



Pullman Update

...a ministry of
Love In The Name of Christ of NW Allegan County

"Mobilizing the church to transform lives and the community in the Name of Christ"

May 2011

In Pullman, For Pullman.

Love INC Pullman organizes and provides assistance to Pullman families in need. In 2010, 2,623 needs were met through 1,256 office visits of people seeking assistance.

Over 12 volunteers are involved in meeting with people, working in the pantries and helping in the office. Martha Cerda, a twenty-year resident of Pullman, is the Love INC Pullman Director. She oversees regular office hours, pantries, supports volunteers, seeks church partnerships and is active in community relations.

Additionally, over \$14,994.40 of heat assistance was provided through a partnership with We Care of South Haven, Douglas Christian Neighbors and the Kalamazoo Diocese. We also appreciate collaboration with People Helping People for home repairs, the Bravo House of Mercy food pantry and Seventh Day Adventist Church for personal care supplies.

Love INC also coordinates the weekly Pullman L.I.F.E. (Learning In Finances and Everyday) Skills Program at Casco United Methodist Church. It offers meaningful, relational help; connecting short-term needs with a long-term plan. Each week casework, classes and mentoring are provided to help people cope and improve their situation. Participants earn weekly access to pantry resources by attending.

We give praise to God and offer thanks to the volunteers, churches, ministries and community partners we work with in helping those in need.

In Christ,

Martha Cerda
Love INC Pullman Director

Kirk Vander Molen, MDiv, MSW
Love INC NW Allegan Co. Director

2010 Impact of Network Ministries...

Food Pantry: 1,032	Christmas Adopt-A-Family: 210
Personal Needs: 885	Furniture: 32
Backpack: 120	Clothing: 24
Thanksgiving: 123	Utilities: 48
Coats: 144	Other cash: 5

Love INC organizes and make referrals for these impact resources which are provided by churches, individuals and community. The numbers represent the activities of the Pullman Network, organized by Love INC of NW of Allegan County. Check out the home page of our website (www.loveincnwa.org) to view a video about how the network works.



Service Area...

Pullman (49450) zip code
Lee Township
North of Pullman up to 118th Ave. in Clyde Twp.

Service Policy...

Individuals/families are able to receive pantry referrals six times per year, not more than once-a-month. More frequent and regular access to resources is available through L.I.F.E. Skills participation.

What is L.I.F.E. Skills?

- Is a weekly class and mentoring program.
- Runs year-round on Tuesday (Allegan & Pullman) and Thursday (Hamilton).
- Involves 1 hour of class and 1 hour of mentoring.
- Participants earn vouchers to pantries for participation and meeting weekly goals.
- Provides support, financial guidance, opportunity for personal growth.

In 2010, Love INC partnered with 10 families in the L.I.F.E. Skills Program.



Getting beyond today...
...for a better tomorrow.

Prayer Requests...

- CJ and family - dealing with wife's illness
- Employment for the Pullman area
- Church unity for the Pullman community
- L.I.F.E. Skills families in need of mentors
- Migrant workers traveling to the local area
- Local fireman's safety in the line of duty
- Community to work together on economic growth

Pullman Ministry Development Board...

Shellie Scholten	Pastor William Richardson
Linda Olsen	Pastor Dave Meister
Joann DeJonge	Kirk Vander Molen
Deb Laraway	Martha Cerda



Getting Involved...

- **Mentoring:** Love INC is in need of volunteers to mentor families in need through our L.I.F.E. Skills Program in the Pullman area on Tuesday evenings. Bilingual individuals specially needed, but not required. Training and support are provided. If you would like to make a difference in someone's life, please contact Jeannette at 269.236.6295. Please visit us at www.loveincnwa.org (L.I.F.E. Skills tab) to watch a video about mentoring.
- **Pantry Drive:** We are looking for churches and/or organizations to participate in a food and personal need drive.
- **Back-to-School Backpacks:** Contact Love INC if you'd like to donate items (backpacks, notebooks, pen, pencils, etc.) for this drive.

For more information on how you can take part in these opportunities, please contact Martha at 269.236.6295.

Personal Testimonies...

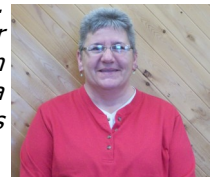
Belia

"I was not sure how much L.I.F.E. Skills was going to help me and my family. L.I.F.E. Skills taught me (everyday skills), and gave me hope. We can get ahead without doubts. I found friendships, people like me that want to better themselves. Praise God! These are people who invest their time in positive things like us!"



Jody

"Love INC showed us we were not alone. They showed us how to manage our budget and taught us skills to help us in everyday life. They showed us there is a light at the end of the tunnel, there is hope. They are a caring family."



The following churches/organizations provided support and/or have had involvement: Central Wesleyan Church ~ Christ Memorial Church ~ Community Church of Douglas ~ Douglas Christian Neighbors ~ Fresh Start Gospel ~ Greater Faith Comm. Church ~ Bravo House of Mercy ~ Ridge Point Church ~ Seventh Day Adventist Church ~ We Care ~ Casco United Methodist Church ~ San Felipe de Jesus ~ Oakland Christian Reformed Church