



# DOVE TALES

the newsletter of Dove, Inc.

Please follow  
our blog - <http://doveinc.blogspot.com>  
[www.doveinc.org](http://www.doveinc.org)



August 2017

Barbara Blakey  
Editor

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**Dove, Inc.**  
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Decatur, IL 62522  
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**Dove's Mission**  
Dove is a coalition  
of religious  
organizations,  
volunteers, and  
advocates that seeks  
to coordinate efforts  
to address unmet  
human needs and  
social injustices

Dove works for  
justice, equality  
and understanding  
among all people.

## SHORT STACKS FOR A TALL CAUSE



Support **Retired & Senior Volunteer Program** at your neighborhood  
Applebee's® located at **1275 S Route 51, Forsyth.**

TICKETS \$5.00    DATE 8/26/17    TIME 8:00am - 10:00am



applebees.com ©2017 Applebee's Restaurants LLC.

## Short Stack for a Tall Cause

Join us for this great pancake and bacon  
breakfast while supporting one of the  
largest volunteer programs in Macon and  
DeWitt Counties.

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program  
has been able to team up with Applebee's for  
a pancake breakfast fundraiser. Our event  
will be at Applebee's, 1275 S. Route 51,  
Forsyth, on August 26, 8:00 to 10:00 a.m.

Tickets are just \$5 each and are available  
NOW at the RSVP offices or through  
Advisory Council Members. Tickets must  
be purchased in advance and are limited --  
so hurry and get yours before it's too late!

# DOVE, INC.

## Leadership Team

Christine Gregory  
Executive Director

Tammy Wilcox  
Assistant Director

Barbara Blakey  
Director of Volunteers & Community Relations

Teri Ducy  
Domestic Violence Program Director

Darsonya Switzer  
Homeward Bound Program Director

## Program Leadership

### BABES •

Beginning Awareness Basic Education Studies  
Sandy Laesch, Program Coordinator

Children's Clothing Room  
Sandy Harmison, Coordinator

DAX • DeWitt County Assistance eXchange  
Jennifer Tolladay, Coordinator

DeWitt County Food Pantry  
Jennifer Tolladay, Coordinator

Domestic Violence Program  
Teri Ducy, Program Director  
Jennifer Tolladay, DeWitt County Coordinator  
Mary Hughes, Moultrie County Coordinator  
Susie Kensil, Shelby County Coordinator

Homeward Bound  
Darsonya Switzer, Program Director

MAX • Macon County Assistance eXchange  
Rev. Shane Hartman, Coordinator

RSVP • Retired & Senior Volunteer Program  
Christina Gillaspie, Program Director  
Sheryl Whisman, DeWitt County Coordinator

Letter from the Executive Director of Dove, Inc.:

Coordinating Efforts to Address Unmet Needs and Social Injustices.

Christine Gregory, Executive Director

Dear Friends,

We live in an amazing community. Hope for a brighter future, generosity of spirit, faith in God, and a will to make lemonade from lemons is the trademark of our home here in Central Illinois. In the past roller coaster of a month, Dove has continued its mission despite the odds and we have come through it strong.

To say that I am proud of our staff, clients, and this community which supports them, would be an understatement. Thanks to all of you we have reached a point of stability, and are able to plan for a bright future. We are hiring to fill vacancies and planning to continue to provide services for domestic violence victims, homeless individuals, and community needs. We have partnered with volunteers from NWRAPS to become the new host of the annual Heritage & Holly Tour, and worked with our partners in the community to continue our mission to coordinate efforts to meet unmet needs.

Thank you for being ready to share in Dove's work. To explore how you can grow with us towards the future, please reach out to our Volunteer & Community Relations Director, Barb Blakey. Dove, Inc. is only as strong as its member organizations, volunteers, and advocates. Thank you for working to make our home self-sustaining community with hope for anyone who is suffering.

Sincerely,  
Christine Gregory

# NEWS

from the Domestic Violence Program

Teri Ducey  
Domestic Violence Program Director

The program has been through many challenges in the last few months, as a result of being without significant funding because of a lack of a State Budget. But through it all, the Shelter has remained open and staff and volunteers daily worked to meet those challenges.

We were in a position where we did have to cancel one of our weekly domestic violence support groups. Staff have continued to work additional hours in order to comply with our 24-hour Shelter coverage. Since Dove has been in a hiring freeze, we have been without a 2<sup>nd</sup> Shift Shelter Specialist, as well as a full-time Children's Specialist - staff who cover the weeknights and the 8-hour day shift on Saturdays.

