

LOVE INC. OF THE YAMPA VALLEY

YEAR 2023

ANNUAL REPORT 2023

**PREPARED BY:
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
KARINA BROWNING**





2023 WAS A YEAR OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGE FOR LOVE INC OF THE YAMPA VALLEY. NOTABLY, LONG-TIME DIRECTOR PAT JONES RETIRING, MOVING FROM OUR BREEZE STREET RESIDENCE, RELOCATING OUR EMERGENCY FOOD DISTRIBUTION LOCATION, THE RESIGNATION OF TWO BOARD MEMBERS, RECEIVING NEW FREEZERS AND A FRIDGE FOR OUR FOOD DISTRIBUTION (ALONG WITH OTHER NEEDED EQUIPMENT), TRAINING MANY NEW VOLUNTEERS, INVESTING TIME IN OUR SOCIAL MEDIA PRESENCE, UPDATING OUR WEBPAGE, BEGINNING NEW RELATIONSHIPS WITH COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS, HANDING OFF OUR COAT MINISTRY TO CALVARY BAPTIST, HANDING OFF THE BACK-TO-SCHOOL-FAIR AND THE P.B.J PROGRAM TO OUR COMMUNITY PARTNER: OPEN HEART ADVOCATES (NOW A.C.T.S), AND MOVING TO ELECTRONIC NEWSLETTERS. WE STILL HAVE MORE TO DO: STRENGTHENING CHURCH PARTNERSHIPS, ENGAGING BUSINESS PARTNERS, DIGITIZING CLIENT FILES, AND BRINGING ON NEW BOARD MEMBERS AND VOLUNTEERS - SOME OF OUR PRIORITIES GOING INTO 2024.

THE CHRISTIAN LIFE IS AN ONGOING SERIES OF CHANGES AS WE GROW IN KNOWLEDGE, FAITH, AND HOLINESS ([1 PETER 1:16](#); [HEBREWS 12:14](#)). WE GROW IN CHRIST ([2 PETER 3:18](#)), AND GROWTH REQUIRES CHANGE.

EVEN GOOD CHANGES CAN BE UNCOMFORTABLE AND SCARY. THE ISRAELITES IN SLAVERY IN EGYPT AT FIRST RESISTED MOSES' ATTEMPTS TO FREE THEM, BELIEVING MOSES WAS A TROUBLEMAKER WHO WAS MAKING THINGS WORSE FOR THEM—INDEED, THINGS DID GET WORSE BEFORE THEY GOT BETTER ([EXODUS 5](#)). AT THE [POOL OF BETHESDA](#), JESUS FOUND AN INFIRM MAN WHO HAD SUFFERED HIS CONDITION FOR A LONG TIME. INTERESTINGLY, JESUS ASKED HIM, “DO YOU WANT TO GET WELL?” ([JOHN 5:6](#)). A STRANGE QUESTION WITH A LOGICAL PURPOSE: BEFORE THE LORD INTRODUCED THE MAN TO LIFELONG CHANGE, HE WANTED TO KNOW: DO YOU REALLY WANT THIS, OR ARE YOU MORE COMFORTABLE WITH YOUR LIFE OF BEGGING AND LIVING OFF THE CHARITY OF OTHERS? CHANGE FOR ITS OWN SAKE IS NEITHER GOOD NOR BAD. IT DEPENDS ON THE DIRECTION THE CHANGE TAKES YOU. WE CAN SAFELY KNOW WE ARE HEADED IN THE RIGHT DIRECTION WHEN WE ARE CLINGING TO GOD’S WORD. IN JESUS CHRIST WE HAVE AN EXPERT GUIDE.

ARE YOU READY TO CHANGE? PLEASE PARTNER WITH US AS WE PRAY THIS PRAYER OVER 2024 PSALM 32:8 “I WILL INSTRUCT YOU AND TEACH YOU IN THE WAY THAT YOU SHOULD GO; I WILL COUNSEL YOU WITH MY EYE UPON YOU.”

