



## Love INC Team Ministries News and Information

### Ministering to Physical Needs with a View to the Eternal



Love In the Name of Christ (Love INC) exists to minister to the poor and needy in Mecklenburg County. Why is this so important? Because it is a mandate of Jesus Christ to care for the “least of these” or those who, by the world’s standards, are least important (Matthew 25:40). By ministering to those with physical needs, we are allowed the opportunity to lead someone to the Cross and minister to their spiritual needs. The Apostle James asked a pertinent question when he asked what good does it do to tell someone to go and be blessed when they are cold or hungry (James 2:16). Love INC believes that our fruit should show others the love of Jesus Christ, thereby pointing them to the grace of Jesus.

One of the most vital ways a church can minister to someone in need is to form an Adopt an Elder LINC Team. A LINC Team (Love In the Name of Christ Team) is a group of believers from a congregation that comes together to form a team in support of an older or disabled adult. One such team involved a client named Virginia. Virginia was a 78-year-old spitfire who appeared to any “outsider” as all salt and vinegar. One couple from Lucia Baptist Church found they loved Virginia, formed a team and started ministering to her. After they had spent months ministering to Virginia, she called the Love INC offices and talked to me. Each time she talked to us, before we would hang up, we would say, “I love you, Virginia.” One day she said, “I love you too.” and immediately hung up her phone. Before we had a chance to recover from her words, she called back and told us, “Because of the way my life

was I have never, ever been able to say I love you. I never felt loved nor had it said to me and I couldn’t say it to someone else. But now, because of Love INC and the love of the team, I can say, ‘I love you, I truly love you!’” That made all the difference. She has gone to be with the Lord now but accepted Him before she died. I can just hear the Lord telling her “Welcome home and I love you!” That’s what Love INC is all about. Showing love to those who need a touch of Christ in their lives.

Because of our commitment to minister to those who are hurting and in need physically, we have been blessed to see clients come to know the Lord or to connect with a church family and rededicate their lives. It is an awesome responsibility and privilege to be “Salt and Light” to the world around us. Volunteers are often reminded that they may be the only Jesus a Love INC client ever sees. “Who, me?” You may ask. Yes, you. Sometimes we think that God cannot use us to reach out to someone and tell them about His love. However, Jesus promised that when we give even a cup of cold water in His Name we are fulfilling His plan and showing His love (Mark 9:41). This is why we try to make sure those who volunteer for Love INC have a relationship with the Lord and are active members of a church body. We never know when a client will see the works and attitude of someone who is helping them and say, “What do you have that is so special? Who are you really?” This gives the volunteer a chance to offer the client a chance to accept the love and grace of the Savior and to pray with them.

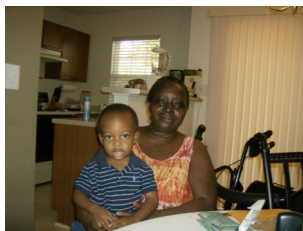
Time and again, Love INC has seen the work of the Lord through volunteers (just like you) offer clients a chance to discover meaning for their life and the love of a Savior who died for them. Volunteers are a vital part of this opportunity and the work of the Lord through Love INC. It is a blessing to the Love INC staff when a volunteer calls us excited about a client ac-

***Do you have a Bible study group, men’s or women’s group, or missions group that would like to form a LINC Team for an older or disabled adult? Why not call us today @ 704-536-5588?***



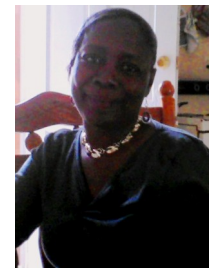
cepting the Lord or when they’ve seen a client attending their church because of the service they did for this client. God has been good in carrying out His purpose through Love INC and the volunteers who give their time, talent and witness to those in need. Would you be willing to join us in this mission? Call us at 704-536-5588 or go to [www.loveinc-charlotte.org](http://www.loveinc-charlotte.org) to volunteer and make a difference in the life of someone today.

## SEEKING VOLUNTEERS, LINC TEAMS NEEDED!



**Janice** is a 56-year-old stroke victim living alone in the **University area**. She wants and needs a family of faith to love her and care about her. Janice would love to have a church to attend and people around her that care. She does have a daughter and grandson in the area but they are not able to do as much for her as they would like. Janice needs help with transportation to the doctor's and church, shopping and light house-keeping. Won't you be the ones to reach out to Janice and show her the love of Christ?

**Deborah (28216)** is a 57-year-old lady with various disabilities, including multiple-sclerosis (MS). She has had a hard life and has struggled to survive. Her partner, Lovie, has heart problems. Deborah often wonders if God knows she's there. She tries hard to make it in this world but desperately needs help. She has been unable to attend church due to her illness but served as a church secretary for many years. Now she needs a community of faith to love her and become close to her and Lovie. In other words, she needs an Adopt an Elder LINC team to come along beside her and help her. Deborah needs assistance with: light housekeeping, and organization. Could you be the ones to form their Love In the Name of Christ Team?



