Dove, Inc.

DoveTales

the newsletter of Dove, Inc.

Please follow
our blog - http://doveinc.blogspot.com
www.doveinc.org

Find us on Facebook

November 2017

Barbara Blakey
Editor

Issue 1711
Published Monthly

Dove, Inc.
302 S. Union
Decatur, IL 62522
217.428.6616
dove@doveinc.org

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.

so thankful!

Each year, the week before Thanksgiving, Dove participates in National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week. NHHAW is an annual program where people come together across the country to draw attention to the problems of hunger and homelessness. Participating groups spend the week holding a series of educational, service, fundraising, and advocacy events. Please join us at one of the local events - see pages 14 and 15. Check the website for the 2017 Point-in-Time Count to find out local statistics on homelessness and see page 13 to see how you can become involved in the 2018 count.

HUNGER & HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK

https://hhweek.org

for more about this fundraiser, see page 3

We are grateful to NWRAPS for selecting Dove to take over this annual event, now in its 27th year.

With your help, this funding will secure all programs at Dove, which daily work to meet many needs in the community and to engage 100's of volunteers who each make a difference.

this year | we gave people safe options & new pathways to self-sufficiency | we shared resources, food & clothing | we gave options to serve & to give

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
Sandra 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,

"As human beings, our job in life is to help people realize how rare and valuable each one of us really is, that each of us has something that no one else has — or ever will have — something inside that is unique to all time. It's our job to encourage each other to discover that uniqueness and to provide ways of developing its expression." – Fred Rogers

Today in our area there are people who feel invisible, forgotten, and alone. They live in our neighborhoods, some in homes, some in cars, some staying on a couch, some on the street. They are our brothers, sisters, neighbors, friends, children and parents. Whatever the circumstance, we have a job to do for them. A job to let them know they are seen, remembered, and have a community who cares. A job to encourage them to grow and be whom they were created to be. A job to love. We do that in ways big and small at Dove. Whether it's simply being the friendly voice on the phone, or organizing support systems to encourage growth towards self-sufficiency and service to one another, love is the common thread that binds all of the programs of Dove. Many hands make light work. You make Dove what it is, and we are glad to be a part of your ministry to the world.

I invite you to get to know our ministries in this community. Then, if you or your organization's members would like to learn more about supporting Dove's mission, please reach out to our Volunteer & Community Relations Director, Barb Blakey. Dove, Inc. is only as strong as its member organizations, volunteers, and advocates. It is my sincere hope that you will be a part of making our home a community which values the rare and valuable uniqueness of all of its members.

Sincerely,
Christine Gregory

Heritage & Holly Historic Home Tour

Sweet Beginnings

a fundraiser for all Dove's programs

The 2017 Heritage & Holly Tour will continue to bring area history to light and feature area historic homes and businesses. The Trolley will be available to transport visitors to sites on the tour. Donna Williams, who has organized the tour for more than a decade, and other NWRAPS members will continue to consult and volunteer through the transition.

New this year will be a bit of the rich history, "Sweet Beginnings," of Dove and its programs. Along with that, we'll feature the home of a former bakery family and the "cake house." And for a real sweet treat, Wildflour Bakery will be open during the tour hours, for purchasing a warm drink and a sweet treat between viewing the houses.

Please watch Dove's website www.doveinc.org for other locations that will join the Anna B. Millikin Home / Dove, Inc. location for the tour. If you are interested in volunteering for the event, please contact Dove at 428.6616 or email dove@doveinc.org.

This Dove, Inc. fundraiser will support all the programs at Dove, and the many outreach programs.

November

Friday, 24th

4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, 25th

12:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Thanks to our Sponsors!