KNOW THAT THESE CHANGES HAVE BEEN HARD ON ME TOO BUT MY HOPE IS IN JESUS! I AM SO THANKFUL THAT JESUS BROUGHT YOU TO WALK ALONGSIDE ME THROUGH THESE CHANGES. PLEASE REACH OUT TO ME OR ANY BOARD MEMBER IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS OR IDEAS TO IMPROVE THIS MINISTRY WE ARE CALLED TO DO TOGETHER. BLESSINGS, KARINA BROWNING



VOLUNTEER JOHN FURMAN DOING CHRISTMAS KETTLES

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ISAIAH 43:18-19 - "REMEMBER NOT THE FORMER THINGS, NOR CONSIDER THE THINGS OF OLD. BEHOLD, I AM DOING A NEW THING; NOW IT SPRINGS FORTH, DO YOU NOT PERCEIVE IT? I WILL MAKE A WAY IN THE WILDERNESS AND RIVERS IN THE DESERT."



MISSION AND VISION

Love INC mobilizes local churches to transform lives and communities In the Name of Christ.

WE BELIEVE THE LOCAL CHURCH IS GODS ANSWER TO COMMUNITY BROKENNESS AND A PART OF HIS PLAN OF REDEMPTION AND RESTORATION.

LOCAL CHURCHES ARE DRAWN CLOSER TO CHRIST'S HEART WHEN THEY FOLLOW HIS EXAMPLE AND CALLING TO CARE FOR PEOPLE IN NEED. THEREFORE, WE MOBILIZE LOCAL CHURCHES TO OFFER REDEMPTIVE COMPASSION®, A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO CARING FOR PEOPLE IN ALL AREAS OF LIFE: SPIRITUAL, MENTAL, EMOTIONAL, RELATIONAL, MATERIAL, AND PHYSICAL.

We are one affiliate of 112 affiliates in over 110 communities in 29 states, together we mobilized 5,600 churches and helped over 20,000 volunteers find meaningful ways to show and share the love of Christ in their community this past year. We received over 180,000 requests for assistance and met over 230,000 needs that served nearly 125,000 people. Love INC volunteers contributed 680,000 volunteer hours, 12,700 mentoring sessions, and held 5,800 classes to help with short-term needs and provide programming/support to help people with longer-term goals and sustainability.

WHO WE ARE

WE ARE A 501(C)3 NON-PROFIT CHRISTIAN MINISTRY LOCATED IN CRAIG AND MADE UP OF A PARTNERSHIP OF CHRISTIAN CHURCHES SERVING THE YAMPA VALLEY INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILIES SINCE 2003.



VOLUNTEERS DELIVERING THANKSGIVING BOXES

HOW WE WORK

REQUEST - OUR CONNECTION CENTER RECEIVES REQUESTS FOR HELP FROM AREA AGENCIES, CHURCHES, INDIVIDUALS, OR FAMILIES NEEDING ASSISTANCE AND RESOURCES.

ASSESS & VERIFY - THE NATURE, EXTENT AND LEGITIMACY OF THE REQUEST IS DETERMINED THROUGH AN INTAKE (OVER THE PHONE) AND CALLING OF PERSONAL REFERENCES.

REFER & RESOURCE - THE NEED MAY BE SERVED THROUGH A LOVE INC MINISTRY OR REFERRED TO A LOCAL CHURCH OR AGENCY. RESOURCES ARE PROVIDED THROUGH OUR PERSONAL NEEDS MINISTRY, HOUSEHOLD GOODS MINISTRY, FURNITURE MINISTRY, OR EMERGENCY FOOD MINISTRY.

RELATIONSHIP - WE ARE WORKING ON INVITING THOSE WE SERVE INTO MORE RELATIONAL SUPPORT AND LIFE TRANSFORMATION THROUGH THE HELP OF A VOLUNTEER NAVIGATOR AND/OR ENROLLMENT IN OUR IMPACT MINISTRY.

FOLLOW-UP - WE WANT TO HAVE A STRONG FOLLOW UP WHERE WE OFFER HOPE AND ENCOURAGEMENT THROUGH FOLLOW-UP CALLS, PRAYER AND CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR NEW CHALLENGES.

