

RADICAL LOVE

LOVE IN ACTION

FALL 2026 | QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

A Community of Helpers

Summer Friendship & Learning Program

Three buses pull into the parking lot, bringing a buzz of excitement. Kids race to find their nametags; adults stop to say hello to a friendly face they met the previous week. The smell of freshly baked bagels



fills the air as people of all ages and nations file into the sanctuary. Tablets and headphones are distributed by volunteers, who help neighbors select their native language so they can see (and hear) everything translated live! And then we begin—

first with a welcome, then with a celebration of a different culture. We saw the beautiful tunics of the Karen people, heard a violin from Ukraine, listened to a gospel choir from Africa, and enjoyed sack races and broke pinatas with our Hispanic neighbors. *[continued on pg 2]*

UPCOMING EVENTS

Bible and English Learning
Thursdays, Sept 24 to Oct 29
10am-12pm

Fall Fun Day in the Park
October 12, 11am-1pm

**Hear Their Life Stories:
A Resettled Refugee Panel**
October 15, 6:30-8pm

Men's Event
October 16, 6-8pm

Breakfast Fall Fundraiser
November 13, 8:30-10am

Christmas Party
December 12, 10am-12pm



Radical Love builds relationships and points to resources in our community



Radical Love Scholarships Awarded

For the second year, we awarded the *Radical Love Higher Education Scholarship* to an international student who embodies Radical Love. The nominee is part of Radical Love, shows consistent love and dedication to our neighbors, and has a passion to pursue higher education. This year we awarded two \$2,000 scholarships (each among the first in their family to attend college). **Congratulations, Germaine (Rwanda) and Victoria (Venezuela)!**



Join us at Radical Love
Pray, volunteer, share
talents, and donate:
www.theradicallove.org

Follow Us

Facebook @theradicallove
Instagram @theradicalloveproject

PO Box 62, Geneva, IL 60134

Upcoming Events

When you see what's happening at **Radical Love**,
we pray that you see **Jesus**.

SEPT
24

Bible & English Learning

Thursdays, Sept 24 - Oct 29; 10am–12pm, Aurora
Six sessions - sign up for one or many

Historical overview of the Bible and how it's all connected; Is Jesus really God; and the life of Jesus (who he was, what he taught, and how we can rest in Him). Our 2-hour program includes a teaching, breakout sessions (English learning and Bible discussion), and community time with food and coffee. Childcare provided for children ages 5 and under.

TO
OCT
29

OCT
12

Fall Fun | Day with Our Refugee Neighbors

Monday, October 12, 11am–1pm, Aurora

We will laugh and have fun together, enjoy lunch, and watch the kids run and play. In between giggles and pizza, we will share hats, gloves, and coats as we prepare for winter. Helpers greet neighbors, serve lunch, pass out winter gear, and enjoy time with our beautiful friends.

OCT
15

Hear Their Stories An Evening with Our Refugee Neighbors

Thursday, October 15, 6:30–8pm, Geneva High School

A lively panel discussion featuring resettled refugees from around the world, who will be sharing about life in a refugee camp, fleeing war/violence/persecution, coming to the United States, and life in the Radical Love family. Gain a global perspective without leaving the Fox Valley. Event content is suitable for adults and middle/high school students. Tickets are \$5 (available on our website or at the door). All proceeds benefit Radical Love.

OCT
16

Men's Event

Friday, October 16, 6–8pm, West Chicago

We are bringing men from around the world together to have fun in a relaxed, no-pressure atmosphere. Dinner, axe throwing, archery, basketball, chess, bags and lots of laughter. The event is for 18+ men.

NOV
13

Fall Breakfast Fundraiser | Taste the World

Friday, November 13, 8:30–10am, Batavia

Enjoy food from Africa, Burma, Ukraine and the Hispanic culture, while supporting Radical Love at this community networking event. Limited seating. Tickets available on our website.

DEC
12

Christmas Party

Saturday, December 12, 10am–12pm, Geneva

Our biggest single event brings together neighbors from all over the world to enjoy a meal, do a Christmas craft, and pick up needed winter boots and gear. Kids participate in the "Giving Workshop," where they select gifts for the adults in their home (and pick a gift for themselves too!) The morning culminates with a global talent show that is a must-see! Many helpers are needed for this event!



[From cover page]

Everyone, from Burundi to Batavia, brings their kids – it's how Radical Love got started. Kids in grades 1-8 all mixed together, laughing and having fun. Every week brought a new adventure: We built and launched rockets; practiced taekwondo and made bracelets; and played basketball, volleyball, and soccer. Led by high school helpers, the kids worked together to sort and distribute school supplies for 500 kids and snack bags that will feed 250 of their peers.

While the kids played, babies were rocked, and toddlers chased, adults learned together and built relationships. Presenters shared topics such as building a budget, investing for the future, managing anger and stress, confidence and courage, and mental health and cell phones. Engaging tracks followed, where we made smoothies, practiced English and writing skills, talked with doctors and lawyers, and practiced yoga.