WDKR 107.3 Classic Hits

WXFM 99.3 Country

NETWORK SOLUTIONS UNLIMITED

Tickets on sale
November 1 - Noon, November 22

$18 advance tickets

Dove
302 S. Union Street
788 E. Clay Street

Land of Lincoln Credit Union
4850 Prosperity Place
3130 E. Mound Road
2890 N. Oakland Ave.
151 N. 22nd Street
1435 N. Water Street

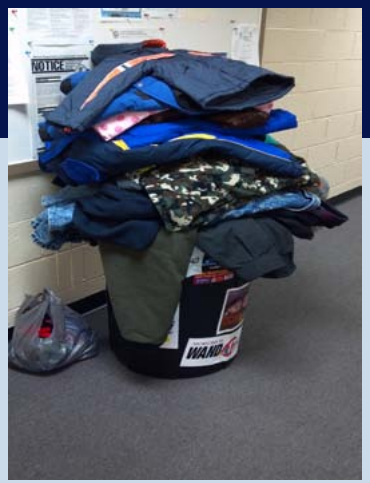
Novel Ideas
480 E. Main Street

Wildflour Artisan Bakery
256 W. Main Street
– will accept Debit/Credit cards

OR online NOW at

OR Day of Event
$20 at the door
First Evangelical Lutheran Church
250 W. Decatur

26th Annual Coats for Kids!



Coats for Kids!
co-sponsored by WAND-TV & Dove through November 30

It's simple

- drop off a coat you no longer need - all sizes welcome
- participating cleaners will clean the coats
- clean coats will be delivered to participating clothing rooms
- wonderful volunteers keep it all working!

Participating Cleaners

Classic Cleaners
2474 N. Main

Peerless Cleaners
519 N. Monroe

Pride Cleaners and Launderers
2553 N. Main
1804 E. Eldorado
1154 E. Prairie Ave.
912 W. Eldorado
2056 Mt. Zion Road

Waite's Dry Cleaners
1004 S. Main, Decatur
664 W. Eldorado
115 Magnolia, Forsyth

Drop-off Sites

Decatur Public Library
130 N. Franklin

Decatur Township Offices
1620 S. Taylorville Road

GT Church
500 S. 27th

Illiopolis Christian Church

Jerger Pediatric Dentistry, P.C.
2101 N. Main

Kroger
Brettwood Plaza
South Shores Plaza
Fairview Plaza
Airport Plaza

Land of Lincoln Credit Union
2890 N. Oakland
3130 E. Mound
4850 E Prosperity Place

Longcreek Township
2610 Salem School Road

Richland Community College
#1 College Park

St. Teresa High School
2710 N. Water Street

Texas Roadhouse
US 51 North

Participating Clothing Rooms

Dove Clothing Room
Prairie Avenue Christian Church
2201 E. Prairie, Decatur
Monday - Thursday, 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.

Northeast Community Fund
825 N. Water Street, Decatur
Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

Antioch Baptist Church
516 N. Church Street, Decatur
Tuesday, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

New Life Pregnancy Center
1698 E. Pershing Road, Decatur
Mondays, 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.
Tuesdays and Thursdays, 9:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m.
Only Maternity Clothing and children's clothing infant to 6

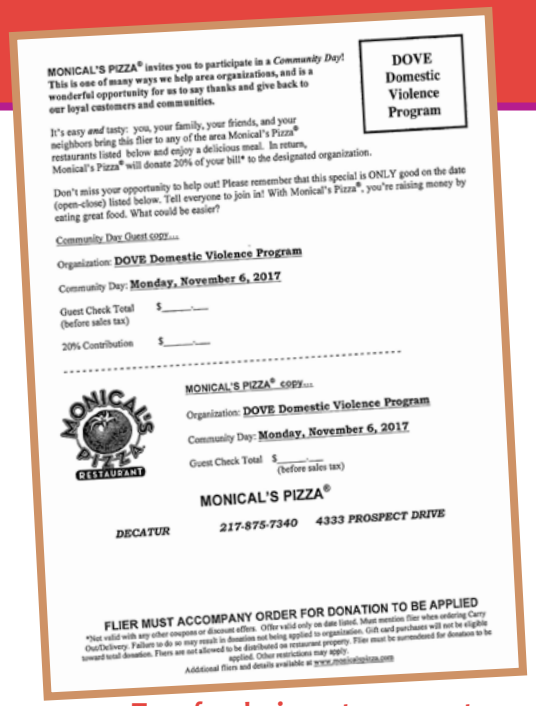
Salvation Army
229 W. Main, Decatur
Monday - Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.;
Office closed- Noon to 1:00 p.m.

