



# DoveTales

the newsletter of Dove, Inc.

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



April 2019

Barbara Blakey  
Editor

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**Dove, Inc.**  
302 S. Union  
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.



**Tamara Wilcox**  
Executive Director

The Dove Board of Directors is pleased to announce that Tamara Wilcox has been named the new Executive Director of Dove, Inc. She has served the organization for over 20 years, beginning as a Financial Specialist in 1997, then promoted to Finance Director, and in the last three years, has served as Assistant Director/Finance Director. Also during her tenure, she has served as Interim/Acting Executive Director during three different periods.

We are pleased to have someone with her level of experience, broad knowledge of the needs of a thriving social service organization, relationships with community partners and agencies, historical perspective, as well as financial expertise as the new Executive Director of Dove, Inc.

We look forward to her dedication, experience and innovation as she provides leadership to an organization that will continue serving the community, as it has for more than 45 years, as a coalition of religious organizations, volunteers, and advocates that seek to coordinate efforts to address unmet human needs and social injustices. Dove will continue to work for justice, equality, and understanding among all people.

In order to address these unmet needs and social injustices, Ms. Wilcox and the staff at Dove, Inc., look forward to continuing to collaborate with our essential and valuable community partners, and continuing to coordinate efforts to serve the greater central Illinois community.

As the Dove Board of Directors, we are excited to have Tamara Wilcox's leadership as our new Executive Director and look forward to working with her for many years to come. For additional inquiries, please contact Rev. Jason Butterick, President of the Dove Board of Directors at 217.428.3327.

## Dove, Inc.

### Leadership Team

Tammy Wilcox  
Executive Director

Barbara Blakey  
Director of Volunteers & Community Relations

Teri Ducey  
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  
(Vacant) Coordinator

Community Services Program  
Sattin Schreiner,  
Community Engagement and Education Coordinator

DAX • DeWitt County Assistance eXchange  
Jennifer Tolladay, Coordinator

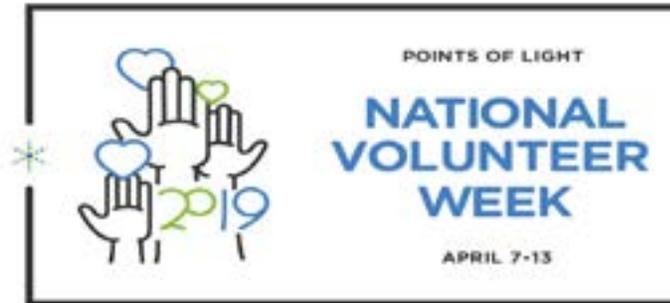
DeWitt County Food Pantry  
Jennifer Tolladay, Coordinator

Domestic Violence Program  
Teri Ducey, Program Director  
Jennifer Tolladay, DeWitt County Coordinator  
Mary Hughes, Moultrie County Coordinator  
Susie Kensil, Shelby County Coordinator  
Liz Mackey, Piatt 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  
Debra Hoffman, DeWitt County Coordinator



*A sincere thanks to the many who share their time and talents with one of the programs at Dove. We are so blessed to have so many volunteers making a difference in the lives of the many we serve.*

## Dove, Inc. 2019 Annual Meeting

Monday, April 29, 2019

Decatur First United Methodist Church

201 W. North Street, Decatur

5:30 p.m. • Gathering at DFUMC

5:45 p.m. • Dinner, followed by the meeting

### Meeting Highlights

- Report from Executive Director, Tamara Wilcox
- Remarks from Rev. Jason Butterick, Board President
- Election of Board of Directors Members for the 2019-2021 Term
- Highlights from Program Staff

Please RSVP at  
217.428.6616  
or [dove@doveinc.org](mailto:dove@doveinc.org)  
by Monday, April 22, 2019

# Our Bouquet of Thanks



Our sincere thank you to Justin Moniz, Chair of the Millikin University Vocals Studies, and all the students who participated in the event in February entitled “Can’t Help Falling in Love”. This was wonderful!!! The talent was spectacular!! A total of \$823.00 was raised for the Domestic Violence Program. Your support is very much appreciated!!!

Thanks to ADM Global Business Services for choosing Dove as their recipient for Jeans Generosity Days in February. We appreciate this support and all the support they have given us in the past.