“GOD IS GOOD. THANK YOU FOR ALL THAT YOU DO.” FACEBOOK FOLLOWER



17 CHURCH PARTNERS

- ST. MICHAEL'S CATHOLIC CHURCH
- CRAIG CHRISTIAN CHURCH
- ST. JOHN THE BAPTIST GREEK ORTHODOX CHURCH
- ST. MARK'S CHURCH OF GRACE
- FAITH LUTHERAN CHURCH
- CRAIG SEVENTH-DAY ADVENTIST CHURCH
- CHURCH OF DESTINY
- CRAIG NEW CREATION CHURCH
- FRIENDSHIP UNITED METHODIST CHURCH
- CALVARY BAPTIST CHURCH
- CRAIG ASSEMBLY OF GOD
- RIDGEVIEW CHURCH OF GOD
- MAYBELL INTERDENOMINATIONAL BIBLE CHURCH
- HAYDEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, U.C.C
- FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, U.C.C
- THE JOURNEY AT FIRST BAPTIST CHURCH

15,000 HOURS

THE EQUIVALENT OF SEVEN FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES

\$472,650

VALUE OF HOURS

\$31.51/HOUR = VALUE OF 2022 VOLUNTEER HOUR IN COLORADO (PHILANTHROPYCOLORADO.ORG)

VOLUNTEERS HONORED IN 2023 FOR SERVING LOVE INC OF YAMPA VALLEY FOR OVER A DECADE:

- BETTY BARNES
- LEN BROWNING
- ROSEMARY CROSTHWAITE
- JOHN FURMAN
- JEANNIE GLIMIDAKIS

2023 VOLUNTEER OF THE YEAR

LEN BROWNING LOVE INC OF THE YAMPA VALLEY VICE PRESIDENT



GOD'S LOVE ON DISPLAY

2,351 UNDUPLICATED INDIVIDUALS NEEDS MET

CHURCH'S GAVE \$9,339.84 IN FINANCIAL AID
SALVATION ARMY GAVE \$6,000

PERSONAL NEEDS: 25 SERVED



EYE EXAMS/HELP WITH GLASSES: 5 SERVED

OVER 450 REFERRALS GIVEN

EMERGENCY HOUSING: 15 SERVED

SENIOR FOOD BOXES: 480 SERVED

MENTORING: 4 INDIVIDUALS SERVED

SNOW REMOVAL 6 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

TEFAP: 807 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

30 THANKSGIVING BASKETS

FURNITURE MINISTRY: 33
SERVED

SCHOOL SUPPLIES BACK TO SCHOOL FAIR: SERVED 500 BACKPACKS

BUDGETING COURSES: 3 INDIVIDUALS SERVED

UTILITIES PAID 46 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

EMERGENCY FOOD 15 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

DIAPER MINISTRY 8 SERVED

BUS TICKETS 2 INDIVIDUALS SERVED

SUNSET MEADOWS THANKSGIVING DINNER OVER 30 PEOPLE ATTENDED

MOVING HELP 6 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

MEDICATION / HEALTH NEEDS 4 INDIVIDUALS SERVED

GAS/CAR REPAIRS 13 INDIVIDUALS SERVED

FIRE WOOD 4 INDIVIDUALS SERVED

RENT ASSISTANCE 48 HOUSEHOLDS SERVED

APPLYING FOR A BIRTH CERTIFICATE 2 INDIVIDUALS SERVED



JOURNEY OF TRANSFORMATION

HERE – AT LOVE INC – WE KNOW WE CAN ACCOMPLISH SO MUCH MORE TOGETHER THAN WE EVER WILL APART. SO, WE WALK TOGETHER. BECAUSE, AT THE END OF THE DAY, IT'S NOT ABOUT MEETING NEEDS...IT'S ABOUT THE INHERENT DIGNITY OF PEOPLE, AND THE OPPORTUNITY TO MEET THEM WHERE THEY'RE AT – WALKING ALONGSIDE THEM AS THEY DISCOVER WHO THEY ARE IN CHRIST. PEOPLE LIKE WARREN:

WARREN, 76, CAME TO LOVE INC OF THE YAMPA VALLEY TO REQUEST HELP WITH HIS ELECTRIC BILL. HE TOLD US OF HIS PERSONAL STRUGGLES: LIVING ON A LIMITED INCOME WHEN PRICES KEEP RISING, NEEDING TO MOVE DUE TO THE COST OF RENT AND UTILITIES, YET NOT BEING ABLE TO FIND A PLACE DUE TO LIMITED OPTIONS AND THE HIGH COST OF HOUSING. SIGNIFICANT PHYSICAL HEALTH PROBLEMS, YET NO ABILITY TO NAVIGATE THE COMPLEX MEDICAL SYSTEM. BEING TREATED POORLY AND TURNED AWAY BY ORGANIZATIONS IN THE COMMUNITY, EVEN GIVING IN TO THE ADDICTIONS OF HIS YOUTH. WARREN WAS FULL OF ANGER WITH SOME OF THE CHOICES HE HAD MADE, AND HIS INABILITY TO SOLVE HIS OWN PROBLEMS; HIS LIFE'S WALK HAD TURNED DARK, LONELY, AND FULL OF FEAR AND DISAPPOINTMENT.

