



Love INC
Love In the Name of Christ

Love Letter

Love INC of Benton County

An Outreach Ministry of Corvallis Citchurch

Our Mission ...

To mobilize Christians to show the love of Christ by reaching out to people with needs in the communities of Benton County.

Look What You Have Done...

Another Year of Growth

	<u>2002</u>	<u>2003</u>
Number of participating churches and ministries	21	30
Number of requests for assistance	1,058	1,454
Number of hours that volunteers served	3,438	3,675
Number of individuals and family members who received help	1,952	2,084

Love INC Executive Director
Wilma Van Schelven

Clearinghouse Coordinator
Karen Combs

Board of Directors
Jim Reynolds Nancy Kelley
Jack Glubrecht Beth Lambright
Tammy Coykendall Pastor John Stone
Mercy Chipman

“My House is Your House”

One couple gives literal meaning to the expression

Last Fall, Rick and Diane Barker moved into a new home in Jefferson, OR. They had lived in a fifth wheel while their house was being built. When they no longer needed the fifth wheel they considered selling it, until Diane saw an article in a Love INC newsletter.

In the article, Love INC Director Wilma Van Schelven described challenges faced by local families and individuals who have no homes. The Barkers decided that they would donate the fifth wheel to Love INC if someone in the community could use it.

The Barkers had become familiar with Love INC when they lived in Corvallis and attended Corvallis

Evangelical Church. When they called the Love INC office, they were told about a single dad and his two children who were living in a small, cramped camper that was in poor condition. The Love INC staff had learned about this family through Carolyn Hinds who works with the Corvallis School District as an advocate for homeless families and children. The Barkers were glad to hear that their fifth wheel might be a blessing to someone.

But the fifth wheel needed to be towed from Jefferson to Corvallis. And it had broken ceiling vents that needed to be repaired.

Well, it was as though the Barkers had opened a flood gate of generosity,
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Temporary dwelling or permanent home?



From The Director

A Double Blessing

I would like to share this “love story” as told by our Clearinghouse Coordinator, Karen Combs.

Jeff, a single dad, had been riding his bike to work . . . to doctor appointments . . . everywhere. He usually arrived wet and tired and sometimes late. His friend suggested that he apply for a used car through Love In the Name of Christ.

When Jeff called the Love INC office, we discussed his needs, which were complicated by the fact that he was a diabetic. Realizing that a car is a big responsibility, he chose to wait until he was sure he could pay for the upkeep and maintenance. He said he would need to pray more about this decision. A few weeks later he called again. He was definitely interested if there was a car available.

We didn't have any cars at that time, but we knew that God often meets needs like this in quick and surprising ways.

The next week a vehicle was donated. However, it was a large van that would go to a low-income family who had been on our waiting list. We expressed our gratitude to Randy, the man who donated the van. We also told him that if the family did not want the van for some reason, then it would be given to a single dad who had only a bike. Upon hearing this, Randy decided to donate another vehicle as well! He spoke with his wife and came back with their used Bronco.

Tires for the Bronco were donated, mounted and balanced by Hanson's Tires. After arranging for the car insurance, Jeff took ownership of the vehicle. He called the Love INC office to say, “The Lord did a miracle for me today in supplying this vehicle. God showed me that He cared that I had to ride my bike in the rain and the cold.”

Jeff expressed his gratitude to Love INC and to God for answering his prayer. Now he has a way to transport his children and to arrive at his destinations warm and dry.

This is the difference that a donation . . . or two . . . can make!

Wilma Van Schelven
Executive Director

“My House is Your House”, continued from page 1

and other people came along in surprising ways to meet every need. Steve Wylie, owner of Bob's Towing, towed the fifth wheel . . . free of charge. Myrle Slocum, owner of Southside RV Repair, and his staff fixed the vents and repaired the awning . . . free of charge.

The secretary at Bob's Towing, Angel Mahon, said that she and her neighbors would like to provide Christmas gifts for the family who was receiving the fifth wheel. Sharon Geisert at Southside RV Repair asked about doing the same thing, but since that need was met, they provided money for another family with children who also needed assistance at Christmas time.

The fifth wheel was delivered in time for Christmas. Although their names are not being mentioned here, we can say that the father and his children were extremely grateful for their new home.

One would think that the old camper would have no further use. But, on the contrary, the father said he would give it to someone he knew who had no home at all. He would have the blessing of giving as well as receiving. Like the Barkers, he would also say, “My house is your house”.

They Just Keep On Giving

For the past several years, six Corvallis girls have been doing fundraisers to help various non-profit organizations. This past year, they organized a garage sale and Love INC was blessed to be the recipient of their \$175 contribution.

What a wonderful expression of unselfishness and maturity at their young age! Thank you, girls!



(back, l-r) Kiki Omoto, Natalie Burton, Jill Omoto
(front, l-r) Holly Omoto, Tonya Burton, Lia Burton

Love Letter Production Team

Wilma Van Schelven, Publisher

Nancy Kelley, Editor

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Fed Up? Do the Famine

On February 27-28, thousands of youth groups will take on the challenge of going without food for 30 hours. They will not only experience hunger firsthand, but by raising money through friends and family who sponsor them, they will help break the cycle of hunger and poverty in our world.

In communities such as ours, with a local Love INC ministry, 25% of the funds raised through the 30 Hour Famine go to help people who are struggling with poverty and hunger in our local neighborhoods.

The 30 Hour Famine is one way that World Vision fulfills its commitment to change lives, seek justice for the poor, and share the Good News about the Kingdom of God.