Thanks to Tom Niksik and family for designating Dove to receive memorials from the services following the death of his wife, Kathy. Tom and Kathy and their family have been long-time supporters of our Domestic Violence Program here in Shelby County. Kathy was an amazing woman and a good friend who will be greatly missed. Thank you to all who donated to Dove in her memory.

Thank you to the Millikin University Concert Committee for organizing the fundraiser at Donnie’s Pizza on Saturday, March 23, 2019. All proceeds for this event were given to Dove’s Domestic Violence Program. All performers were excellent!! A good time was had by all. We are very grateful for their support and for all who attended!!

# YOU CAN BE THE DIFFERENCE

Have you always wanted to learn more about domestic violence? Do you want to volunteer with domestic violence victims and their children? If so, please consider taking the Domestic Violence Education and Volunteer Training. It is required for anyone wanting to volunteer in our program. It is a worthwhile training for many professionals to gain knowledge and to be able to safely refer individuals to the Domestic Violence services. Come join the dedicated staff and current volunteers and make a difference in our communities.

~Teri Ducey, Program Director

## How can you lend a hand?

- Answering our hotlines
- Covering the Shelter
- Clerical tasks
- Assisting with orders of protection
- Assisting with/facilitating support groups

## Meet our Certified Trainers



Jared Bohland • Client Services Coordinator

- Member of Domestic Violence Staff since 2016
- Illinois Certified Domestic Violence Professional
- Co-Chair of the Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence Leadership Development Committee
- 1<sup>st</sup> Cohort Graduate of the ICADV Leadership Academy

Joyce Kirkland • Youth and Family Services Coordinator

- Member of Domestic Violence Staff since 2000
- Illinois Certified Domestic Violence Professional
- Illinois Certified Partner Abuse Intervention Professional



### Location •

Dove, Inc. / Anna B. Millikin Home  
302 S. Union, Decatur  
Dean Simcox Conference Center

### Dates & Times •

Monday - Thursday afternoons, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.  
April 29, 30, May 1, 2, 6, 7, 8, 9, 13, 14, & 15, 2019

### How to Register •

Registration begins with a phone interview, call between March 4 and April 15 - 217.428.6616. You will then be sent a registration form. Registration deadline is end of day, April 15.

### Training Fee •

\$200 - checks made out to Dove, Inc. and must accompany the registration form, due by April 15

### Registration Meeting (for Volunteers Only) •

Wednesday, April 17, NOON  
302 S. Union, Decatur

Bring with you:

- photo I.D.
- Social Security Number
- name and complete U.S. mail addresses for 3 references
- your complete U.S. mail address from the past 5 years

## Easter eXchange



## Easter eXchange ideas

- Churches are given the option to donate to MAX instead of purchasing more Easter Lilies
- Small Groups, Mens' Groups, Womens' Groups, Sunday School Classes are making a donation to MAX
- Special collections
- "in honor of" or "memorial to" recognition of members



## MAX

### Macon County Assistance eXchange

Easter is a time for giving. This Easter Season, and every season, finds many in the Decatur area in need. Help MAX help others.

The MAX program finished FY'18 in a great way. Thanks to generous support, we were able to help 1,056 families with more than \$91,000 worth of financial aid. This aid came in the form of water bill assistance, dental vouchers, bus pass discount vouchers, vision vouchers, rental assistance, power bill assistance, and many more. We are proud to help so many, this would not be possible without the support of the local churches and volunteers.

~ MAX Advisory Council

*mailing address:* MAX  
302 S. Union  
Decatur, IL 62522

# NEWS

from the Domestic Violence Program

## Piatt County

March has been another month of growth, development, and increased public service. Working daily with the States Attorney's office and the Circuit Clerk's office, Piatt County Dove office is continuing to be a respected and trusted resource in combating Domestic Violence. According to statistics provided by the Circuit Clerk, Seth Floyd, EOP's are being granted and are being approved at a 200 percent increase. This is a direct reflection of the positive work that is being done around domestic violence. The Domestic Violence fighting team in Monticello is one of the most powerful resources available to residents of Piatt County and the effectiveness in which we operate is a remarkable force.

Liz will be attending a trauma informed workshop the first week of April, as well as having the honor of taking the Domestic Violence Education and Volunteer Training. Learning new skills, as well as reviewing the basics, is always important and prevents complacency. Knowledge is powerful and learning is always time well spent.

