



Love INC
Love In the Name of Christ
Of Clay County

THE LINK

LINKING CHRIST-CENTERED CHURCHES IN MINISTRY

WINTER 2012

Those of us who are strong and able in the faith need to step in and lend a hand to those who falter, and not just do what is most convenient for us. Strength is for service, not status. Each one of us needs to look after the good of the people around us, asking ourselves, "How can I help?"

Romans 15:1

The Cross and The Heart

Each year Love INC strives to make every event we do for our clients the best it can possibly be. We follow up not only with those who generously adopted a family but also those who received the Adopt-A-Family generosity.

Meet Darlene. She is the mother of six children, ages 3 to 13 years. As you can imagine, she and her family struggle to pay the bills. Christmas gifts would be a luxury they could not afford.

Darlene reported she was so relieved to have been blessed with Christmas love from Adopt-A-Family. What she did not expect was the outpouring of generosity her family received from their adopt-a-family sponsors. Darlene stated "there is not a day that goes by that I don't think about those people who gave us such a wonderful Christmas. Had it not been for them, we wouldn't have been able to afford Christmas gifts" Darlene also stated "There was so much stuff for the kids and there was a gas card for me." While Darlene wishes there was some way she could do something for the family who adopted her, she knows that someday she will be able to pass on the favor.



In the conversation with Darlene, she shared that she does not attend church. I asked her if I could pray for her and her children. Then I asked her if she would like to go to church with me. She said yes. We are meeting this Sunday. Please pray for Darlene to get connected so that she may experience more of Christ's true love for her. ~Missy Bull

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The Core Values Of Love INC

- We are **Christian**. Everything we think, say, and do is in the name of Christ.
- **Prayer** is an integral part of who we are.
- We follow Christ's example of valuing the **poor and needy**.
- We value **unity** of the Body of Christ.
- We value **transformation** in the lives of people and communities.
- We value **churches** living out the two great commandments to love God and love their neighbors.
- We value building Christ-like **relationships**.
- We value the **connectedness** of the Love INC movement.
- We model **excellence**.
- We value continually **maturing** in our capacity to meet people's needs.

BELIEVE IN LOVE

FROM THE DIRECTOR

I was listening a song from [Huey Lewis and the News](#) called "Do you Believe in Love" last weekend as I was brainstorming on this article. The words fit perfectly with Love INC. Then I asked myself; do you Believe in Love? In college I wrote a paper on love. It made me realize that there are many ways people love. From Agape to Freud's Id, there are stark differences as well as lovely common threads that flow as a constant. For example some of us *love* chocolate cake while others enjoy it. As if there is a value on love, or is there? We do love our children, spouse, family and often close friends. Some love their pets, possessions and monetary items. Love is a word that is often misused.

The happiness you feel is in direct proportion to the love you give.

This past summer I was invited to speak to the VBS kids at Liberty United Methodist Church. They had collected a great deal of canned food to supply our emergency food program. I asked the kids to tell me what 'poor' is. This is what I heard: 'They are dirty', 'They stand begging for stuff on the road', 'They can't talk', 'They are not smart', 'They don't love.'" I asked them to consider what would happen if their Dad or Mom came home one day and sadly reported that he or she had just lost their jobs. That did not seem to impact them that much. I added that they could not go to summer camp, summer vacation, they would not get their favorite snack due to limited money for groceries, and they may have a very warm home all summer long because cooling the house cost too much. This started to hit home. So are you dirty? Begging for stuff on the road? Have you lost the ability to talk? And are you somehow now not smart? Now they can't **love**? I thought not. I believe most adults feel the same way.

Listed here are the income guidelines from HUD. This is the industry standard that determines how deep into poverty you are.

Are you listed here?

Household Size	100%	133%	150%	200%	300%	400%
1	\$10,890	\$14,484	\$16,335	\$21,780	\$32,670	\$43,650
2	14,710	19,564	22,065	29,420	44,130	58,840
3	18,530	24,645	27,795	37,060	55,590	74,120
4	22,350	29,726	33,525	44,700	67,050	89,400
For each additional person, add <small>http://aspe.hhs.gov/poverty/11poverty.shtml</small>	\$3,820	\$5081	\$5,730	\$7,640	\$11,460	\$15,820

At Love INC of Clay County, we use the 150% of poverty guidelines to determine if a client is qualified to receive funds. It is thought that anything above that guideline, one can sustain without assistance. Though the grace of God, we have some wiggle room when determining services.

