

# **Love INC Notes of Joy**



2023

#### Without a Home

At Love INC we encounter people who are homeless from time to time. They may be living at a shelter, or in their car, or in a tent, or moving from one friend's home to another (couch surfing). If in a shelter, there are often crowded conditions, theft of their belongings by others living there, or difficulty getting along with other residents or the shelter's rules. If living in their car (sometimes with other family members or a friend), there is the need to move their cars frequently, need for money for gas, no easy access to bathroom facilities, and no place to cook. If in a tent, there are weather issues, their clothes and blankets get wet, disagreements with others in the area, and sleeping on the hard ground. If couch surfing, they may feel like they are imposing on their friends, they don't have much privacy, and there may be arguments with others living there.

When they connect with us at Love INC, they are looking for blankets, hygiene products, access to laundry facilities, dishes, etc. However, they are also looking for a home of their own. We can provide some of the items they need, and we can tell them about organizations in the area that may be able to offer financial help to rent a home (Love INC is not able to offer any money). We can give them a list of low-income housing opportunities, but it is still difficult for them to find a place. There can be a long



waiting period and often there is something that makes the landlord wonder if the person may not be a good renter: previous evictions, a criminal record, past drug addiction, unemployment, physical and mental health problems, and they may not have enough money for a deposit.

There is one association that Love INC has been involved with from its beginning, and it is called Adult Services Team (AST). This includes representatives from various governmental and private agencies in Linn County (organizations related to housing, rental assistance, health care, police, Adult and Teen Challenge, Senior and Disability Services, etc.). People who have struggled finding housing can fill out an application and gain an appointment. Adult Services Team does not find housing for a person, but they develop an action plan to help them become a more favorable potential renter. The Team may recommend some classes, encourage them to set up payment plans for past debts, complete the requirements of their parole, seek drug treatment, pursue employment opportunities, follow up on any special programs that are offered through agencies, and offer other ideas.

#### **Love INC Board Members**

Jerry Cruce—Willamette Community Church
Matt Davenport—Jesus Pursuit Church
Mike Farnsworth—Lebanon Calvary Chapel
Rob Nelke—Valley Christian Center
Michelle Shannon—River of Life Sweet Home
Ross Wootan—Home Church

Love In the Name of Christ — Office Hours:

Monday—Thursday 7 9 am—1 pm

Tuesday 5 pm --8pm 7 541-924-LOVE

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Living Out

#### **Partner Churches**

AI RANY Albany City Church Albany First Evangelical Church Albany First United Methodist Church Albany Foursquare Church Albany Mennonite Church Albany Seventh-Day Adventist Eastside Christian Church First Church of God Free Church United Christian Center Good Shepherd Lutheran Church Hands of Mercv Hope Church Jesus Pursuit Church Knox Butte Baptist Church Neighborhood Church North Albany Community Church Northside Christian Church

Salvation Army The Shift

United Presbyterian Church of Albany Valley Christian Center Willamette Community Church

#### **CRABTREE**

Crabtree Christian Church

#### LEBANON

Community Bible Church First Presbyterian Church of Lebanon First United Methodist Church of Lebanon Ignite Hope-Free Methodist Church Lebanon Mennonite Church Signs of Victory Southside Church of Christ Trinity Baptist Church

#### **TANGENT**

Agape Family Fellowship Grace Bible Fellowship Tangent Community Church

**IEFFERSON** 

Jefferson Evangelical Church

SCIO

Providence Vineyard Christian Fellowship

**SHEDD** 

Oakville Presbyterian Church

### Ways to Give

>Mail a check to: Love INC of Linn County, 1606 Santiam Hwy SE, Albany, OR 97321

>Donate with a credit card through our

## Without a Home (continued)

We are glad to help people in all of the ways discussed above, but we know that a person needs more than a physical home. Many people who live in houses or apartments, don't have a permanent eternal home. We look for opportunities to have conversations about finding a home in lesus and offering to pray for our friends who are homeless and those who have homes.



After all, Jesus said, "Everyone who hears these words of mine and does them will be like a wise man who built his house on the rock. And the rain fell, and the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on the rock." (Matthew 7:24-25, ESV). Jesus is our Rock, and he is our hope for the future.

## Affirming Potential® Class

Do you have the desire to unlock your untapped potential?

Come join us as we start a life-changing, lifelong journey to face and accept our past, to better understand our present, as we lean into and embrace our future! This class explores the physical, emotional, relational and spiritual areas of life. Building on the foundation that God created us with great worth and unique potential.

> Class Start Date: April 6, 2023 Noon—2 pm (lunch served) Love INC office 1606 Santiam Rd. SE, Albany To register call 541-924-5683

#### **Prayer Requests**

Continue to pray for more phone volunteers. Ask God to provide more self-care (hygiene) products Pray for strong volunteers to deliver furniture (trucks needed too)