## Shelby County

Susie Kensil, Shelby County Coordinator, presented at the Shelby County Health Fair on March 27, 2019 at Shelby Christian Church.

## Macon County

The program had a site review scheduled on March 21, with the IL Coalition Against Domestic Violence. It was a positive review. Several staff were interviewed by the ICADV monitor and there was a review of several client files. We will receive a formal report from them in the near future, but we expect there to be no findings.

Teri Ducey, Director of the Domestic Violence Program, spoke to the congregation at New Vision Church on Sunday, March 24. We are so grateful to them for their regular financial contribution to our program and their ongoing support!!!

Are you a member of a particular group or committee who might be looking for a project? How would you like to sponsor one of the 11 bedrooms in our shelter? If this is something you may be interested in or have questions, please contact Barb Blakey, Director of Volunteers and Community Relations. Ideas would be painting the room, inspirational wall decals, new bedspreads/comforters/pillows/mattress covers, etc.

## Domestic Violence Shelter Needs:

- strollers - new
- Pack 'n Play - new
- gas gift cards
- Walmart gift cards
- Kroger gift cards
- Aldi gift cards
- African American hair products
- journals
- art supplies
- alarm clocks
- box fans
- towels and washcloths - new
- pillows - new
- paper towels
- toilet paper
- hair dryers
- new potty chairs
- potty chair rings
- hair brushes - natural and nylon bristles

Please drop off any donations to the Shelter, 302 S. Union, Decatur  
8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Monday - Friday

[DomesticShelters.org](http://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 [doveinc.org](http://doveinc.org)

# Community Services Program

Sharing news from the Neighborhoods!

*Neighborhood Meetings – please check with your contacts to make sure there isn't a change in meeting schedule.*

CONO  
4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday • 5:30 p.m.  
Decatur Public Library

Clokey Park Neighborhood  
Association  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday • 6:30 p.m.  
Prairie Avenue Christian Church

Fans Field  
Neighborhood Association  
3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday • 6:30 p.m.  
Decatur Housing Authority

GM Square  
Neighborhood Association  
1<sup>st</sup> Tuesday • 6:00 p.m.  
St. Thomas Church, Angela Hall

Greenwood Area  
Neighborhood Organization  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday • 7:00 p.m.  
Coates Park Building

Nelson/Lions Park Neighborhood  
Association  
3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday • 6:30 p.m.  
Prairie Avenue Christian Church

Millikin Heights  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday • 7:00 p.m.  
Central Christian Church

Old Kings Orchard  
2<sup>nd</sup> Monday • 5:30 p.m.  
OKO Community Center

West End  
Neighborhood Association  
2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday • Quarterly  
Westminster Presbyterian  
Church

Torrence Park  
Neighborhood Association  
2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday • 7:30 p.m.  
Fellowship Church

Please contact Sattin Schreiner,  
Community Engagement and Education Coordinator,  
for additional information about the Community Services Program  
dove@doveinc.org

# BABES

*"Those who can. Do. Those who can do more, volunteer."  
Author Unknown*

BABES volunteers are selfless in the giving of their time to this six lesson program. They enter their classrooms with smiles, cheery greetings, share important information, and listen to the children and what they have to say.

April is National Volunteer Appreciation Month. I am thankful for the opportunity to work with these dedicated volunteers: Rita Augsburg, Carol Brown, Patty Cain, Jackie Sharp-Evans, Bea Fisher, Chris Foster, Cluney John, Marcia Juriga, Sally Lauer, Sally Mathieson, Marilyn Oftedal, Kathy Pepper, Pam Rhodes, Amy Scott, Debbie Vick and Pat Wenda. Thank You! A thank you goes to Nancy Dunn for her help with the preparing of materials for schools and teachers.

For April's School Secretary and Administration Appreciation Day the BABES program will recognize all BABES school secretaries and principals. We will be delivering a token of our appreciation on that day. I cannot say enough about the commitment they have to their students and the BABES program.

Volunteers, Puppets and I are finishing up the school year at Meridian, Sangamon Valley Elementary, Baum, Enterprise, St. Pat's, Mt. Zion Grade, Argenta-Oreana, Durfee, John's Hill, and Muffley.