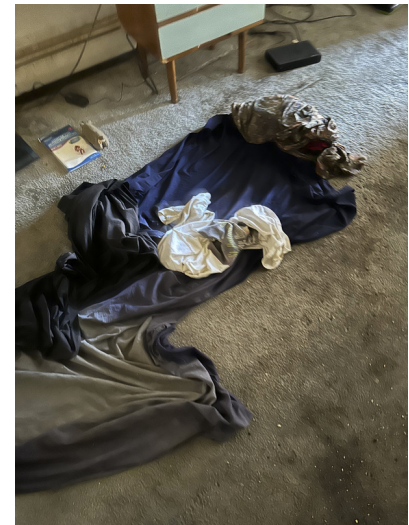
IT IS SAID THAT “WE ARE JUST WALKING EACH OTHER HOME.”

DESPITE EMBARRASSMENT ABOUT HIS SITUATION, WARREN LET US WALK HIM HOME. HIS NEEDS REQUIRED A CLOSE RELATIONSHIP, AND LOTS OF TIME. LOVE INC ADVOCATED FOR WARREN AS HE DID THE THINGS NECESSARY TO MOVE FORWARD WITH HIS DREAM TO SECURE CLEAN, SAFE HOUSING, AND THE MEDICAL ATTENTION HE DESPERATELY NEEDED. WHILE WE PROMISED THE LORD WOULD MOVE, WARREN DOUBTED. WE HURT FOR WARREN, WE CRIED WITH WARREN, AND THERE WERE TIMES WE STRUGGLED TO SEE GOD'S MOVEMENT. MONTHS PASSED AND, AT TIMES, WARREN GAVE UP, AND EVEN ENDED UP IN THE HOSPITAL. THROUGH IT ALL, LOVE INC WAS THERE. AND, THE TIMES WHEN WE WEREN'T RIGHT BY WARREN'S SIDE, WE WERE PREPARING HIS NEW, CLEAN, SAFE APARTMENT PROVIDED BY GOD. FOLLOWING FOUR DAYS IN THE HOSPITAL, WARREN LEFT TO BEGIN A NEW LIFE. STILL, HE WAS SCARED AND UNSURE.

NOW, 2 MONTHS LATER, WARREN IS LIVING HIS BEST LIFE IN A SAFE, CLEAN APARTMENT WITH REGULAR HOME AND MEDICAL CARE. FOR THE FIRST TIME IN 20 YEARS, HE WILL CELEBRATE CHRIST'S BIRTH WITH A CHRISTMAS TREE IN HIS HOME. HE EXPRESSES HIS GRATITUDE FOR IT ALL WITH TEARS IN HIS EYES AND A SMILE ON HIS FACE.

LOVE INC IS IN THE BUSINESS OF BUILDING RELATIONSHIPS. WE BELIEVE THAT ONLY THROUGH RELATIONAL COMMUNITY, IN GOD'S LOVE, CAN LIVES AND COMMUNITY BE TRANSFORMED. WARREN'S WALK BECAME A HIKE, HARD AND ARDUOUS. WE CONTINUE TO WALK WITH HIM, EVEN AT HIS NEW HOME – SHOWING HIM LOVE AND FRIENDSHIP. WE KNOW THAT TRANSFORMATIONAL CHANGE IS MADE ON A LONG PATH, AND ARE AT THE READY TO RESPOND WHENEVER WARREN MAY NEED US. FOR WARREN, AND CHRIST, WE RESPOND TO THE CALL TO LOVE AND TO SERVE.