Reasonable Service Free Clothing Room
321 E. Leafland, Decatur
2nd & 4th Saturdays, 11:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

NEWS
from the Domestic Violence Program

Nora, Agnes, Jennifer and Ruth

I would like to thank Six Chicks Events and La Tea Da Tea room for hosting the Witches Night Out; it was such a fun night! The purpose of this event was for women empowering women, and also raising money for two local Social Service agencies in Clinton of which Dove was one of the lucky agencies to be recognized by this fun event. There was a DJ and dance music, very yummy food (I had my first ever pulled pork nachos that night) all kinds of door prizes, and raffles, as well as vendors. They had costume contests, best hat and broom, and even a song by the Sanderson Sisters (see below - witches from Hocus Pocus). It was such a great event and I look forward to attending next year! - Jennifer Tolladay



MONICAL'S PIZZA® invites you to participate in a *Community Day!* This is one of many ways we help area organizations, and is a wonderful opportunity for us to say thanks and give back to our loyal customers and communities.

DOVE Domestic Violence Program

It's easy *and* tasty: you, your family, your friends, and your neighbors bring this flier to any of the area Monical's Pizza® restaurants listed below and enjoy a delicious meal. In return, Monical's Pizza® will donate 20% of your bill* to the designated organization.

Don't miss your opportunity to help out! Please remember that this special is ONLY good on the date (open-close) listed below. Tell everyone to join in! With Monical's Pizza®, you're raising money by eating great food. What could be easier?

Community Day Guest copy....

Organization: DOVE Domestic Violence Program

Community Day: Monday, November 6, 2017

Guest Check Total (before sales tax) $____.__

20% Contribution $____.__

MONICAL'S PIZZA® RESTAURANT

MONICAL'S PIZZA® copy....

Organization: DOVE Domestic Violence Program

Community Day: Monday, November 6, 2017

Guest Check Total $____.__ (before sales tax)

MONICAL'S PIZZA®

DECATUR 217-875-7340 4333 PROSPECT DRIVE

FLIER MUST ACCOMPANY ORDER FOR DONATION TO BE APPLIED

*Not valid with any other coupons or discount offers. Offer valid only on date listed. Must mention flier when ordering Carry Out/Delivery. Failure to do so may result in donation not being applied to organization. Gift card purchases will not be eligible toward total donation. Fliers are not allowed to be distributed on restaurant property. Flier must be surrendered for donation to be applied. Other restrictions may apply.

Additional fliers and details available at www.monicalspizza.com

Two fundraisers to support the Domestic Violence Program

FUNDRAISING NIGHT!

TEXAS ROADHOUSE

Come Out And Support Dove Inc. domestic violence program October 30th 2017 4pm to 10pm

10% Donation Night

Support this cause by presenting this invitation to the listed Texas Roadhouse® location and Texas Roadhouse® will donate 10% of your total food purchases to the fundraiser!

Call AHEAD SEATING

(217) 876-7380

1155 S. Route 51,Forsyth,il 62535

With Gratitude

Thanks to Regions Bank who donated $1000 to the Domestic Violence Program in honor of their employee, Nalini Taylor.

Heather Dodson from Fleet Feet Sports, seen here with Kathy Walters, dropped off the donation of items for the Shelter and the funds raised at their October 12 Ladies's Night. Thanks to all for the support!

NEWS
from the Domestic Violence Program

WELCOME to our new staff members of the Domestic Violence Program:

CaSandra Blockton, 2nd Shift Shelter Specialist
Annette Lane, Day Shift Shelter Specialist
Janisha Pealer, Multi-County Advocate
Lauren Henrichsmeyer, Children's Specialist
Willa Boles, Parenting Specialist
Mary Kay Ellis, Receptionist

It is a wonderful feeling to be (almost) fully staffed again – for the first time in what seems like forever!! Staff are very upbeat and it is really nice to see the obvious uplifting atmosphere in our program. Our new staff members are adjusting very well and fit in perfectly with our team. We are eager and enthusiastic to work together and be able to more adequately serve our clients again with a fully staffed program!!