Sandy Laesch, BABES Program Coordinator



## *News from Homeward Bound*

### **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.

### **Employability:**

Dove, Inc. has PAID employment training opportunities available for individuals who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Please call 217.362.7700 to learn more.

### **Life Skills:**

Dove, Inc. offers weekly life skills and budgeting classes for individuals who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Please call 217.362.7700 to learn more.

### **Jobs Club:**

Dove, Inc. offers weekly meetings for individuals to provide support, assistance and advice opportunities to advance their careers. Please call 217.362.7700 to learn more.

### **Parenting:**

Dove, Inc. offers educational courses for parents to learn about caring for

their children, improving parent and child relationships, and dealing with daily responsibilities of maintaining a home and family in positive ways.

### **Coordinated Entry:**

Please contact the Dove-Homeward Bound office Monday-Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. for issues of homelessness at 217.362.7700. After-hours, please call 217.619.5742.

Dove-Homeward Bound is collecting the following for participants of the program:

- diapers (all sizes) and baby wipes
- toothpaste
- soap and shower gel
- feminine hygiene products
- cleaning supplies
- deodorant
- male hygiene products

### **Homeless Advisory Council:**

Homeless Advisory Council  
Continuum of Care  
HAC/CoC Meeting  
Thursday, May 9, 1:30 p.m.  
788 E Clay, Decatur  
Please contact Darsonya Switzer,  
217.362.7700, for further  
information.

## DeWitt County Food Pantry

803 W. Leander, Clinton

Open

Tuesdays & Thursdays

10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

### Food Pantry Needs

- Peanut butter and Jelly
- Canned soups
- Mac and Cheese
- White rice
- Canned veggies
- Canned raviolis and Spagettios

Our regular food pantry volunteers are needing to cut back on hours. If you or anyone you know, are interested in volunteering for even a couple of hours during the week, please contact Jennifer Tolladay at 217.935.6619.

# Our Bouquet of Thanks



*Thanks to all who organized and attended the  
"Kiss for a Cause" Ball in February.*

**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)  
or on Facebook**

*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)*



The 2019 Macon County Continuum of Care Community Breakfast was held on March 21. At this breakfast the 2019 Point-in-Time Results were shared with the community.

A few numbers:  
160 total individuals who identify as homeless  
117 living in emergency shelters  
41 living in transitional housing  
11 identified as unsheltered

Please check the complete power point for more results, available on the news page of the Dove, Inc. website [www.doveinc.org](http://www.doveinc.org)



# MAX

Macon County Assistance eXchange

Helping with emergency financial assistance for families/individuals in need

## Spring MAX Hours

Site: Decatur First United Methodist Church, 201 W. North, Decatur

Hours: Monday - Thursday, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Site: Dove Clinton Office, 803 W. Leander, Clinton

Hours: Tuesday Mornings, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m.

Warm Neighbors Cool Friends

Site: Homeward Bound Office, 788 E. Clay, Decatur

Hours: 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays of the month, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Site: The Good Samaritan Inn, 920 N. Union Street, Decatur

Hours: 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Fridays of each month, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Site: Prairie Avenue Christian Church, 2201 E. Prairie, Decatur

Hours: Wednesday Mornings, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

WARM NEIGHBORS ♥ COOL FRIENDS

WNCF is located with the MAX Program for Macon and DeWitt Counties. Below are the Income Guidelines for Weatherization and Bill Payment Assistance.

Must show proof of income between:

Family Size	30 Day (GROSS) Income Range
1	\$1,518-\$3,036
2	\$2,058-\$4,116
3	\$2,598-\$5,196
4	\$3,138-\$6,276
5	\$3,678-\$7,356
6	\$4,218-\$8,436
7	\$4,758-\$9,516
8	\$5,298-\$10,596

WNCF is back to heating bill requirements - power must be on/ bill must be current-no old bills. No help from DMCOG/Liheap/Pipp in the last twelve months. Must meet income guidelines. Must have proof of hardship and 60 days of pay stubs. No age limit and bill must be under \$750. The matched payment is up to \$350.





## News from RSVP!

Free Tax Preparation  
RSVP partnered with AARP and the Vespasian Warner Library to offer free tax preparation in DeWitt County. This is the third year to offer these services to the community. We are now two weeks away from the April 15 tax deadline and will meet just three more times to prepare taxes for free. Call the Vespasian Warner Library to schedule your appointment at 217.935.5174, There are limited openings left.