The hunger for love is much more difficult to remove than the hunger for bread. ~Mother Teresa

Love INC receives love donations each month from generous individual's as well as benevolence donations from our growing partner churches. Without this outpouring of **love**, we may not be able to serve the needy in Clay County. We are also blessed to have dedicated volunteers to **love** Clay County's needy. Each volunteer has the unique opportunity to touch someone's life and share God's **love** through their time.

The holiday seasons brings out many individuals and groups who want to serve or give. The inspiration that each family received as they were given their gifts, baskets or food moved us all. For the churches who adopted families and were able to give their gifts gloriously in HIS house, they were rewarded with new parishioners and friends as they shared Christ's **love**.

Each day of each year is a day to love. It is a reason to give. Poverty is with us all year long. There is not a week that passes that I discover another friend or acquaintance has lost their job. It is not broadcast but quietly passed to others in hopes of finding renewed employment and prayer. I believe in Love INC. I believe in the **love** that is shared here. I believe in our partners, generous volunteers and donors. I believe, we will serve all who enter our doors with dignity and respect. I believe we will do what is needed to help our growing client base. I know God loves you and me and will continue to bless us.

-Dawn Blusher

A movement of Christian churches working together to show God's love to the poor and needy.



Love INC For The Fridge



Cut this sheet out and place it on the fridge to be reminded of all of the awesome Love INC events and volunteer opportunities! Also, we have an ongoing GAP ministry needs at Love INC where we try to provide items to fill in the "GAPS" of the needs of Clay County. Review the GAP ministry needs list and add one or two items to your grocery list per week. Drop them by our office anytime from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm-Monday through Friday.

Love INC Events

- ♥ **Regrettably the Concert of Choirs has been cancelled!!!!**
- ♥ **February 13-16, 2012: Hy-Vee Fundraiser Days.** SEE PAGE 4 FOR DETAILS AS WELL AS INSERT OF HY-VEE LOVE INC COUPONS!!!!
- ♥ **February 3-4 Super Bowl Bag Sale-** Purchase 8 items of clothing for only \$5.00. You can do up to 3 bags, one visit per day only.
- ♥ **February 24-Thrift Store Bag Sale-** Purchase 8 items of clothing for only \$5.00. You can do up to 3 bags, one visit per day only.
- ♥ **March 5th, 16th, 26th Thrift Store Bag Sale Days-** Purchase 8 items of clothing for only \$5.00. You can do up to 3 bags, one visit per day only.
- ♥ **April Thrift Store Special-SHOE SALE!!!!** In preparation of warm weather come in and buy one pair of shoes and get the second one for half off.
- ♥ **Grow the Love Event, April 19, 2012** SAVE THIS DATE!!!! The Keynote Speaker will be **Ron Smith** and Master of Ceremony: **Lara Moritz**. Want to be a Table Host or attend, submit your name to info@loveincluberty.org



Volunteer Opportunities

- ♥ **Client Intake Window-** Meet with clients at 30 minute intervals and fill out all paperwork and submit for review. This position is available Monday's 1-3 pm, and Tuesday through Thursday 10am-2pm.
- ♥ **Message Intake-**Retrieve messages from voicemail regarding client needs and submit for processing.
- ♥ **Client Appointment Scheduler-**Call back clients to set appointments for client paperwork submission and review.
- ♥ **Data Entry-**Enter all client information in the Love INC client coordinating software. This system is easy to use and requires minimal training. Just basic computer knowledge.
- ♥ **Scanning Entry-**Scan client documents from file into Love INC client coordinating software. This system is easy to use and requires minimal training. Just basic computer knowledge.
- ♥ **Thrift Store Cashier-**Run cashier in thrift store. Minimal training required.
- ♥ **Thrift Store donation sort and intake-**accept, sort and organize donations received.
- ♥ **Client clothing Assistant-**This position is once a month and you will serve as personal shopper for Love INC clients who are in need of clothing.
- ♥ **Thrift Store Warehouse-**Sort and organize donations in warehouse and prepare for movement to thrift store
- ♥ **Newsletter Team-**once every three months assist in putting out Love INC newsletter.
- ♥ **Thank you note team-**Do you have a flair for the written word? Then writing thank you notes is for you. At Love INC we value our donors and make every effort to say "Thanks" You could help us do that.
- ♥ **General Office Help-**Filing, labeling and general upkeep of office to help us run more efficiently.