For the final week of our Program, we went to the beach together. Radical Love rented out the Batavia Quarry; kids splashed and played, adults relaxed (some for the first time in a long time), and everyone ate pizza and cotton candy. "I've been praying for a place like Radical Love for so long. It's a place where I know I am welcomed, I am loved, and I belong," shared a neighbor from Venezuela through tears.

Known by Name

Our staff works to know every person who walks through the doors at Radical Love; we want to call each one by name. We believe that when we know our neighbors by name, everything changes.

GERMAINE | Rwanda

Germaine is a nursing student, studying in the U.S. with the dream to take her knowledge and skills back to Rwanda to medically help and educate her countrymen. Germaine came by bus to Radical Love as a volunteer; she was the only one who could speak a certain dialect of older African woman at Radical Love. She led kids' groups and served as a greeter and translator.



HSER LAY | Burma

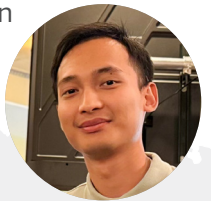
Hser Lay and her young sons began attending Radical Love in 2022. "Radical Love has helped me to gain confidence in myself. I know that I belong here; I know that I am loved." Recently, Hser Lay began a flower business; she loves bringing joy to her customers.



EH MOO | Burma

He was the first in his family to complete middle and high school. After attending Radical Love, he shared his dream of attending a 4-year university to complete his accounting degree. Radical Love walked alongside

him. He graduated from NIU with an accounting degree and now works at a local accounting firm. This summer he was a speaker at Radical Love, sharing about taxes in the U.S.



OLENA* | Ukraine

She fled war with her family, arriving in the U.S. and speaking very little English. She learned quickly in school and began coming to Radical Love by bus. Life is not easy; she has lost family and friends in the war. This summer, she attended Radical Love every week, serving as a translator (she is fluent in three languages!) and helping wherever needed.

**name changed for privacy*

VICTORIA | Venezuela

Economic collapse led to scarcity, which led to violence in her country. There was often no food in the family's refrigerator. She came to the U.S. speaking no English; she was offered courses in Spanish at her school, but she refused. She knew she needed to know the language. Today, she is fluent in two languages, works at Radical Love, and is studying to be a medical care provider to help others.



Radical Love Friendship Partners: Become a Friend to a Refugee Neighbor



Coming to a new country and starting all over is overwhelming. Having an American friend to help you learn is invaluable. Can you help? Friendship Partners are mentored by Radical Love staff and paired with a resettled refugee neighbor, who is navigating new/difficult circumstances. These new friends meet up at Radical Love events and communicate by text (great way to practice English). There is no set time-commitment, rather, we hope a long-lasting friendship forms. More information is on our *Volunteer Portal page*. See pink box below for information. **Apply online to become a Radical Love Friendship Partner.**

SNACK BAGS

Awesome opportunity for a group! Pack lunch-sized bags with food to feed children in our community. Do the project on your own time, at your location.

CARE TEAM

Prepare and deliver a meal to a refugee neighbor that endures a life-changing event. Team notified when situations arise.

TEACHER APPRECIATION

Help us celebrate teachers at schools with little to no PTO presence. Sign-up to as a "One-time Helper" via our Volunteer Portal page.



Helpers Needed at Radical Love! Visit Our Volunteer Portal page!

Scan QR code or visit <https://theradicallove.org/volunteerportal>



They came with what they had,
and **God** multiplied it.

Help Us Grow

Winter Boots Hats, and Gloves | \$15,000

\$150 outfits a family of 4 with boots (with this gift, children are often able to play in the snow for the very first time!)

Bibles & Devotionals | \$5,000

\$50 provides *The Storybook Bible* to 5 children. We share God's Word in many versions and languages to help our community get to know the Jesus of the Bible.

Giving Workshop | \$15,000

\$100 provides gifts for a refugee family.

Buses for a Year | \$21,000

\$350 helps one person come for a year. Our buses weave through St Charles, Geneva, Batavia, Aurora, and Montgomery. We've made a promise to our refugee neighbors: You matter to us; we will come for you.

Wear (and share!) Radical Love

Purchase Radical Love merch via our website and wear Radical Love around town. We receive 40% of all proceeds!



How to Give to Radical Love Today

ONE-TIME GIFTS ARE THE MOST POPULAR WAY to support our movement; our community's generosity allows us to thrive! Several other special ways to support Radical Love financially include:

MAKE A MONTHLY IMPACT

Monthly donors provide constant support to our movement. Different contribution levels make this type of giving accessible to everyone, and it's quick and easy to set up on our website.

DONOR ADVISED FUNDS & CORPORATE MATCHING

Radical Love is set up to receive Donor Advised Funds.

We are also registered to receive Corporate Matching Funds.

THE RADICAL LOVE ENDOWMENT

We accept stock donations and planned giving. Visit our website to begin the process (it's a lot easier than you think!).

FUND ID #768055



Give Online: Scan QR code or visit www.theradicallove.org/donate
Give by Mail : Radical Love, PO Box 62, Geneva, IL 60134