If the young people in your church are doing the Famine, please support them generously. For info on how your church can be involved, call Love INC, 757-1311.

Pastors' Corner

Please pray for our local pastors and ministry leaders as they attend the

Church of the Valley Annual Prayer Summit

February 9-12 at Cannon Beach



"Behold, how good and how pleasant it is for brethren to dwell together in unity!" Psalm 133:1

You Can Help...

NEEDED:

- Used queen sized sheets (Can be quite worn, as they will be painted with white latex paint and then used for paint therapy at the *Circle of Hope* drop-in center.)
- Bicycle repair tools for our new bicycle repair ministry
- Used bikes
- Windows 98 software
- Gloves, white socks
- Beds, any size
- Double bed bedding
- Vacuum cleaner
- Yarn for knitting scarves and mittens
- Pots and pans
- Baby furniture

Volunteers are available to pick up your donated items. Call Love INC, 757-1311

YOU CAN NOW DONATE ON LINE!

Go to our website

www.yourloveinc.org

and click on "How You Can Help".

Follow the link to donating on line. It's easy to do!

MOBILE DENTAL CLINIC

On February 13, NW Hills Community Church will host the Northwest Medical Teams Mobile Dental Clinic in their church parking lot. The schedule is already full of individuals who will come to receive free dental care. Some have been living with pain for months.

Please pray for this outreach ministry. It is another example of what groups of Christians can do when we work together.

Circle of Hope Drop-In Center

If you step inside a storefront on Monroe Street, between 2nd and 3rd, you'll meet a group of "street" people.

Circle of Hope is a drop-in center where people without homes can make themselves a peanut butter and jelly sandwich, watch a video, read a book, stay warm, and best of all, have someone to talk to who really listens. One goal of Circle of Hope is to teach conversational skills—something that we often take for granted. Drop in sometime and see what's going on—you may decide to stay and visit awhile! For info, call Darlene at 738-7500.

Participating Love INC Churches and Ministries as of February 2004

Antioch House*

Calvin Presbyterian Church

Campus Ambassadors*

Corvallis Chinese Church

Corvallis Evangelical Church

Corvallis Mennonite Fellowship

Crossroads Christian Fellowship

Emanuel Iglesia Cuadrangular

First Baptist Church of Corvallis

First Baptist Church of Philomath

Grace Christian Fellowship

Grant Avenue Baptist Church

Kings Circle Assembly of God

Knollbrook Christian Reformed

Korean Presbyterian Church

Life Spring Foursquare

New Life Fellowship

New Wine Open Fellowship

Northside Church

NW Hills Community Church

Peace Lutheran Church

Philomath Church of the Nazarene

Philomath Community Church

Seventh Day Adventist Church*

* new participants

Shepherd of the Valley

Lutheran Church

Suburban Christian Church

Varsity House*

Victory Christian Center

Westside Community Church

Westwood Community Church

Love INC of Corvallis/Philomath
P.O. Box 270
Corvallis, OR 97339

Office Hours:

Monday - Friday

10:00 am - noon; 1:00 pm - 3:00 pm

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www.yourloveinc.org

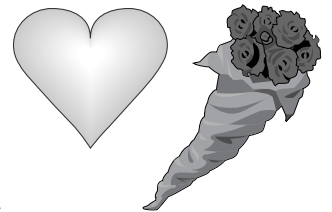
With Love and Appreciation

We want to say a special “thank you” to:

- ✚ Bob’s Towing for bringing a fifth wheel all the way from Jefferson to Corvallis to be repaired and then towing it to the site where it would be a home for a family in time for Christmas.
- ✚ Southside RV Repair and Paint, Inc. for fixing not only the vents on the fifth wheel, but also the awning, so that the family could stay dry.
- ✚ G. & J. Tire and Auto Repair for installing a carburetor free of charge so that a disabled woman could have transportation.
- ✚ Rick and Diane Barker for donating the fifth wheel that became a home.
- ✚ Hanson’s Tires for donating services on a used Bronco

...and thanks to those who adopted families for Christmas:

- ✚ Knollbrook Christian Reformed Church
- ✚ Northwest Hills Community Church
- ✚ Evanite
- ✚ Angel Mahon and her neighbors
- ✚ Corvallis Evangelical Church
- ✚ Monique Westfall
- ✚ Fred and Diane Taft
- ✚ Westside Community Church
- ✚ Southside Community Church
- ✚ Southside RV Repair and Paint, Inc.



You Can Participate:

- Give a special gift of \$_____
- Give \$_____ monthly to Love INC
- Receive prayer requests by email
- Volunteer in the Love INC office
- Become a Love INC Volunteer

Name _____

Address _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Church _____

All donations are tax deductible.

Please mail to Love INC

P.O. Box 270, Corvallis, OR 97339

or go to www.yourloveinc.org

(4/1)

Health and Safety Hint

by Wilma Van Schelven

According to Fitness Coach, Kelly Shelton, there are four components that should be included in a daily workout routine - cardiorespiratory activity, resistance training, flexibility training and balance training.

Resistance training is also known as strength training or weight training. It is done using some form of resistance such as weights, resistance bands or even your own body weight.

Resistance training not only strengthens muscle, but it also increases and maintains bone mass, which helps bones from becoming weak and brittle. While cardiorespiratory activity burns calories immediately, resistance training maintains and builds muscles and thereby increases the number of calories you burn while at rest. Together, they provide a double benefit for weight loss.

(Watch for tips on Flexibility Training in the next Love INC *Love Letter*.)