wiltsie Community Church

Nina Gustafson– Member
Wiltsie Community Church

Join



Kingdom Club

Become a monthly supporter of Love INC with a gift of *any* amount and help the Kingdom of God grow as the love of God is shared with those in need

By giving on a monthly basis you will receive :

- ◇ A monthly thank you letter which includes an update on the kingdom work and a love story regarding how we are seeing God at work through the volunteers from area churches at Love INC
- ◇ A quarterly Newsletter with acknowledgment as a Kingdom Club member
- ◇ A reminder call or email regarding your monthly gift
- ◇ And knowing you are making a difference in the lives touched by Love INC

How do I become a Kingdom Club Member ? Write "*Kingdom Club*" on the General Fund other line on the enclosed envelope and enclose your first months support.

Do you have a passion for those in need?

Do you have gifts and talents in administration?

Do you enjoy living out your faith in God?

Board Members needed.
Meetings are held the second Thursday of the month at 7pm. Please contact Lory Hatfield by email – loryhatfield@gmail.com

Love In the Name of Christ of
Southern Chautauqua County

553 West 3rd Street

Jamestown, New York 14701

For Assistance: 716-338-9705

Business : 716-338-9828

Fax: 716-338-9706

Susan.loveinc@gmail.com

LoveINCSCC.org

**Helping Churches
Help People**



Love INC
Love In the Name of Christ
of Southern Chautauqua County

Volume 1 Issue 1

March 2019

Office Needs:

Professional multi-line phone system

Postage stamps

Copy paper

Office Desk (5 feet in width, good condition)

Volunteers: serve minimum 2 hrs. per week

Board Members

Client Needs:

Appliances: Refrigerators, stoves, washer & dryers in good working condition, *clean* & less than 10 years old

Beds: full or twin with no rips, stains & bug-free

Household furnishings in good condition with no rips, stains or broken pieces are always needed



5th Annual Minister March Mania held at Frewsburg High School on March 17th. Nineteen Ministers from 15 area churches competed in a basketball game to raise funds for Love INC.

Love INC Happenings?

The first Love Month was held in February with great success. Area churches collected toiletries, cleaning products, household items and baby items to support Love INC Gap Ministries to serve those in need.



**Mark your Calendars : Purse Auction September 27th
At Gloria Dei Lutheran Church**