The Macon County Domestic Violence Program will resume our Tuesday Night Domestic Violence Support Group beginning November 7, at 5:30 p.m.

DeWitt County's
Ladies of Value and children support groups have moved to Thursdays, 5:30 p.m.

If you need counseling and this time or day does not work into your schedule, please contact the office and we will work with you on another time that is more convenient for your schedule.

Linda Staff, speaker at Candlelighting Ceremony, facilitated the first weekly Bible Study this week in Shelter. Three Shelter clients attended and very much enjoyed this time. Linda will come each Wednesday afternoon at 1:00 p.m. for clients who are interested in attending this group.

Thanks to Mike and PJ Waltenberger, of First Baptist Church, who donated a box full of new Bibles to the Shelter, to be sure the class got off to a good start!

. . . . . .

Moultrie County's
Children's Christmas Party
December 14, 5:30 p.m.

We will have Monical's Pizza, cookies and other treats at the party. Gifts will be provided to all the children and their parents at this event.

. . . . . .

DAX, DeWitt County Assistance eXchange, has funds. If you or someone you know is needing emergency financial assistance, please call Jennifer at 935.6072 to request an application.

There are also a few winter coats for those in need at our DeWitt County Office.

Fall Domestic Violence Education and Volunteer Training

We would like to congratulate the following participants who have completed the fall Domestic Violence Education and Volunteer Training:

Kristina Rosati
Victim Advocate at Macon Co. State's Attorney's Office

Kelle Sebens
Victim Witness Coord. at Piatt Co. State's Attorney's Office

Domestic Violence Staff Members:
CaSandra Blockton
2nd Shift Shelter Specialist

Annette Lane
Day Shift Shelter Specialist

Janisha Pealer
Multi-County Advocate

Lauren Henrichsmeyer
Children's Specialist

Homeward Bound Staff:
Melissa Aldridge
Coordinated Entry/Outreach Manager

Daciena Simmons
Permanent Supportive Housing Case Manager

Seth Throneburg
Homeless Case Manager

La Thiang Arnold will receive her certificate following a training make-up day.

With Gratitude

A BIG Thank you to Cathy Briggs, former DeWitt County Coordinator and Children's Specialist in our program, who donated a generous percentage of her October LipSense Sales to the domestic violence program in recognition of it being domestic violence awareness month. Cathy – we are so grateful for your ongoing support to Dove!

Thank you to Alpha Chi Omega, Millikin University, for their generous donation from their Annual Chi's and Pies event. The proceeds of this event come to our domestic violence program. Thank you ladies and to all the students and others who participated and attended in this Yummy event!

Thank you to the Shelbyville Fire Department for your donation to our program from the annual Charity Softball Tournament, and a special thanks for playing in the 95 degree September heat!

We are happy to welcome the Reverend Andy Sonneborn, Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church in Shelbyville, to our local CADV (Committee Against Domestic Violence). First Presbyterian is one of the member congregations of Dove.

Decatur Police Officer Alex Amaya, Macon County

Janet Broderick and Lesley Dowell, Macon County Volunteers

Linda Staff, Macon County Volunteer

Judy Baker of the Law Office of Winter-Black and Baker, Moultrie County

Thank you to all who attended one or all of our Candlelighting Ceremonies in October. Each were different and each were very meaningful, more so by the support shown by all in attendance. These groups and individuals were recognized by the programs at the Ceremonies.

CenCom DISPTACH TEAM, DeWitt County

H.E.R.O. (Helping Everyone Respect Others), Shelby County

Eric Culberson, Shelbyville Police Department, Shelby County

Shelbyville Fire Department, Shelby County

Coming for the Holiday Season!

