

## Love INC blessings in 2009

In the beginning was the word and the word was with God and was God.....In God was life and the life was the light of humankind. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it. ....And the word became flesh and dwelt among us, full of grace and truth. (John 1:1-14 selected verses)

**Miracles happen!** They may be huge like the plagues, God provision of manna or God taking human form. They may be small like lamps staying lit when the fuel is gone, or someone stepping into our life at just the right moment with words and actions that move us toward God.

Whether large or small, miracles remind us that God is with us. **THE GIFT OF CHRISTMAS** by Ginger Jones



I believe it is a miracle that **over three years ago** when the economy was stable, churches saw the need to work together to lay the foundation for Love INC to open. **Love INC opened at the end of 2008** as we saw some of the hardest times, economically, in decades. It is a miracle that, as budgets have tightened and people have lost their jobs, Love INC has been able to utilize their talent and time to serve others in need.

God has miraculously raised Love INC from the ground up in a little over a year. Starting with several dozen volunteers, God opened the hearts of people to generously provide the facilities, furniture and equipment needed for ministry and a vision so we can answer Christ's call to **love one another**. **That vision has attracted over 500 volunteers who have served more than 250 clients** in ways that our community had not previously offered.



We've seen God work in miraculous ways through the **relationship Love INC volunteers have with the needy as they serve**. In seeing each individual as a child of God, they've seen the world through their eyes and both recognize our dependence on God.

God has blessed us incredibly in the **events of the past year:**

- The first fundraiser was a **magical evening** as four sopranos graced us with their amazing talent, humor and entertaining musical selections.
- The first ever **"Power of Partnership"** conference was with Jeffco Human Services and the faith community and a huge success! We prayed for 100 to attend this event and God answered by sending 25
- Steve Graber moved Love INC forward with a phenomenal interactive **data system** to help track client needs and volunteer efforts.
- The Agape Invitational **Golf Tournament** raised wonderful support and awareness for Love INC's mission as did the Denver Turnverine Concert!
- God's blessing was evident as volunteers organized huge amounts of donations for the **community sale** raising over \$5,000 for Love INC and helping many who needed the items.

- We were blessed with the incredible leadership of our **summer intern** Western Seminarian, **Chuck Breen**, and with **our new clearinghouse coordinator, Lori Groat**.
- This fall, “Love INC Loves Littleton” the **Extreme Community Makeover** event gathered 120 volunteers for a day of service. Love INC volunteers loved senior citizens through **nursing home visits**.
- Churches stepped forward to provide meals and Love INC volunteers delivered over 100 **Thanksgiving and Christmas meals** to clients.
- Continuing to fill in the gaps that occur between local agency services and churches, God has also provided a desperately needed service called the **Dipes N’ Wipes gap ministry**.

These are the many examples of church and community members through the Love INC organization, answering answering Christ’s call to minister to the needy.

A movie just out entitled, **“It’s Complicated”**, is a good description of the relationships we have with clients, volunteers, churches, agencies and our community. Each relationship, like an unmarked box stacked neatly in the room of a new house, looks similar until the box is opened and the resources inside are pulled out, sorted and properly placed. As the gifts in each relationship are unpacked, we’ve relied on conventional wisdom and God’s inspiration to guide us in utilizing each precious person, organization and resource. We ring a bell in the clearinghouse when we see a big or a little miracle take place in a relationship. Not a day goes by that we don’t have a **bell ringing experience!** None of us know what the new year will present. Oral Roberts, the evangelist who recently passed away, coined the phrase early in his career, “Expect a Miracle”. Our faith in Christ teaches us to expect miracles! We hope you will support Love INC’s efforts with your prayers, your time, and your financial support. All are needed! Love INC is the “church in action”, loving people “IN THE NAME OF CHRIST”. Our financial support comes from individuals, churches and fund raising efforts. Blessings to you in the coming year!

Thank you for your support and prayers!

Rev. Doug McKinney  
Executive Director