GAP Needs

- ♥ Diapers-Sizes 3,4,5,6
- ♥ Diaper Wipes
- ♥ Baby Formula
- ♥ Jar Baby Food
- ♥ Pacifiers
- ♥ Deodorant (men &women)
- ♥ Shampoo
- ♥ Razors (men & women)
- ♥ Combs and Brushes
- ♥ Toothpaste
- ♥ Toothbrushes
- ♥ Boys Underwear
- ♥ Men's Underwear
- ♥ Women's Underwear
- ♥ Girls Underwear
- ♥ Boys socks
- ♥ Girls socks
- ♥ Items for emergency food pantry



A movement of Christian churches working together to show God's love to the poor and needy.



Love INC Auction

The Love INC thrift store often has received special donations. These items consist of coach purses, Nike shoes, fossil watches, lead crystal pitcher and leather coats just to name a few. In an effort to let everyone have a chance to purchase these special donations we have created the Love INC Weekly Auction. Every Monday a special item is place on the auction block. Place your bid either online at www.loveinliberty.org or 'live' at the thrift store. At the end of the day each Saturday, the highest bid wins the item. Be sure to checkout our website and/or come into our thrift store to see what the auction has to offer.

If you have a special something to donate to our weekly auction contact our thrift store manager, Amber Coffey, at acoffey@loveinliberty.org or 816-994-6931.



Fundraiser Days

Love INC's gracious partner in the fight against poverty is the Hy-Vee in Liberty, MO.

Shop at the Liberty Hy-Vee February 13th-16th and Hy-Vee will donate Five percent (5%) of your purchases to Love INC. Present one coupon, found in this newsletter, to the cashier at the Liberty Hy-Vee in order for the funds to be applied. These coupons are only valid February 13th thru the 16th. Share copies of this coupon with your friends and family as well! Coupons can be emailed so be sure to send your email to info@loveinliberty.org in order to take advantage of this wonderful opportunity of helping the needy of Clay County while grocery shopping at Hy-Vee. Be sure to check out the coupon on Page 5!!!!



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One man's clutter...

Spring cleaning will be here sooner than you think! Going through and getting rid of the old to make room for Summer! Think of our Love INC thrift store while doing this. The items you donate benefits our clients directly. All profits from our thrift store are used to fund clients emergency utility assistance. Not only will you be cleaning out clutter, you will be paying for someone's rent, gas, water or electric bill.

We like to say 'One person's clutter is another's emergency need covered.'

Donate your goods at the thrift store Monday-Saturday between the hours of 10 a.m. and 5 p.m. Current needs are

housewares; such as pots and pans, small appliances, and silverware. Call the donation line at 816-781-6931ask for Amber. She will arrange a time for the volunteer furniture team to pick-up.



HOW TO GET INVOLVED

Use this form to donate to Love INC or for volunteer opportunities please fill out the form below, clip and mail to Love INC of Clay County, 2050 Plumbers Way, Suite 160, Liberty, MO 64068. Also, go to our website at www.loveinliberty.org.

I am interested in volunteering for Love INC.

I want to help with a monthly pledge of

- \$25
- \$50
- \$75
- \$100
- Other

I want to give a one time gift of \$ _____

I would like my gift to be used as follows

- Clearinghouse Ministry
- Thrift Store
- Endowment Fund
- Use where most needed

Mail to: Love INC of Clay County
2050 Plumbers Way, Suite 160
Liberty, MO 64068
Phone 816-781-7121

E-Mail: info@loveinliberty.org
Website: www.loveinliberty.org

Name: _____

Email: _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State: _____ Zip _____

A movement of Christian churches working together to show God's love to the poor and needy.

VOLUNTEERS

At the Heart of Love INC



Did you know that the largest percentage of the work needed to be done to keep Love INC operational is done by volunteers? That's right. Each and everyday Love INC is on the look out for generous people with a heart for service to come along side of us and do God's work by reaching out and helping the needy of Clay County.

Don't have time? Do you have an hour? We have no set standard. We will take as little or as much time as you have. Can you only volunteer 1 hour once a week? Every two weeks? Every month? Every three months? Not a problem. We have a variety of volunteer opportunities to fit your time schedule.