Santa's Workshop
Saturday
December 2
10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.
American Legion
8 West Strain
Sullivan

There will be free crafting for the children, visits with Santa, 50/50 drawing, bake sale, silent auction and other activities.

Come out and enjoy this free event while supporting Dove's Domestic Violence Program in Moultrie County. For more information contact the Dove office at 728-9303.

As the Holiday season is upcoming, I would like to invite everyone to the annual Christmas Cantata in Clinton. It is a wonderful celebration of the Christmas season. Choirs from several community churches come together to sing songs about Jesus. It will be the first Saturday in December. Time and location will be announced. We look forward to seeing you there.

Jennifer Tolladay
DeWitt County Coordinator

Children's Clothing Room

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

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

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

RSVP
Lead with Experience

Volunteer Opportunities

This year Dove will be sponsoring the Heritage and Holly event in Decatur. Heritage and Holly is a tour of historic Decatur homes, decorated for the holidays. It takes place on November 24, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. and on November 25, 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed to house-sit and greet. Singers, musicians and historians are also welcome to perform during this event. If you are interested in volunteering or learning more on how you can help, give Charlie or Sandy a call at 428.6616. Volunteers get a free ticket to the event. Tickets are $18 in advance and $20 at the door.

Volunteer Organizational League

The next Volunteer Organizational League meeting will be November 14, 2017 at Dove, 302 S. Union, Dean Simcox Conferenc Room, at Noon. Bring your lunch and come see what volunteer management support can do to help your organization. If you work with, supervise, or otherwise recruit volunteers, this meeting is for you. Contact Charlie Gillaspie at 428.6616 or Jenny Garver at 423.7708 to learn more about this free group.

No RSVP needed - just show up!

Domestic Violence Shelter Needs:

- Prepaid Gasoline Cards
- Gift Cards, Aldi or Walmart
- 9 V- AA & AAA Batteries
- Healthy snacks for children's groups
- Juice boxes/drinks for children's groups
- New Strollers
- Lice Treatments
- Large Hairbrushes
- Dishwasher Detergent Pods
- Nightlights and bulbs
- Journals
- Appointment books/Planners
- Medicine syringes for infants
- Cough Medicine, Adult and Children
- Women's Night Shirts, all sizes
- Liquid Benadyl, Adult and Children's
- Mouthwash
- Hair conditioner

Please drop any donations to the Shelter at 302 S. Union, Decatur, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., M-F.

DomesticShelters.org

Another way to donate to the Shelter is from this website. Purchase what you want and it is sent directly to the Shelter.

You can also find this link on the website www.doveinc.org

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

DeWitt County Food Pantry

803 W. Leander, Clinton

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

Thank you to Big D's & Save a Lot for their weekly bread donation to our food pantry!!

BABES

During the month of November, I like to reflect on all my blessings not only personally but through my position as BABES Program Coordinator.

I am grateful for:

- The dedication of BABES volunteers, who give of their time for the children in our community.
- Teachers and School Administrators who believe their students benefit from the BABES programming.
- Individuals who want to help the BABES program in any way that they can.
- Those that have donated monetarily to keep this program in our communities' schools.

Thanks goes to:

- Tina Jamison who came out of "retirement" to help the BABES program at Schneider Elementary Open House in Farmer City.
- Debbie Vick for repairing some puppets and giving Reggie an updated look.
- SuEllen Brauer for helping finish up getting BABES program handouts ready for classes.
- BABES volunteers who have presented this fall and have committed to presenting BABES in winter/spring of 2018!

The next volunteer training is set for Thursday, January 11, 2018, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Pre-registration for this training needs to be completed by Thursday, December 28, 2017. If you think that you would like to become involved in the BABES Program and would like more information about becoming a BABES Volunteer, contact me. My email is slaesch@doveinc.org or call 428-6616 ext. 126.

The Puppets and I want to wish you a Happy Thanksgiving!