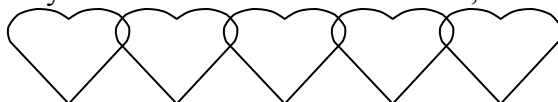
### Love Story— What a Difference a Team Makes!

During the recent storms that came through the area, a tree fell on a client's back deck wiping it out. The insurance company was willing to pay for some of the materials but the clients had had a very hard time with illness and did not have the money for the labor. The deck was going to cost more than the insurance company was willing to pay. The insurance company told the clients they would drop their homeowner's insurance since they deemed it unsafe and therefore a liability. Their team from Pritchard Memorial prayed about it and came together with other members of the church to build the deck one Saturday. The team leader and some of the church members went and purchased the materials needed and had them delivered, men from the church arrived that morning and cleared away any debris, others arrived and started building, and two team members took it upon themselves to provide lunch for the whole group, along with the clients. They made a day of it and the clients got a brand new deck. God used this team to minister to someone in need and provide a blessing.



### Spotlight on a Warrior!

Have you ever heard someone say: "I've done my time, now it's someone else's turn!" or "I'm too old to serve, let someone younger serve!" Well, then you need to introduce them to Mr. Ted Hunt. Ted is from University Hills Baptist Church and has been volunteering for Love INC since 2001. The unique thing about Ted? He's 92-years-young and still going strong for the Lord! Ted started out helping with appliance repairs and home maintenance projects, then moved on to helping with transportation and shopping. You've got that right... Ted still drives. He is quick to tell you the Lord has been good to him and provided strength when he wasn't sure he had it in him. He is a blessing to all who come into contact with him and he has faithfully served one client for six years. The clients who have been blessed by his ministry call him their "angel" and are very loyal to him. Ted will remind you that Moses was 80 when God called him through a burning bush. So, when someone tells you they can't serve because they are too old for God to use them, tell them about Ted!



## SEEKING VOLUNTEERS!



### Do you have a group that would like to help someone this fall?

It's time for those pesky leaves to start falling and cold weather to arrive. Our elderly and disabled clients will be calling to find out if we have a group that would be willing to rake their leaves or apply weatherstripping to their home. Does your small group or youth group need a project? This would be a great opportunity for them to minister to someone in need. We have weatherization kits that were donated to be

used and would love for someone to install them. We have clients in the following zip code areas that need either yardwork, weatherization, or both! 28273, 28208, 28205, 28212, 28216, 28214, 28213. These simple, easy to use weatherization kits will make a big difference in the warmth of a home. If you are interested in ministering to someone in need by doing their yard or weatherizing their home please call Chris at 704-536-5588 ext. 105.



### Ramps, Ramps, Ramps!

Have you ever thought what it would be like to be in a wheelchair and unable to get into or out of your home safely, especially in an emergency? These clients face that situation on a daily basis and need *your* help:

**David and Julie** live in the **28209** area. David is in a wheelchair and needs a bridge/wheelchair ramp in order for his transportation to and from the doctors. David and Julie do not have the money to pay for their ramp and are living off of their remaining savings until his disability starts. David has not been out of his home in over a year because of his disability and the fact that he has no way to safely leave his home. Won't you be the ones to help David?



**Annie** is 68 years old and lives in the **28205** area. She has end stage renal and heart disease. She lives with her daughter, Lorraine, who cares for her needs. Annie needs a wheelchair ramp built due to her difficulty going down steps when she goes to dialysis. A ramp would make it so much easier for Lorraine to care for her but she cannot afford to build one. Would you be the ones to help them with a ramp?

We have several clients who need a ramp but are unable to afford even the materials for one. A ramp has an expense of \$25 per foot. Won't you be the ones to help build a safe ramp that would allow someone to enter and leave their home? Please call Kathy Heston at 704-536-5588 ext. 106 today to find out how you can help!

### Transportation, Shopping and Cleaning

Are you a shop-a-holic? Does cleaning or driving satisfy and relax you? Have we got a ministry for you! With recent cuts in Medicaid funding, many clients on a fixed income either have had their services cut or have been ineligible for services altogether. Did you know that the most you can make to be eligible for Medicaid is \$907.50 per month? Anything over that either disqualifies you or requires you to have enormous "spend-downs" in medical bills in order to qualify. In-home assistance does not cover shopping, transportation and some cleaning. These are called Instrumental Activities of Daily Living and are a much needed ministry to clients who are elderly, disabled and homebound. If you would be interested in helping clients on a regular basis, please give Julie (ext. 111) or Chris (ext. 105) a call at 704-536-5588.