But now, I am happy and very thrilled to report that a VOCA (Victims of Crime Act) Grant, that we submitted proposal for in early June, will be awarded! This will allow for us to replace these two staff positions and to begin to fill the positions needed to provide the services our clients need.

Soon we will be hiring a full-time Multi-County Advocate, additional Shelter Specialists, and two contractual Domestic Violence Trainers.

Staff have gone above and beyond during these challenging times – even while we were without air conditioning in the Shelter for a period of 3 weeks! Clients and staff pulled together and literally “weathered” the storm! This occurred during the some of the hottest days of the year!

A big thank you to the Salvation Army who loaned us several cots for our clients to sleep on, as we even had to move our Shelter residents downstairs to our Dean Simcox Conference Room in order to stay cool.

We also are grateful to One Source and Sunbelt Rentals who loaned us the portable air units. These were helpful and much appreciated!

Thankfully, work has been completed and it has cooled off in our Shelter. Times like this sure do make one appreciate things that we so often take for granted and to appreciate the wonderful staff and volunteers we get to work with each day.

***Please check the employment page on the [website](#) to view the current job openings in the Domestic Violence Program and Homeward Bound Program. And keep a watch as updated and new positions are added.***



## VOLUNTEER AND EDUCATION OPPORTUNITIES

The Decatur Macon County Senior Center needs a volunteer or two in their outreach office, someone to help give out farmers' market coupons and fans this summer. We take appointments for the farmers' market coupons, but the fan distribution is first come first served. There is paperwork required for both programs. Volunteers will be checking financial eligibility for the programs and then filling out the paperwork required. Computer experience would be helpful, but not required. There will also be some telephone answering and light filing. We are looking for help between the hours of 9:00 a.m. to Noon and 1:00 to 3:00 p.m., but they are willing to work with someone on hours and days. If you are interested in helping seniors, this is a great opportunity to get started! Call Charlie or Sandy at 217.428.6616.



DeWitt County TRIAD will be sponsoring a Senior Academy in August to focus on financial and personal safety for residents over 50. The free program will include presentations on Senior Safety, Family Love Letters, Alzheimer, and Senior Cell Phone Use, as well as Entertainment. Local authorities will give presentations on each of these topics at the Clinton Library. The academy will meet from 9:00 to 11:30 a.m. on August 8, 15, and 22. Refreshments will be provided by Liberty Village. There will be daily door prizes.

Space is limited and advanced registration is encouraged. To register, please call the DeWitt County Sheriff's Office at 217-935-9507.

DeWitt County TRIAD is a joint initiative between local law enforcement, social services organizations, and senior volunteers dedicated to senior citizen safety. For more information about TRIAD, see the DeWitt County TRIAD's Facebook page or contact the Sheriff's Office at 217-935-9507.

### Tuesday, August 8, 2017

- 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. Chief Ben Lowers, New Issues for Senior Safety  
Sharon Furman, Bank Fraud
- 10:15 to 10:30 a.m. Break/Refreshments
- 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. Detective G. Lindemulder, Senior awareness of Drug Problem
- 11:15 to 11:30 a.m. Prize drawing

### Tuesday, August 15, 2017

- 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. Mary Kay Hirsbrinnerr, "Family Love" Letters and Moving for Elderly
- 10:15 to 10:30 a.m. Break/Refreshments
- 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. Elizabeth Wells, Alzheimer Association
- 11:15 to 11:30 a.m. Prize Drawing

### Tuesday, August 22, 2017

- 9:30 to 10:15 a.m. Kenton Dueschberg, Senior cell phone use and safety
- 10:15 to 10:30 a.m. Break/Refreshments
- 10:30 to 11:15 a.m. Ron Devore Entertainment
- 11:15 to 11:30 a.m. Prize Drawing

## MARK YOUR CALENDAR

LUNCH FUNDRAISER  
TO SUPPORT THE  
DEWITT COUNTY  
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE  
PROGRAM!

SEPTEMBER 8 & 9  
CLINTON IGA PARKING LOT

STOP BY AND GRAB A LUNCH!  
PORK CHOP LUNCH, \$6  
RIBEYE LUNCH, \$7  
THE LUNCHES INCLUDE THE  
SANDWICH OF YOUR CHOICE,  
CHIPS AND A DRINK.



# BABES

After a relaxing summer break the puppets, volunteers and I will be getting ready for another busy school year!

