

WINTER 2026

The mission of Love in the Name of Christ of Greater Canton is to provide help for those in need transforming lives, through a united effort of area congregations.

“Let us stop just saying we love people, let us really love them, and show it by our actions.” 1 John 3:18



I am honored to introduce myself as a new member of the Love INC ministry and family. I was born and raised in the Black Hills, lived in a few other states for brief periods, and have now lived in the Sioux Falls area since 2005 and Canton since 2023. My husband Brian, who works at the Canton School District, and I have five children, three of whom live in the area, as well as six grandchildren. My first day at Love INC was December 1, but I have been aware of Love INC and its amazing mission for several years, having volunteered at one in Kenai, Alaska. Many parts of the Love INC’s ministry God has woven into my life and work experience, and it has been so wonderful getting to dig in and learn from Karen and the amazing foundation she has built over the 19+ years of Love INC of Greater Canton’s existence. The partnership between Love INC and the Canton Ministerial Association has helped hundreds of people in our community through challenging times, and I am eager to be a part of many more lives being impacted, and hopefully transformed, in the years to come! I am humbled to step into the Director role upon Karen’s retirement at the end of January, and I look forward to serving in the community with other Canton leaders to make an impactful difference in our community!



I was grafted into the Canton community when my kids were in Kindergarten and second grade – and that was nearly thirty years ago. So, I have sat on the bleachers, attended school concerts and community events, and gone to church with many of you. It is with great excitement and hopeful expectation, then, that I have accepted the role of Connection Center Coordinator at Love INC of Greater Canton! I am looking forward to working alongside all of you.

Between those times in the bleachers and where God has me today, my life has taken a very unexpected and unpredictable path. I have gone from the corporate side of scientific research into the county jail, the juvenile detention center, the behavioral health center, and halfway houses – meeting with the “least and the lost” to share the love and hope of Christ! Over the last 15 plus years, I have held volunteer and paid positions in more places than I care to count, yet God has had something for me to learn every step of the way. And even though I still have much to learn, I do feel that he has uniquely prepared me for this position at Love INC – to walk alongside those in need and to mobilize the church to do so in a way that empowers rather than enables. Love INC believes in redemptive compassion. That means investing into and walking alongside people in a way that helps transform lives, even as we help meet their current needs. I am so excited to begin this leg of my journey. It is good to be “home!”

2831 Needs Were Met in 2025

Adopt-A-Student: (school supplies) 60
 Agency Referral: 28
 Helping Hands Baby Ministry: 34
 Clothing Vouchers: 630
 Food Pantry: 239
 Fresh Food Vouchers: 134
 Friday Backpack Deliveries: 1063
 Gas Voucher: 152
 Christmas & Thanksgiving Meals: 61
 Lodging: 2
 Personal Care Pantry: 88

Other: (special circumstances): 14
 Rent (eviction notices): 7
 Senior Food Boxes: 179
 Toys for Canton Tots: 114 kids
 Utilities (disconnect notices) 25
 Winter Outerwear Vouchers: 1

1,824 Volunteer hours given to Love INC in 2025

A huge thank you to all who have given their time and talents to volunteer at Love INC of Greater Canton.
YOU ARE A BLESSING TO LOVE INC!

Love INC's Clothing Closet

Hours Open:

**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
10 am-4 pm**



Senior Day (55+) the first Wednesday of each month, Seniors will receive 1/2 off total purchase (excluding any sales)

Double punch day is the last day of the month

**Love INC of Greater Canton
111 E 6th Street Canton, SD
605-764-0453**

CANTON FOOD PANTRY

**FIRST TUESDAY OF EACH MONTH 2-4 PM
FOOD GIVEAWAY**



**HELPING HANDS BABY MINISTRY & PERSONAL CARE PANTRY
2:00 - 4:30 PM**

**Questions?
Contact Love INC at 605-764-0453**

Karen Brandes' Retirement Party



Thank you Canton community for 20 years of working as Executive Director of Love INC. I've had the opportunity to meet some amazing people though the years. As I move into a new chapter in my life, I will be praying for Love INC as new leadership continues to help people in the Canton community.



2025 Memorials given to Love INC in loving memory of:

- Erv Mulder
- Doug Olson
- Gene Hortness
- David Olsen

2025 Honorariums given to Love INC in honor of:

- Pastor Tom Gilman
- Fred Webb

FRIDAY BACKPACK PROGRAM

Love INC is very grateful to the following partner churches for packing the Friday backpacks:

- November, 2025
Moe Parish
- December, 2025
River of Life
- January, 2026
Celebrate Community

Love INC of Greater Canton

Did you know each dollar given to Love INC will produce over \$55.00 of help and service to those in need? Your financial support will help meet many more needs and touch more lives for Christ!

Yes! I would like to support the Love INC mission of mobilizing the Church to transform lives and communities In the Name of Christ.

I support Love INC through PRAYER_____. I pledge to provide support to Love INC with a one-time gift of \$_____. I pledge to provide support on a monthly basis with \$_____ (\$10, \$25, \$50, etc.) to help cover ongoing expenses. Please fill out the address information listed below. Thank you for sharing a gift In the Name of Christ!

NAME:_____ADDRESS:_____

CITY/STATE/ZIP:_____ E-MAIL ADDRESS:_____

ORGANIZATION/BUSINESS/CHURCH NAME:_____

Please fill out the form and return it with your TAX DEDUCTIBLE financial gift payable to: Love in the Name of Christ and mail to 111 E 6th St, Canton, SD 57013 or choose a method to donate online at our website: www.loveinccantonsd.org