

LinC

LOVE IN THE NAME OF CHRIST



"Who is my neighbour?"

"The one who shows mercy on him"

LinC: What is it?

Linc is an organization that provides caring resources to needy people and in so doing, empowers Australian churches to demonstrate the unconditional love of Christ to people in need in our community. Lester Morris, the LinC representative, requested that our church

become involved with this initiative in our local area. The Deacons have in

principle agreed to help in line with their mandate in the ordination form "to do good to all men, especially those from the household of faith". This initiative

is supported by the Evangelism Support Committee to empower the congregation to reach out into the community. Volunteer help provided within the LinC framework is all done in the name of the Free Reformed Church of Southern River. This provides us with a wonderful opportunity to make our church and Christ's love known in the community.

Rationale

LinC provides a non-threatening way for individual Christians to use their skills, gifts and resources to show love in action

in their community. This response to unmet social needs,

LinC empowers Australian churches to demonstrate the unconditional love of Christ to people in need in their communities.

offered with "no strings attached", gives church members the opportunity to put their faith and love to work in concrete ways.

Unemployment, redundancies, forced early retirement, a greater demand to state and federal



lincwa.org.au



funding in the human services areas underline the urgent need for increased involvement of churches in their local communities. The church, Christ's body on earth, has all the resources and gifts needed to make a difference in local communities.

Objective

LinC enables people in local churches to network and share their human and material resources in response to needs in their community. LinC mobilizes the untapped potential of church people to serve with a view to empowering people to develop personal skills of self-reliance. LinC works in conjunction with human services agencies.

LinC Ministry Strategy

A LinC Referral Centre is a telephone referral clearing house, receiving calls directly from clients, clergy or professional agencies. It is managed by a Board elected from

representatives of the participating churches, and is staffed by trained volunteers. It provides no direct services but screens the needs received, facilitating the link between the person in need and an appropriate volunteer from a participating church.

Why is LinC needed?

The challenge faced by Australian churches to meet needs of local disadvantaged people is increasing. LinC provides an effective networking strategy to meet the challenge, in a way that does not duplicate existing programs and services.

Christians want to serve their community in practical ways. Often they do not know who needs help, how best to help individuals and families or how to ensure that needs are met. LinC provides the information and networks in order for Christians to effectively assist in the community.

LinC Mission Statement

LinC provides cooperative interchurch networks, linking the caring resources of churches, agencies and individual Christians with the expressed needs of people in their local communities through telephone referral centres.

LinC builds supportive relationships by active listening to people, careful analysis of needs, and appropriate practical action inside and outside local church communities.

LinC trains, coordinates, mobilizes and encourages volunteers to use their ordinary resources to make an extraordinary difference in their communities.

LinC seeks to reflect servant leadership in all its operations.

LinC is motivated by a sense of compassion for people in need within Australia as well as a sense of call to demonstrate love in action in the name of Christ.



"So then, whenever we have an opportunity, let us do good to all people, and especially those who belong to the family of faith." Galatians 6:10

How can you be involved?

There are a variety of tasks that you can volunteer for, such as making meals, mowing the lawn, providing transport etc. This allows members of our church to use their gifts to benefit the wider community.

Attached is a form listing all types of things that LinC may receive a call requiring assistance for. If there is something that you may be able to help with you can indicate this by ticking the first column next to that item. Then if we receive a call asking for assistance with that particular need you may be contacted to provide that help.

Please return completed forms to Jeanette te Wierik.

For more information, email nuxie@iinet.net.au