I don't know anything about the needy of Clay County or Love INC! Not a problem. We provide not only a small orientation detailing what we do, but we have assignments that range from Data entry to stuffing envelopes.

I have children? Children 6 years and up can come with their parents and sort toys, books, and clothes in our thrift store. It also provides great parenting moments that allow for great conversation and family togetherness.

What is required to become a volunteer? You must fill out a volunteer application which includes providing two references and then attend a

short orientation on Love INC and its mission. You then discuss where you feel led to serve and we match up what you want to do and what we have available. Chances are high we will have something you enjoy doing and/or a serving situation that fulfills you.

There is variety of volunteer opportunities. We have office and clerical duties which include working directly with clients in our clearinghouse or general office assistance. We have need of data entry and scanning persons. We also have a thrift store with job opportunities that range from cleaning and sorting clothing, to working the cash register, to product placement on the sales floor. We also are in need of warehouse volunteers to move furniture and other heavy items as well as pick up donations and deliver purchases.

Our orientation is scheduled either for the Second Monday afternoon or second Tuesday evening of every month. **RSVP to Missy Bull at mbull@loveinliberty.org or 816-994-6926 before attending.** The next orientation will be February 13th.

See page 3 of the newsletter for a more extensive list of volunteer needs at Love INC.

CLIENT INTAKE WINDOW

A Volunteer Position Spotlight

Love INC currently has a great need for volunteers to work our "Client Intake Window." This position is for those people who enjoy working directly with clients to assist them in getting their needs filled. Currently our client intake window is open Monday 1-3 pm, Tuesday thru Thursday 10-2 pm. Job duties include meeting with clients. Filling out assessment forms and entering them into Love INC client database. Scanning images into system. Do you work well with people? Are you a good listener? Do you enjoy assisting those in need to get to the proper resources so they can get back on their feet? Then this volunteer position is for you. It is at the front line of Love INC mission to help those in need.

Kathy Beagle has worked with Love INC for 3 years. Kathy states that the greatest part about working the Client Intake Window is "the feeling of giving. I get such a good feeling of having contributed to people in need. Like I have made a real difference."

If interested in this position or any other volunteer position contact Missy Bull 816-994-6926 or mbull@loveinliberty.org.

Welcome UAW Local 249



Love INC would like to officially welcome United Auto Workers Local 249 to the Love INC partnership family.

Local 249 is located in Pleasant Valley, Missouri. Their membership totals 3900 employees with approximately 3,000 retirees. The Kansas City Assembly Plant is the only Ford Motor Company two-system plant in the United States. The Truck System produces the Ford F-150 Super Cab, F-150 Super Crew Cab, and F-150 King Crew Cab. The SUV System produces the Ford Escape and Ford Escape Hybrid.

Thank you UAW Local 249 for partnering with Love INC to reach out to the needy in Clay County.

A movement of Christian churches working together to show God's love to the poor and needy.



Love INC
Love In the Name of Christ

Love INC of Clay County
2050 Plumbers Way
Suite 160
Liberty, MO 64068


NONPROFIT ORG.
PERMIT 88
LIBERTY MO

816.781.7121 (volunteer/donor)
816.781.3200 (client)
www.loveinliberty.org

*****ECRWSS*****
Local
Postal Customer



Send us your email address so your Love INC newsletters will keep coming!
info@loveinliberty.org



Hy-Vee
EMPLOYEE OWNED

Group Name: **LOVE INC**
LOVE IN THE NAME OF CHRIST OF CLAY COUNTY, MO

Fund Raising Days Designated

Cashier Check By Date Used

Mon. Feb. 13, 2012 _____
Tue. Feb. 14, 2012 _____
Wed. Feb. 15, 2012 _____
Thu. Feb. 16, 2012 _____

Offer Good Only At Liberty Hy-Vee

Signature of Card Bearer: _____

Final Purchase Total: _____ Cashier Name: _____

Thank you for helping us help our community!

HY-VEE
109 North Blue Jay Drive
Liberty, MO 64068
816-792-3210

By simply using this card when purchasing groceries on one of the above dates, you can do your part in helping to raise money for your organization. Liberty Hy-Vee will donate 5% of your total purchases made during this fund raiser. THANKS for your support!

100% Participation Generates More Funds For Your Organization!

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