Sandy Laesch, BABES Program Coordinator

With Gratitude

On September 21, 2017 RSVP volunteers gathered together at our annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon and Recognition of Service Excellence (ROSE) Awards. Volunteers were treated to our guest speaker Mr. Ken Frye, Director of Scovill Zoo, and his friend Mort the Blue Tongue Skink. After anyone who was brave enough to give little Mort a pat we moved on to the most important part of our event, the awards, more on that later. Our surprise entertainment was Elvis Himselvis, Rick Dunham, who transported everyone back to a time when Elvis was King, ending his set with a beautiful rendition of "How Great Thou Art." Thank you for showing our RSVP volunteers some love, we appreciate your time and talents.

The highlight of our event is always the ROSE awards, one for a man, woman, couple, and station is selected. Community members, friends, family, and station representatives all send in nominations on so many different RSVP volunteers that the selection committee has the hardest time selecting all the winners as there are so many great nominees. At last, though we know every single RSVP volunteer deserves this award only one award, per category has to be selected. Thank you all for being so amazing and making the committee work hard to decide our winners.

This year's ROSE award winners :

- A woman who has spent the last 41 years (20 as an RSVP) making a huge impact on the lives of children and teachers at Baum Elementary School Ms. Gloria Sadowski.
- A man who has helped in every aspect to feed our hungry Mr. Joe Roundtree through the AAMELCA Food Pantry and Judy Mason Thanksgiving Baskets.
- A couple who supports one of our most vulnerable population, our elderly at Liberty Village in Clinton and so much more, Mr. and Mrs. (Lawrence and Shirley) Krall.
- With our station ROSE award winner going to an amazing set of people and volunteers who help others make a home more comfortable and functional, Central Illinois Christians in Missions.

All of you should be so very proud for making a difference in so many lives. We thank you and are honored to have been a part of the special event in honor of you all.

We would also like to thank some of our most treasured donors who help to make this event the best it can be. Our Host Site Tabernacle Baptist Church, Grace United Methodist Church for sharing their trays, Kroger in South Shores Plaza for the donation of roses to the winners, Jeanne Hanson who graciously donates the funds to make entertainment happen, and our anonymous donor who understood the difficult time RSVP had with the state budget crisis and stepped up to ensure every volunteer had a fantastic lunch.

Volunteers were given a free ticket upon check-in to choose a prize that tickled their fancy and we had some great prizes donated by some great businesses: Texas Roadhouse, Olive Garden, Wildflour Artisan Bakery and Café, Bob Brady Auto Mall, Del's Popcorn in Mt. Zion, Richland Community College Bistro 537, Dove, Inc., Theater 7 tickets, and some beautifully handmade crafts by Patty Cain, Vera Bright, Rita Turnbull, and Sheryl Whisman.

News from Homeward Bound

Homeless Advisory Council Continuum of Care (HAC/CoC) Meeting

Thursday, November 9 • 1:30 p.m.

Please plan on attending! We will continue discussion on plans for National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week

SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery) Committee Meeting!

The committee will begin meeting again in January, date and time TBD.

Seeking Entrance into the Homeward Bound Program?

Walk-in applications will be taken Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. at the Homeward Bound office, 788 E. Clay, Decatur.

Meetings Location:
Homeward Bound office. 788 E. Clay Street, Decatur

Contact:
Darsonya Switzer, 362.7700, for further information

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

- **Clean Blankets**
- **Gloves**
- **Hats**

Seeking volunteers for the Annual Point-in-Time Count

We want you! Please consider volunteering for the Annual Point-in-Time (PIT) Homeless Count for Macon County. Each year it is essential to gain an accurate count of our homeless population in Macon County so we can evaluate services necessary to meet the needs of those needing housing and it takes a team to make that happen! The 2018 PIT count is scheduled for Thursday, January 25, 2018, and there are shifts available between 5:30 a.m. and 5:00 p.m. - we would love to have you help out!

In order to be able to participate as a volunteer, a training is required (will take about 1-2 hours at the most) to learn about the process and what will be expected on the day of the count. The training is set for Wednesday, January 10, 2018, at 5:00 p.m.