To start this school year off, there will be a BABES Volunteer Meeting, Tuesday, August 29, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

A BABES volunteer training is scheduled for Thursday September 7, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The training includes information about Beginning Awareness Basic Education Studies history, the importance of drug and alcohol prevention programming for K-3<sup>rd</sup> grades, and how to present the BABES program in area schools through the use of puppets and scripted information.

If you are interested in becoming a BABES volunteer, please contact me to register by September 1. You can reach me at 428.6616 or email me at [slaesch@doveinc.org](mailto:slaesch@doveinc.org).

Dean Simcox Conference Center, 302 S. Union, Decatur

# YOU CAN BE THE DIFFERENCE

## Dove's Domestic Violence Education & Volunteer Training

Why is this happening?

What causes domestic violence?

How do we stop it?

What happens to the perpetrator?

What happens to the victim?

Will justice prevail?

### *What can I do?*

Dove's program is always in need of volunteers • to assist in answering our hotline, covering the shelter, clerical tasks, assisting with orders of protection, co-facilitating support groups, and more

After taking this training, you CAN do something!

#### *Location •••*

*Dove, Inc. / Anna B. Millikin Home, 302 S. Union, Decatur*

#### *Dates & Times •••*

*Monday - Thursday afternoons, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.*

*September 11, 12, 13, 14, 18, 19, 20, 21, 25, 26, 27*

#### *How to Register •••*

• *Complete a phone interview by noon, Friday September 1, call 217.428.6616*

• *Attend registration meeting on Wednesday, September 6 at noon, \$150 training fee, some scholarships available.*

## 100<sup>th</sup> Home Sale Charity Giveaway

Help Dove win the top prize for this annual charity fundraiser from Glenda Williamson Realty. Dove is thrilled to be one of the five local charities who could benefit from this event. Dove will need all our friends to vote daily!

<http://www.glendawilliamson.com/100th-Home-Sale-Charity>

## Looking Ahead!

Coffee Connection  
Car Show Fundraiser  
for Dove

October 7, 7:00 to 10:00 a.m.

*To learn more about  
becoming a Dove Member Congregation  
or to schedule a speaker for your congregation  
please contact Barb Blakey,  
Director of Volunteers & Community Relations  
at 428.6616 or [dove@doveinc.org](mailto:dove@doveinc.org)*



## Volunteer Organizational League

**The next Volunteer Organizational League (VOL) meeting is August 8, Noon to 1:00 p.m. at the Dean Simcox Conference Center at 302 S. Union St., Decatur.**

**Anyone who has contact with volunteers are welcome to attend. Come share with your fellow volunteer managers!! Bring your sack lunch and come learn from each other.**

**No RSVP needed just show up!**

# Our thanks to...

from the Domestic Violence Program

... Jonathon Creek Church for all their donations to Dove in Moultrie County. Their support is greatly appreciated!

... the women of the United Methodist Churches in our area for your generous donation of grooming and personal supplies to our Shelby County program. These things are always greatly appreciated, but even more so in these uncertain economic times. Your continuing support for our program is greatly appreciated.

## Domestic Violence Shelter Needs:

- Prepaid Gasoline Cards
- Gift Cards from Aldi or Walmart
- 9 V & AAA Batteries
- New Strollers
- Toddler Sippy Cups
- Infant Bottles
- Infant Spoons
- Lice Treatments
- Ibuprofen, Naproxen, Aspirin
- Triple Antibiotic Ointment
- Hydrocortisone Cream
- Large Hairbrushes
- Sunscreen
- Bug Repellent
- Disinfectant Sprays
- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towels
- Dixie Cups (small size)
- Dishwasher Detergent Pods
- White Noise Machines
- IPAD/Tablet for support group use
- DVD or Blu-ray Player for Children's Room
- New Desktop Printer for Client Computers

### Please, Mark the Dates!



Moultrie County Candlelighting Ceremony  
Thursday, October 26, 7:00 p.m.  
First United Methodist Church  
216 W. Jefferson, Sullivan

Shelby County Candlelighting Ceremony  
Thursday, October 5



Watch for the dates for the DeWitt and Macon County Events!

## NEWS FROM HOMEWARD BOUND



### SEEKING ENTRANCE INTO THE HOMEWARD BOUND PROGRAM?

Walk-in applications will be taken on Wednesdays and Fridays between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. at the Homeward Bound office, 788 E. Clay, Decatur.

All others can call 362.7700 for an appointment.