### Coupons for Military Families Overseas

To date, with your help, RSVP has been able to send 2,086,580 coupons to Military families stationed overseas. Thank you for your support.

A Matter of Balance Coaches training is coming to your area soon! There are opportunities in Macon County to train to be a Matter of Balance coach. Macon County training to take place on Wednesday, April 10, from 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. with lunch provided. Help others in the community learn practical strategies to manage falls. Call Charlie to learn more and get registered for training. 217.428.6616

Mark your calendars now to participate in Senior Olympics, April 9-30, presented by the Decatur Park District. Men and Women ages 50+ are invited to compete in one or more events. To learn more and get registered for your favorite event, go to their website, [www.decaturoparkdistrict.org](http://www.decaturoparkdistrict.org)

National Volunteer Appreciation Week is April 7-13. This is a great time to thank the volunteers in the community. If you see a volunteer be sure to thank them for their service and dedication to your community. RSVP staff will be visiting stations to give our thanks as well.



## Volunteer Organizational League

The next Volunteer Organizational League Meeting (VOL) is April 9, noon, at the Dean Simcox Conference Room, 302 S. Union, Decatur office.

The VOL brings together volunteer managers from all organizations to share best practices, challenges, and achievements. We will discuss how our first Volunteer Fair went and how to improve.

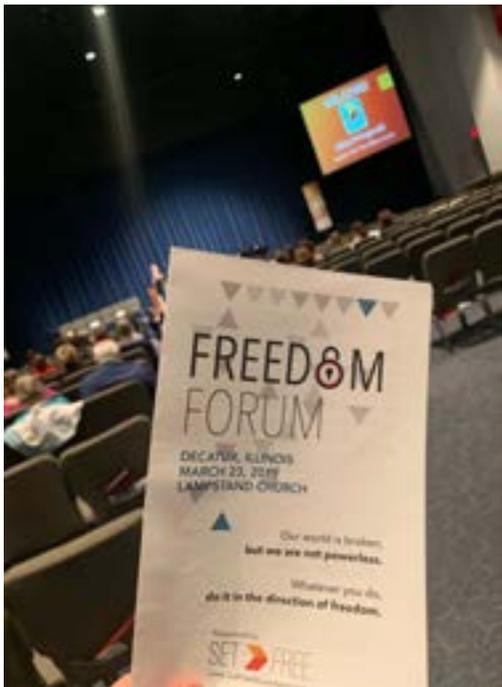
### **Contacts:**

*Charlie Gillaspie  
Dove, 217.428.6616 or*

*Jenny Garver  
MCCD, 217.423.7708*

Joyce Kirkland, Youth and Family Services Coordinator, and Jared Bohland, Client Services Coordinator, from the Domestic Violence Program, participated in the Freedom Forum event on human trafficking, held at Lampstand Church in Decatur, on Saturday, March 23, 2019. Joyce facilitated a workshop on the intersection between teen dating violence and human trafficking. Jared participated in the panel with other local providers on examining the intersections of domestic violence, sexual assault, and human trafficking and how these impact our youth.

Sattin Schriener, Community Engagement and Education Coordinator for the Community Services Program was part of the the planning committee and helped with the events of the day.





## *Volunteer Opportunities*

### ***IGA Fundraiser Cook-Out***

***May is right around the corner and with it is our Annual IGA Pork Chop Sandwich Fundraiser. This year's event will be Friday, May 3, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 4, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We will need volunteers to help with set-up, food preparation, customer service and for delivery on Friday. Shifts can be done in 2 or 4 hour increments, you decide the time and which day. Call Deb Hoffman at 217.935.2241 to schedule your time slot.***

**RSVP will host the Red Cross blood mobile April 4, at St. John's Church in Clinton, IL. There are still a couple openings for volunteers for the 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. & 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. shifts. Please contact Deb Hoffman at 217.935.2241 if you can volunteer for one of the shifts.**

# 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.**

**Spring has arrived and with it we must make the change from winter clothing to spring. The clothing room has made the switch, but more spring clothing is needed. As you clean out the closets and make your switch, please consider donating the summer clothing your children have outgrown.**