

GALLATIN COUNTY

LOVE INC

LOVE IN THE NAME OF CHRIST



MOBILIZING LOCAL CHURCHES TO TRANSFORM LIVES AND COMMUNITIES IN THE NAME OF CHRIST

DIRECTOR'S *Note*

Our Lord provides. We are humbled and in awe of the support we received to not only meet our End-of-Year Matching Campaign goal, but exceed it! I'm constantly reminded this is God's ministry. He is moving within this community through the partnership of churches, in every volunteer, and by providing resources.

In addition to the hundreds of already active client profiles, 346 new client profiles were opened in 2017. These are our neighbors in need reaching out for help. Love INC is here to connect them to partner churches, volunteers, ministries, and/or other community organizations. "The King will reply, 'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'" Matthew 25:40 NIV

Blessings,

Sheila

Sheila D'Amico
Executive Director

POWER OF LOVE: *Gifts of Love*

Christmas can be a difficult time for many people. The Clearinghouse call center referred many of the requests for Christmas gift help to the established Salvation Army and Hope & The Holidays Christmas programs. Yet, some families did not qualify for those programs or their requests came in after those programs closed.

Around mid-December the list grew of families in need of Christmas gifts; but God was at work. The week before Christmas the Clearinghouse received calls from donors wanting to share the spirit of Christmas by giving to others. Volunteers quickly paired donors with the families on our list. Several churches and volunteers delivered gifts not only to the children but also to the parents. One family received tickets to the movies, the museum, and hot springs. They told a Clearinghouse volunteer that it was an amazing Christmas bonding as a family while enjoying their home town.

Thank you to everyone who provided support for these families and also to the community organizations who helped spread the power of love during the Christmas season.

**CURRENT** *Needs*

Volunteers (loveincgc.org/volunteer)

- Furniture movers
- Drivers with trucks
- Skilled craftsmen for home & appliance repairs
- Compassionate listeners for contact with neighbors in need (Clearinghouse Intake)

Firewood

- Chopped & ready to deliver

Furniture

- Twin mattresses with box springs
- Small kitchen tables with chairs
- Dressers

PLANTING *Seeds*

A Faith & Finances ally (coach) invited her student to join her at church. They are still regularly attending church together.

Field volunteers enter the lives of our neighbors in need, sharing Christ's love, giving hope, and the knowledge that they are not alone.

BLESSED *Deeds*

Two families were blessed with donated cars presented by volunteers. Each expressed feeling unworthy - both were told God found them very worthy!

Save The Date!

Plant The Seed Fundraiser,
Dinner, and Silent Auction

- Monday, April 30, 2018
- MSU SUB Ballrooms
- 5:30 - 8:30 p.m.

The keynote speaker will be Warren Hiebert, former Gallatin County Sheriff's Chaplain.



*Commit to the Lord whatever you do and he will establish your plans.
Proverbs 16:3 NIV*

2017 MEASUREABLE IMPACT

Summary



Clearinghouse Activity

- 5,504 Calls, Emails, & Connect Cards
- 2,806 Cases Met
- 942 Cases Not Met
Lack of response, Process ended by client, Not eligible, Not manageable, Unable to contact client, Unmet



Neighbors in Need

- 15,249 Adult & Children Beneficiaries
- 25,734 Adult & Child Needs Met
General client needs, Clothes Closet, Change Your Life, Crisis support, Financial assistance, Healthcare, Info request, Household items and service, School, Spiritual support, Household support, Transportation



Volunteers Serving Neighbors in Need

- 3,127 Volunteers Serving
- 23,600 Volunteer Hours Served



Referrals Made

- 2,770 Partner Church & Ministry
- 442 Community Agency

CHANGE YOUR LIFE *Program*

The Faith & Finances and Resolving Everyday Conflict classes begin mid-February hosted by Bozeman Church of Christ and Dry Creek Bible Church in Belgrade. An important focus of these classes is the relationships formed between the allies (coaches) and students which begin by sharing a meal before each class.

We introduced the fellowship meal time for the first time during our fall 2017 classes. Delicious meals were donated by volunteers and were an added blessing to those students who came straight from work.

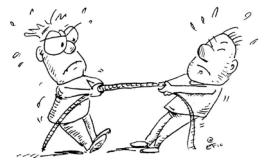
Interested in being involved in the Change Your Life program? Consider being a ally (coach), or providing meals or childcare.

"I've had the opportunity to connect with others struggling in this area and form lasting relationships!" - Student

"I have been cheerfully motivated... and inspired to help others." - Student



RESOLVING EVERYDAY CONFLICT



PERSONAL CARE PANTRY *Ministry*

The opening of two additional Personal Care Pantries at the end of October has been a tremendous success in sharing the love of Jesus to individuals and families in their communities. The pantries combined met the needs of 141 adults and children in 2017.

There has been an outpouring of donated items in support of the pantries from partner and networking churches, businesses, organizations, and schools in our county. The Personal Care Pantries are by appointment only at the Bozeman United Methodist Church, Living Waters United Methodist Church in Belgrade, and Manhattan Presbyterian Church.

LITTLE EFFORT, *Big Donations*

Amazon will automatically donate a percentage of your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to Gallatin County Love INC whenever you shop on AmazonSmile. Go to smile.amazon.com to select Gallatin County Love INC as your designated charitable organization.



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Thrivent will direct Thrivent Choice Dollars when qualifying policy holders allocate Gallatin County Love INC as their designated organization for the Choice Dollars Stewardship Program.

Many companies have matching campaigns to support charities of their employees' choice. Ask if your company has a program where you can earmark donations for Gallatin County Love INC.



a Partnership of Churches