WARRENS CHRISTMAS TREE IN HIS NEW APARTMENT



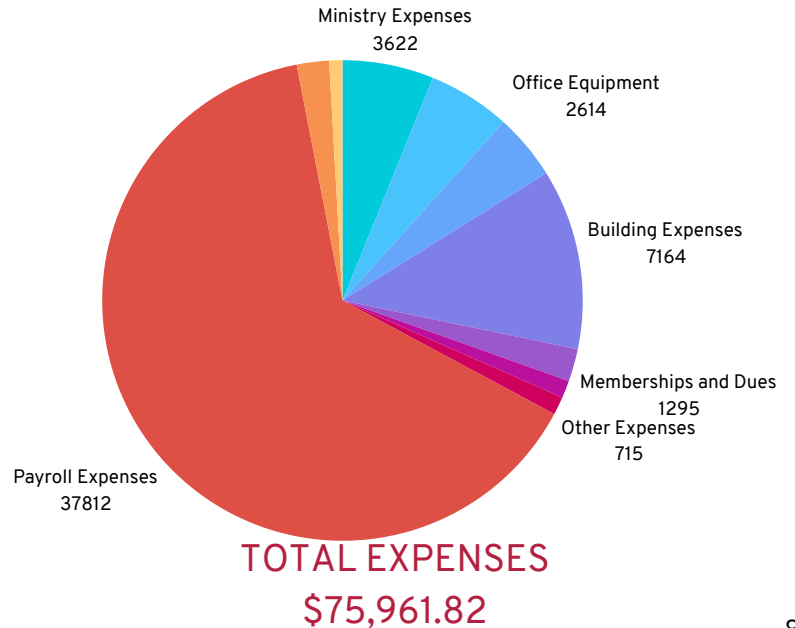
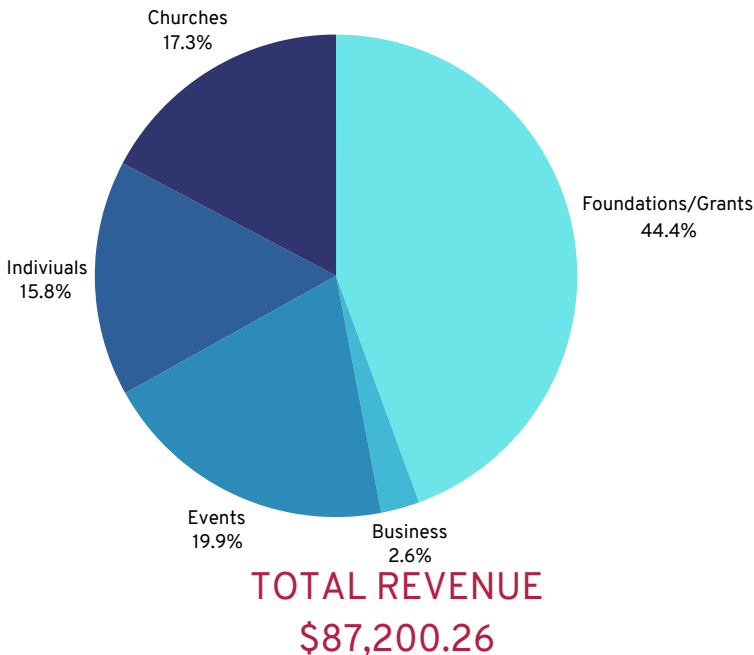
WARRENS BED



WARRENS BATHROOM



OUR DONORS AND FINANCIALS



PERSONAL DONORS:

BETTY BARNES
RICHARD & DONNA BEASON
LEN BROWNING
JENNIFER BURCH
STARLENE COLLINS
ROSEMARY CROSTHWAITE
KELLI DOSSETT
SUSAN ESCHEN
ROBBIE ESTUS
ROBBIE AND HEIDI ESTUS
JOHN WENDY FURMAN
JOAN GOOSSENS
JULANE GROBE
SONJA HAMMOND
SANDRA HASLER
JAMES HOWE
DAVIS JACKSON
JACKIE JAMES
CHRISTOPHER JONES
E.M. & P.L. JONES
JANA KOEHN
NADINE LESLIE
MARIO LEWIS
FRANCES LUZX
SUSAN OLSON
MIKELL AND MISTY PETERSON
DAVID PRESSGROVE
HELEN LOUISE SADIK-MACDONALD
KATHYRN SAMPSON
TERESA STOFFLE
ARTHUR WHITE
WILMA WILLIAMS

NEW FREEZERS, FRIDGE, PALLET JACK
AND SHELVING PROVIDED BY YAMPA
VALLEY COMMUNITY FOUNDATION AND
FOOD BANK OF THE ROCKIES!!

