

2025 IMPACT REPORT

Helping You Help People



Connection & Compassion: The Heart of Love INC's Mission

Every story of hope at Love INC begins in our **Connection Center**. This is where our mission comes to life—a place where God brings people and resources together in remarkable ways. It is much more than a call center; it is where every person in need is met by a volunteer ready to remind them that they are loved by God and not defined by their circumstances.

The need for this "front porch" of our ministry has never been greater. Since I started in 2021, the average number of requests for help has increased by 71%, reaching a record **2,070 requests** in 2025. Behind each of those calls is a neighbor feeling discouraged or stretched thin by the high cost of necessities, often living just one car repair or illness away from a financial crisis.

Once a path forward is identified through careful discernment, our volunteers step in to walk alongside these families across all of our various ministries. This past year, we were blessed with **271 volunteers** who provided **7,100 hours of service** (a 12% increase over the 6,300 hours served in 2024). Whether serving in the Connection Center, providing transportation, maintaining the Parsonage, stocking the Personal Care Closet, and beyond, **you are truly the hands and feet of Jesus**.

In December alone, **we witnessed God's perfect timing** in this process: a reliable vehicle became available within 24 hours of a neighbor's car failure, specific furniture needs were met just days after a request, and our Personal Care Closet received a donation of adult incontinence pads to fill the empty shelf the very morning the team began to pack bags.

These miracles happen because we are a community that believes in Jesus, the power of prayer and partnership. As we look toward 2026, the demand for assistance will continue to rise. Your ongoing support through prayer, giving, and service allows us to respond. Love INC is not a building; it is a community working together in our mission of helping churches help people.

Thank you for being an integral part of the Love INC family!



Executive Director

Overall Ministry

7,100
total volunteer hours

271 volunteers
\$563K of services on a
\$316K budget

Love INC of Greater Hershey is dedicated to changing lives and enhancing our community. The statistics presented in this report illustrate the significant difference that has been made for our neighbors in need, all made possible by the generous support from our volunteers, churches, and donors.

"Each of you should use whatever gift you have received to serve others, as faithful stewards of God's grace in its various forms."

-1 Peter 4:10

Connection Center

connects neighbors in need with churches, volunteers, community agencies and other resources.



2839 total needs met

248 households served

458 adults served

245 children served

2236 volunteer hours

You made us feel like we had a family in Hershey as soon as we arrived!

Transportation Ministry

185 essential rides given
(doubled from 2024)

Personal Care Closet

“It is a blessing to not only be able to get the products but to have someone to talk to...”

supplies essential personal hygiene, baby, and household cleaning products to participants of Hershey, Hummelstown and the Hershey Free food banks.



18,158 items distributed

\$54,444 value of items

1739 volunteer hours

210 families served



Homes of Hope

provides temporary housing, advocacy, case management, and budget coaching to equip families with life skills that lead to financial stability and self-sufficiency.



2 families served

74 weeks of housing

193 volunteer & mentoring hours

\$26,032 in housing provided

The BT family, while navigating various challenges, has developed budgeting skills and made significant strides in managing their expenses. This mother of two is currently juggling two jobs and plans to start looking for affordable housing in March.



Please tell everyone thank you so much. I am so fortunate to have a chance at life again!



The DW family has achieved remarkable progress by overcoming various challenges. This single mom has improved her employment situation, learned to create monthly budgets and actively manage her spending. Currently, she is in search of a second job and plans to start looking for affordable housing in March.

Car Repair Ministry

This cost sharing ministry works with select garages to repairs items specifically related to a vehicle's safety and reliability.

\$734 average total cost of repair

18 families served



“ Thank you so much. I am going through a hard time right now, and this is such a big help. You have no idea.

Parsonage Ministry

offers a temporary home away from home to families with adult loved ones being treated at the Hershey Medical Center.



