

For Immediate Release



Love In the Name of Christ is an organization of DeKalb/Sycamore Christians and congregations that uses volunteers from various churches to care and love those with legitimate needs in our area. Love INC uses a two-pronged approach by receiving donations of cash and tangible goods and then disseminating the items to a needy client. Following the intake and verification process, the client is connected with one of the partner churches that then fill that particular client's need. There are 27 outreaches that are used to connect with the needy. Love INC has assisted fifty-one formerly homeless people after they secured their new residence.

Periodically, we will highlight one specific ministry of Love INC. Perhaps you can find a particular area of ministry that interests you where you can serve. Financial contributions are urgently needed to continue this vital ministry. If you have any of the tangible items given to the needy through this ministry and you'd like to donate them, please call Love INC so donation can be arranged. (like all client requests)

Love In the Name of Christ helps our community by:

1. Intake/Verification Ministry- (This is where the help starts) this is a crucial part of the Love INC work. Our intake process has been proven effective in determining the true underlying problems, protecting against scams, and providing hope and help for the person calling. Volunteers from seven churches answer telephone calls and assist the individual with filling out the application. This is the initial part where hope and relief are given, and prayer is offered with the client. Love INC does verification of need.
2. Furniture Ministry-The furniture ministry is led by Love INC and volunteers from various churches take part in delivering the items from Love INC's storage facility to the client in need. Recently we had a mother of three young kids call the office. She only owned one inflatable mattress. Love INC and the volunteers were able to connect with her and provide beds, dresser, dining table, living room furniture, and lamps.
3. Dresser (Fill 'em Up) Ministry-This also is currently led by the Love INC office. Many times, clients' clothes are stored in boxes or stacked on the floor. Providing a dresser increases organization in the client's home. Recently, a client that received some dressers for her kids expressed her appreciation of the gifts that allowed her home to be neater and also provided a little more space for her kids to play. Self-esteem increased with these dressers, and Love INC was thankful to be part of their lives.
4. Bike Ministry-Crossview Church oversees this ministry. Although this past summer was a low one for bike requests, there were some. Crossview inspects, repairs, and runs this needed ministry. Bikes are given to children and adults. The adult recipients usually request them for work, school, and/or errands.

5. Kitchen Items Ministry-Upon approval of the client and verification of need, Hillcrest Covenant Church is contacted. They then make a call to the client to see exactly what is needed and further specifics are received. A delivery date is set up, and the client receives items to cook and eat with.
6. Linen Ministry-First Lutheran Church of DeKalb handles clients in need of linens. A client was thankful for the like-new sheets, pillows, and blankets her family received from them. Blankets are especially needed in the cooler months. The linens help clients get a good nights sleep.
7. Peace & Rest Bed Ministry-There are many people who don't have beds in our community. This is one of the highest requests received by Love INC. Good used bed sets from twin to queen size are great ministry tools. Love INC Clearinghouse oversees this outreach, and there are various churches that take part in picking up donations and delivering them to clients. A counselor recently referred an individual who needed a bed to Love INC. A bed was delivered, and for the first time in a long time, he slept well. He was particularly thankful to have it prior to going in for surgery.
8. Games Ministry-This outreach is an "extra" we do with some of our deliveries. Board, card, and outside games encourage family interaction, problem solving, and provides a way for families to have fun together. In a delivery in September, a twelve-year-old boy was so excited and thrilled about getting a couple board games, a baseball, and bat. The littlest items can bring a great blessing and encouragement to many.
9. Delivery and Pick Up Ministry-This group of volunteers provide the labor to Love INC by picking up donations and getting them to clients. Most often, this involves moving furniture.
10. Financial Assistance Ministry-Three local congregations oversee this area of ministry by assisting clients with small household bills. Love INC recently helped a client who'd had his work hours reduced with his rent, and he was grateful. Money problems are worrisome and can cause stress, and this particular client was extremely grateful for the assistance he received.