LOCAL BUSINESS DONORS:

AMERICAN LEGION POST #62
ATMOS
CENTRAL PARK MANAGEMENT INC.
THE COPY SHOP
COUNTRY LIVING REALITY LLC
GREAT DIVIDE CLEANING SERVICE
STATE FARM INSURANCE
STOKES AGENCY
TK'S BACKFLOW & HYDRANT
CRAIG ROTARY
YAMPA VALLEY ELECTRIC ASSOC.



GOALS 2024:

20 NEW VOLUNTEERS

STRENGTHEN AND EXPAND CHURCH PARTNERSHIPS – 10 NEW CHURCHES.

SERVE 900 ADULTS AND 400 CHILDREN WITH BASIC NEED REQUESTS

SERVE 1,240 PEOPLE THROUGH TEFAP AND EVERYDAY EATS

PROVIDE 400 REFERRALS FOR THOSE IN NEED

STRATEGIC PLANNING: SHORT AND LONGER TERM (3 YEARS)

OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS



BILL BOOKER PRESIDENT
RIDGEVIEW CHURCH OF GOD



LEN BROWNING VICE PRESIDENT THE
JOURNEY AT FIRST BAPTIST



ELAINE MONTGOMERY TREASURER
HAYDEN CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH



KRISTEN CORRIVEAU
HAYDEN CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH



JOHN FURMAN
THE JOURNEY OF FIRST BAPTIST



2024 SPECIAL DATES

APRIL 10-12 FOOD BANK ROCKIES CONFERENCE

APRIL 27 STRATEGIC PLANNING

JULY 20 BACK TO SCHOOL FAIR

KARINA BROWNING
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
THE JOURNEY AT FIRST BAPTIST



PAYPAL DONATION QR CODE



FACEBOOK QR CODE

LOVE INC OF THE YAMPA VALLEY

P.O. BOX 892 CRAIG, CO 81626

9708264400 HELPLINE

9708260234 BUSINESS LINE

LOVEINCYAMPAVALLEY.ORG

FACEBOOK.COM/LOVEINCYAMPAVALLEY.ORG

MANY MANY THANKS!!!

TEFAP/EVERYDAY EATS VOLUNTEERS:

4H COUNCIL MEMBERS

BILL BOOKER
CHERYLE BROWNING
ELIAS BROWNING
ELIM BROWNING
ESIAH BROWNING
LEN BROWNING
NATE BROWNING
CRAIG CONOVER
CHARITY CRAIG
QUINN CRAIG
DOUG DALEY
JOHN FURMAN
AARON IRVINE
LONNIE IRVINE
PAT JONES
RACHEL JONES
CALEB KINCAID
KRISTINA KINCAID
MATTHEW KINCAID
ONALEE KINCAID
DEBBIE KNEZ
PAM LATHROP
JENNIFER MANIOLO
LARRY MANIOLO
GINA MATTHEW
PAIS TEAM MEMBERS
HUGO QUEZADA
RYAN ROWLEY
ANTHONY SIMMERS

EMERGENCY FOOD ASSISTANCE VOLUNTEERS:

JANET WRIGHT
WAYNE WRIGHT
CHERYL IVY
MISTY PETERSON
PAT JONES
RACHEL JONES
LEN BROWNING

DIAPER MINISTRY VOLUNTEER:

BILL BOOKER

FURNITURE MINISTRY VOLUNTEERS:

ELIAS BROWNING
BILL BOOKER
LEN BROWNING
NATE BROWNING
JOE HENDERSHOTT
AUSTIN HILL
ANTHONY SIMMERS

OFFICE/ PHONE VOLUNTEERS:

BETTY BARNES
BILL BOOKER
ROSIE CROSTHWAITE
JEANNIE GLIMIDAKIS
DEBBIE KNEZ
MARGE MCKENZIE

**IF I HAVE MISSED ANYONE I SINCERELY
APOLOGIZE. I WOULD APPRECIATE IF YOU
WOULD EMAIL ME AT
LOVEINCKARINA@GMAIL.COM SO THAT I MAY
ADD YOU TO THE LIST.**