### HOMELESS ADVISORY COUNCIL CONTINUUM OF CARE (HAC/CoC) MEETING

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14  
1:30 P.M.

PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING!  
WE WILL CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS  
ON PLANS FOR NATIONAL HUNGER  
AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS  
WEEK. INFORMATION ABOUT  
COORDINATED ENTRY FOR THE  
MACON COUNTY COC WILL BE  
DISCUSSED.

#### MEETINGS LOCATION:

HOMEWARD BOUND OFFICE, 788 E. CLAY STREET, DECATUR

#### CONTACT:

DARSONYA SWITZER, 362.7700 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

### SOAR (SSI/SSDI OUTREACH, ACCESS AND RECOVERY) COMMITTEE MEETING!

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14  
10:00 A.M.

Homeward Bound is collecting the following items for the participants of the program:

- Diapers (all sizes, from newborn to pull-ups)
- Baby wipes

# RSVP NEWS

## Save the Date!

Be sure to check your mailbox at the end of August for your invitation to this year's Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon, coming up the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of September. Invitations are sent to anyone who has served a minimum of one hour during our most recent fiscal year July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017. If you are not sure you qualify give Charlie a call at 428.6616.

## Coupons for Overseas Military Families

We are excited to announce that as of July 2017, with your help, RSVP has shipped more than 1,618,227 coupons to our needy families overseas. Thank you!!

Please remember we collect ONLY manufacturer coupons (no more than one month expired) No store specific or restaurants coupons are allowed. With your generous help, we are confident we will reach our 2 million coupon goal in no time.

Keep those coupons coming and thanks again for all the support.

Coupon can be dropped off at the DeWitt County office at 803 W. Leander, Clinton, or the Macon County office at 302 S. Union, Decatur.

## 9-11 Day of Service & Remembrance

Each year, the RSVP Advisory Council and staff members, organize a Day of Service around the 9-11 Day of Remembrance. Please watch for details on this year's project.

# Children's Clothing Room

Open  
Monday - Thursday - 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.



Alice Bray, RSVP Volunteer

*located inside of  
Prairie Avenue Christian Church  
2201 E. Prairie, Decatur*

*Good, used, free clothing!  
Sizes from infants to teenagers.*

For ease of making a donation of children's clothing, a shed is located south of the church in the parking lot.

We are also seeking donations of new socks and underwear, in all sizes, especially to help families with back to school needs.



YOUR GIFT WILL  
ENSURE THAT  
SERVICES CAN  
CONTINUE.

PLEASE GIVE  
GENEROUSLY.

DOVE, INC.  
302 S. UNION  
DECATUR, IL 62522

OR DONATE  
ONLINE AT

[WWW.DOVEINC.ORG](http://WWW.DOVEINC.ORG)

# MAX

MACON COUNTY  
ASSISTANCE EXCHANGE

LOCATED INSIDE OF  
DECATUR FIRST UNITED  
METHODIST CHURCH  
201 W. NORTH, DECATUR

OPEN MONDAY - THURSDAY  
1:00 TO 3:00 P.M.

HELPING WITH EMERGENCY  
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE FOR  
FAMILIES/INDIVIDUALS  
IN NEED

WARM NEIGHBORS  COOL FRIENDS

WNCF is located in the MAX office for MACON and DEWITT Counties. Below are the 2016-2017 Income Guidelines for Weatherization and Bill Payment Assistance. Families must show proof of income. A family's monthly gross income must fall between the ranges below, based upon family size, to qualify.

**Family Size** 30-Day (Gross) Monthly  
Income Range Must be between:

1	\$1,485 - \$2,970
2	\$2,003 - \$4,005
3	\$2,520 - \$5,040
4	\$3,038 - \$6,075
5	\$3,555 - \$7,110
6	\$4,073 - \$8,145
7	\$4,591 - \$9,183
8	\$5,111 - \$10,223



# DAX

SADLY, AT THIS TIME OUR  
EMERGENCY FINANCIAL  
ASSISTANCE PROGRAM, DAX, IS  
OUT OF FUNDS.

WE ARE NOT TAKING ANY  
APPLICATIONS AT THIS POINT. WE  
WILL KEEP YOU UPDATED WHEN  
WE DO GET MORE FUNDING!

DeWitt County Food Pantry

803 W. Leander, Clinton

Open  
Tuesdays & Thursdays  
10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The Food pantry has seen an increase of households needing assistance. As a result we run out of food much faster now. So if anyone would like to donate food or diapers to our pantry, we would greatly appreciate your gift.