

**APRIL
2023**



Seeing Christ-centered churches united in purpose and fully engaged in actively living out their faith by lovingly serving people in need in their communities. Mobilizing local churches to transform lives and communities In the Name of Christ.

HOURLS
Help Office: M/T/TH/F: 9 am - 3 pm
Wednesday: 10 am - 3 pm
Food Pantry: Tuesday - Thursday: 10 am - 2 pm
Tuesday Evenings: 5 pm - 7 pm
Resale Store: Monday - Saturday: 9 am - 4 pm
Tuesdays ONLY: Open until 7 pm

**Upcoming
Events**

April 7th
Good Friday
Love INC Closed

April 22nd
Spring Bling Jewelry Sale
Love INC Store
9 am - 2 pm

May 4th
Community Prayer Rally
Trinity Fellowship Church - Newaygo
6:30pm - 7:30pm

Being a Voice and Bringing Awareness

"The first step in solving a problem is to recognize that it does exist."—Zig Ziglar

In Newaygo County, we find ourselves in two crises that I would argue are relatively unknown to a large percentage of the population—or certainly the magnitude of the problem. What two problems am I referring to? Meth and human trafficking. Not two issues we typically want to dwell on or think about in relation to our day-to-day lives. Yet, both are ravaging our community in ways that must be dealt with before the devastation multiplies further.

Human trafficking has entered our churches, schools, homes, and families with ease and accessibility. This happens under the very noses of well-intended adults who, sadly, lack the knowledge, awareness, and tenacity to fight the overwhelming beast of digital access to our kids through cell phones, gaming apps, and social media. Human trafficking is, as many professionals are trying to scream from the rooftops, more rampant and widespread than most of us can even understand, given the ever-changing digital realm and unceasing attempts to trap unsuspecting prey.

In the first two months of 2023, Newaygo County felt the impact of this seemingly invisible crisis. Not one, but two, cases of a student from Grant Public Schools coming forward occurred. In both instances, a female student had taken part in the prevention education curriculum that caused her to pause and realize that she was being groomed and trafficked.

The outcome could have easily gone the other way if it were not for the human trafficking awareness program and the bravery of the students to speak up about the red flags they could now identify. Newaygo County does not have the luxury of assuming it's not happening where we live or to people we know.

Much like the spread of human trafficking in all its various and insidious forms, is the ever-growing meth addiction crisis. While substance abuse is not a new issue, the depth and rate of those being identified as meth addicts is concerning, to say the least. One role Love INC of Newaygo County has is that of being a collective voice of our community partners to raise awareness and sound the alarm on needs we see around us. We need more pastors and leaders to seriously look at the data and speak up about what's happening in Newaygo County. To put it in terms used in the addiction world—admitting we have a problem is the first step in recovery. Let's recognize and admit that these problems exist.

Please join us in this CALL TO ACTION for local churches and community partners to raise awareness about the meth and human trafficking crises. Together, we can make a huge impact in our community one life at a time!

For more information about human trafficking in Newaygo County, please consider attending:

Human Trafficking Awareness Night
Grant Fine Arts Center
May 15th from 6-7:30pm

If you would like more information about getting support for an addiction, please call our Help Center at 231-652-4099 to hear about resources in our community.

Traci Slager
Traci Slager
Love INC Executive Director

love INC 7TH ANNUAL GOLF OUTING

Love INC of Newaygo County would be honored to have your support this year for our Annual Golf Outing. Whether through event sponsorship or golf team participation, join us!

FRIDAY | JUNE 16, 2023

WATERS EDGE GOLF COURSE
1100 RAMSHORN DR, FREMONT, MI 49412

231-652-4099

WWW.LOVEINCNEWAYGO.COM



LOVE INC OF NEWAYGO COUNTY'S SPRING BLING

Love INC Jewelry & Accessory Sale

APRIL 22ND, 2023
9 AM - 2 PM

LOVE INC RESALE STORE
11 W. 96TH ST., GRANT

Jewelry • Watches • Handbags • Accessories
High quality • Hundreds of pieces
Large selection of 14K Gold & Sterling Silver!

PERFECT TIME TO SHOP FOR MOTHER'S DAY!

*"If you declare with your mouth,
'Jesus is Lord,' and believe in your
heart that God raised him from the dead,
you will be saved."*

Romans 10:9