2025:

107 individual guests

986 nights of lodging

1623 volunteer hours

\$197,200 in lodging saved

72 families served

Since 2008:

2061 families served

3864 individual guests

25,341 nights of lodging

\$5,267,000 in lodging saved

Your Parsonage is as important as the healthcare my wife received!

Lace Up with Love INC

provides sneakers to students in need in Lower Dauphin and Derry Township school districts.

My son is so proud of his new sneakers!

293 students served

140 unique households

492 sneakers donated

387 volunteer hours

250 sneakers shared with local clothing banks (Trinity UMC's Shepherd's Closet, Hershey Free's Clothing Bank, & Cocoa Packs)



2026 Outlook + Needs



The Growing Need for Volunteers

Homelessness and poverty are often hidden in our own backyard. While 9% of Hershey and 12% of Hummelstown residents live below the Federal Poverty Level, these figures only scratch the surface.

Many more of our neighbors fall into the category of **ALICE** (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed). These individuals work--often multiple jobs--yet cannot keep pace with the high cost of living. In our area, when you combine those in poverty with ALICE households, **nearly 40% of families live below the “Household Survival Line,”** struggling to afford basic housing, food, and childcare.

With essential costs remaining high and savings depleted, a single car repair or illness can trigger a crisis. We anticipate a continued rise in requests for housing and utility support in 2026 and meeting this demand **requires more helping hands.**

Whether your talents lie in office support at our Connection Center, hospitality in the Parsonage Ministry, or relationship-building through Transportation, there is a place for you. Your time brings hope to families in crisis. **Please contact our office** today to join the Love INC family in serving our community.



2026 EVENTS

20th Anniversary Celebration 10AM - 12 PM	APR 18
Sneaker Collection Begins RUNS THRU AUGUST 5	JUN 1
RUN YOUR RACE 5K + 1M Fun Run 8AM START	JUN 27
Sneaker Distribution Event BEGINS AUG 6	AUG 6
Online Community Auction RUNS THRU OCT 19 8PM	OCT 15

From Relief to Transformation

How do we help without unintentionally enabling a cycle of crisis? This year, the Love INC Board is exploring this through the book **Redemptive Compassion** by Lois Tupyi.

While the instinct to “fix” a situation is a beautiful expression of faith, lasting change occurs when we move beyond immediate relief to true transformation. This approach focuses on empowering neighbors to recognize their God-given value and take ownership of their future, rather than simply managing the symptoms of a struggle.

Walking alongside someone requires a delicate balance of empathy and healthy boundaries. **It means teaching and encouraging rather than simply doing for them.** We look forward to sharing more about these principles in our upcoming Quarterly Partner Report as we continue to grow in our mission of helping neighbors find long-term stability.



Board Members

oversee the organization's overall health and strategic direction, guided by Christ-like principles, prioritizing the best interests of all stakeholders, including churches, neighbors in need, and the community.

Tina Watkins, Chair

Joan Horn

Beth Valentine, Vice Chair

Todd Ray

Rachael Shocket, Secretary

Kara Ryabyy

Sara Brenneman, Treasurer

Tim Smith

Our Church Partners

provide financial support and use of facilities for programs and ministries. Volunteers from our partner churches served over 6,300 hours in 2024.

- All Saints Episcopal
- Caring Community Church of God
- Church of the Redeemer UCC
- Derry Presbyterian
- First United Methodist Church of Hershey
- Fishburn United Methodist
- GracePointe Church of Christ
- Grace United Methodist Hummelstown
- Hanoverdale Church
- Hershey Community Church of the Nazarene
- Hershey Free Church
- Hershey Seventh-day Adventist
- Holy Trinity Lutheran
- LIFE Church
- Spring Creek Church of the Brethren
- St. Joan of Arc
- St. John Evangelical Lutheran
- Stoverdale United Methodist
- Trinity United Methodist Church
- Zion Lutheran of Union Deposit
- Zion Evangelical Lutheran - Hummelstown

Staff

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