If you have any interest, would like to know more, or want to sign up, please contact the PIT Coordinator, Mary Garrison,
email: mgarrison@millikin.edu
cell: 309-532-1803

This is a wonderful volunteer experience and a great way to learn more about homelessness in Macon County - we hope you will consider volunteering!

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

energy assistance FOUNDATION

"When you know where to look, homelessness is in plain sight. During this week of National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness, join us in taking a closer look at the issues of homelessness in Decatur.

Join us as a panel discussion - city leaders and individuals who have overcome homelessness - share the most up-to-date information on homelessness and share the work being done by the Macon County Continuum of Care to provide services.

The CoC has been active in the community since 1995 and many initiatives have been undertaken to meet the growing needs. This night, we will take a look at the current trends and changing underlying issues.

With this information, you can see how you can be a part of the solution."

Darsonya Switzer
Coc Chair
Homeward Bound Program Director

Please Join Us! **Thursday, November 16, 2017**

7:00 p.m.

AVON Theatre, Downtown Decatur

Open to the public, free tickets available:

- **Homeward Bound, 788 E. Clay**
- **Dove, Inc., 302 S. Union**

HOMEWARD Bound

Sponsored by:

Macon County Continuum of Care, Homeless Advisory Council

Dove, Inc.

Sunday,
November 19, 2017
3:00 p.m.
First Baptist Church
1320 Arbor Drive
Decatur

Free Admission
Please bring canned goods or warm items to assist our neighbors in Decatur and Macon County.

Sponsored by
First Baptist Church &
Dove, Inc.

HOMEWARD Bound

National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week

#END HUNGER HOMELESSNESS NOW
ENGAGE • DONATE • VOLUNTEER

Dove, Inc.

One of my favorite things about coordinating the Christmas Baskets Program is setting up adoptions for families.

For those who don't know, anyone who wants to adopt a family for Christmas can do so through Dove and Northeast by calling me. You can tell me how big of a family you'd like to adopt – say a mother and two kids, or a family of six, or any other size of your choosing. This has been something a lot of individuals and small groups have done over the years. For instance, a group of employees at a certain work place, or a church group, or even a group of family and friends who want to bless someone for the season can choose to do so through adoption.

We only ask that you match what we do: the Christmas meal food-wise, hats and gloves for every member of the family, a gift for each child, stockings, etc. You're always welcome to go over and beyond those guidelines, and people who adopt families generally do. After you've collected all your Christmas treasures for your adopted families, you get to deliver directly to them, which most people find both fun and rewarding.

If you or your group want more specific information on how the process works, I'd be happy to speak with you in person, on the phone, or even through email – whatever works best for you.

I've witnessed some amazing Christmas adoptions over the years. Three years ago, I received a call from a church who wanted to adopt a family. The family that I linked them with had lost their home in a recent house fire. The entire church pitched in and gave them a Christmas to remember which included buying them a brand-new refrigerator for their new place!

The following year I had a fellow staff member tell me about a domestic violence client who had really been hit hard economically the last few months and let me know that her family could benefit from being adopted. I was sad to tell her that at that point I didn't have anyone else who was wanting to adopt a family. She went back to her office and within ten minutes I had a phone call from a group who wanted to adopt a family with the exact number of family members that my co-worker was telling me about! God works in mysterious and amazing ways.

Last year, a former Dove staff member adopted a family that had multiple children. The mom was working but struggling to get there every day without reliable transportation. In addition to all of the other things this former Dove staff collected for them for Christmas, she gave them her car for the woman to be able to continue working!

I fully believe some of the things I've been witness to at Christmas have been miracles. I hope you and your family or friends might consider being a miracle to someone this year.

Can you add a few of these basket items we need to your shopping list?

1. Wrapping Paper (Partial rolls are okay)
2. Gift bags of all sizes and colors (don't have to be Christmas oriented)
3. Ziploc Bags – largest size
4. Items for babies and toddlers
5. Stockings
6. Hats and gloves