



Love INC  
Love In the Name of Christ

Love INC of South Albuquerque

*Helping Churches Help People*

Love News

July 2009

## Message from the Executive Director

A volunteer and I visited Richard last week to see what we could do to get his evaporative cooler working. He had tolerated the heat all spring and early part of the summer until the last several weeks when temperatures reached into the high 90s. He had called the Love INC Clearinghouse to complain that he had tried to get several agencies to repair his aging A/C to no avail. I was not looking forward to the visit because I had been to this home on more than one occasion only to find an angry man bitter from years of substance abuse, loneliness and poor living conditions. After laboring for more than an hour on top of his hot silver tin roofed mobile home rebuilding a tired cooler, we flipped the switch and out came cold moist air. If that wasn't enough to bring joy to his face, the suggestion to pray for his upcoming hip surgery brought this rough-edged child of God to tears. He doesn't experience many opportunities to have someone show him God's love in action and to remind him that even he can be loved. We asked him to read the Book of Hope which is given to all clients and to rededicate his life to the God that he has not been close to for many years. Love INC helps the Church touch people's lives. In our second year we are just scratching the surface of what God can do through church volunteers when they reach out to those who need God's help. Give us a call if the Spirit is prompting you to action.

In His service, Josh Speakman

## Sandia Church of the Nazarene Because of Christ

Rev. Fred Rodriguez

I wanted to take a moment to share with how spending a day serving in your warehouse lead to a troubled teenage girl giving her life to Jesus. We were hosting a mission's trip for a teen group from Kansas City. On the Monday (July 20) that KC First Church of the Nazarene served with us from Sandia Church of the Nazarene at the warehouse of Love INC this young girl, Sara that had been lost in drugs and alcohol turned to her Youth Pastor and said, "This is what I want to do with my life, serve people." Sara gave her life to Christ that day! This was one of many spiritual experiences of hearing from God and seeing that serving others is more fulfilling than pursuing to please ourselves. Our entire group was also blessed with the generosity of JR's BBQ serving all 55 of us lunch. It was like manna from heaven, mmmm.

We were first lead to serve at Love INC because of the RESPONSIBLE ministry that they do. Responsible being that Love INC uses the resources that God gives them to help church volunteers minister to people by sharing the Gospel of Jesus with them while building relationships that allow the process of discipleship to happen. At Sandia, each year we give away food, showers to the homeless, clothes, cars, Christmas shopping sprees, Thanksgiving turkeys, Easter Egg baskets, backpacks with school supplies, and many more needs to families all over Albuquerque and the surrounding area. Sharing the mission of Jesus Christ truly is what makes Sandia Church of the Nazarene and Love INC partners in ministry.

(Editor's Note: The youth groups cleaned and organized the warehouse, which allows for more efficient use by all Love INC volunteers.)

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

## Partner Churches

St. Johns United Methodist Church  
 Grace Church  
 First United Methodist Church  
 Faith Bible Church  
 Christ Church  
 Sandia Church of the Nazarene  
 Joshua’s Vineyard  
 Mars Hill  
 Sandia Chapel  
 Hoffmantown Church  
 Family Church  
 Carlisle Community Church  
 Highland Baptist Church

## Home Depot Grant

Love INC has a grant with the Home Depot located on Eubank. Volunteers pick up all Home Depot returned items 3 times a week and deliver to Love INC’s large warehouse. Returns consist of plumbing (including toilets, sinks, tubs, and shower stalls), flooring, doors, windows, ceiling fans, blinds, and many other items. Love INC is not allowed to sell any of these items, but give to others doing ministry. Churches, youth camps, Christian schools, and other ministries are welcome to come “shop” the Love INC warehouse. All items are free. Please share this information with other ministries.

## **Providing God’s Message Over the Phone**

Testimonial from Fran Stribling, Volunteer

During my younger years I worked in positions that allowed me very little free time except on weekends. I have been a Christian for many years, but during those working years I always yearned to volunteer. Actually, I envied some friends who visited hospitals every week and gave the Gospel to people who were ill or dying. I told the Lord many times that when I retired I would spend more time in service to Him – just like they did.

Well, those work years are now past and I volunteer in several capacities. I love older people and enjoy time spent with them as I visit assisted living and nursing home facilities. I have made some great friends there.

It is my pleasure and joy to also work at Love INC. once a week. I only work several hours a week, but in my time there I work in the office where I have the opportunity to speak with, and pray with, many people who call in for assistance. This experience has humbled me and developed empathy in me for the plight of these precious people who need help so desperately. The people I talk with sometimes are homeless people who, through public assistance, now have their first apartment but no furnishings (nada, nothing!) and they come to Love INC. to help them out. I especially enjoy the homeless because they are so excited to be off the street and to have a place of their own. It’s great to be a part of their rehabilitation if only by giving them encouragement and hope. They are so appreciative of any help you can give them. Many people I speak with are disabled, physically or mentally, as well as the unemployed and also the elderly. Our purpose is to show them the love of Christ and not be judgmental about their circumstances while providing the items they need. As a volunteer, I am blessed as much, if not more, than they are.

Only when we get to Heaven will we know the lives that have been changed – and saved.



**You can help make a difference in the lives of people in need.**

- I want to help with a monthly pledge of \_\_\_\$25 \_\_\_\$50 \_\_\_\$75 \_\_\_\$100 \_\_\_ Other
- One time gift of \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Choose Love INC as your designated United Way employee contribution.

### Mail to:

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