



DoveTales

the newsletter of Dove, Inc.

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doveinc.org



February 2019

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.

Seeking Volunteer Opportunities? See trainings and needs throughout the newsletter!

<p>Domestic Violence Education and Volunteer Training</p>		<p>Monday - Thursday Afternoons April 29 - May 15</p>
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*BABES Volunteer Training
Monday, March 4*

Upcoming Events! See more on Page 2!



**Millikin vocal studio to present
love-themed cabaret to
raise awareness and support for
Dove, Inc.**



Millikin vocal studio to present love-themed cabaret to raise awareness and support for Dove, Inc.

For as long as he can remember, Dr. Justin John Moniz has been using music as a vehicle for conversation—an opportunity for social impact. In his second year as Millikin University's Coordinator of Vocal Studies, Moniz is now challenging his students to do the same.

On Sunday, February 3, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. and 9:30 p.m., the studio of Dr. Moniz – more commonly recognized on-campus as StudioJJM – will present an original cabaret entitled, *Can't Help Falling in Love*. Held in Millikin University's Kaeuper Hall, the program will feature twenty undergraduate music and theatre majors, sharing individual stories about the unique power and challenges of love. The cabaret was carefully programmed to include stories of love in all forms—pieces with the word 'love' in the title, and not just songs about love. The program includes solos, duets, and trios, from hit musicals including *The Color Purple*, *Side Show*, *Brigadoon*, *All Shook Up*, and *Purlie*, among many others.

"The studio has been rehearsing this program since August and we're very eager to get it on its feet and share these powerful stories with our community," said Moniz. "So often, love has such a positive connotation. Sadly, that's not always the reality. There is good love, bad love, and, of course, the unhealthy kind of love. Through our programming, we have ventured to shed light on much of the good, but to also bring awareness to the type of love that results in more problematic situations—those of ongoing violence and domestic abuse."

While admission to the February 3rd performance is free to the public, a \$10.00 suggested donation will benefit Dove.

"Dove's Domestic Violence Program offers a number of services including use of a residential shelter, counseling, legal advocacy, aid for children, and a number of



*Dr. Justin John Moniz, Coordinator of Vocal Studies
Photo Courtesy of Millikin University*

community education initiatives," said Moniz. "We have chosen to use this musical event as a vehicle for conversation—to raise awareness and support for a local cause which we feel passionately about. I personally believe in empowering artists to use their voice to tell a story, inspire a cause, raise awareness, and make a difference. This is what it's all about. It's who we are. It's Millikin. And it's undeniably performance learning in its grandest form."

Following the 7:00 p.m. performance, select members of the studio and campus community will lead a talk back moderated by Dr. Moniz. Attendees will have the opportunity to engage in important discussion surrounding the issue of domestic violence.

The company includes Cecilia Antonelle, Patricia Bales, Nicole Barth, Shelby Barros, Kiana Beverly, Paige Boomer, Jorie Clark, Piper Charlton, Kylie Deeds, Sami Dickerson, Maura Fawley, Rhealee Fernandez, Thomas Ferro, Aly Gabriel, Chloe Hayes, Will Koski, Dalton Krum, Nate Lee, Sarah Obert, and Cydney Washington. The performance will be led from the piano by Dr. Justin John Moniz, and accompanied by a small rhythm section comprised of Millikin University School of Music faculty.

Valentines Ball
Kiss for a Cause

Feb 8th
7-10 pm

Live Music by
Prestige
Entertainment

Appetizers &
Non alcoholic Drinks

Silent Auction
Great Giveaways
and More!

Grand Palace
Heartland Community
Church
3523 Brush College Rd
Decatur, IL

Tickets available on Eventbrite
\$25 Single
\$40 Couple

Photos by Sarah Jane Photography

For more info call
Wakia Cooper 217-433-4471
Penny Hood 217-454-0202

All proceeds will be donated to:

THE MARY KAY FOUNDATION

Dove, Inc.

Dove, Inc.

Leadership Team

Tammy Wilcox
Acting 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
Sandra Harmison, Coordinator

Community Services Program
Sattin Schreiner, Community Engagement 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



Registration is open for this program between March 4 and April 15. The training is approved by ICADV, Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence and a certificate is issued after successful completion.

Mark your calendars and give us a call at 217.428.6616 to begin the registration process. Training is needed to volunteer with the Domestic Violence Program and it is an excellent opportunity for your educational advancement.

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

Training Fee • \$ 200



BABES Program



In January, the BABES program started at Schneider Elementary in Farmer City, Mc Gaughey in 9 Kindergarten classes and Holy Family Kindergartners. In February, BABES programming will start at Oak Grove and Warrensburg in their Kindergarten classes and Baum, 1st graders.

Holy Family 5th graders will also receive a three lesson program. These lessons will include a review of what they learned in the BABES puppet program in a game format, Friendships: knowing the good from the not so good, and Stop-Think-Decide, engaging students in conversation about their future and how the decisions they make now might affect their future goals. The BABES program may have a slow start... but when my snowbirds come back in March... watch out!

Our next volunteer training is scheduled for Monday, March 4, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. in the Dean Simcox Conference Center. So if you are interested in the opportunity to make a difference in a child's life, call or email me for more information about becoming a BABES Volunteer. Pre-registration deadline for the training is Monday February 25th. My email is slaesch@doveinc.org or call 217.428.6616 ext. 126.

"Never doubt that a small group of committed people can change the world. Indeed, it is the only thing that ever has." Margaret Mead

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.**

Coordinated Entry:

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

Employability:

Homeward Bound 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:

Homeward Bound 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.

Needed items:

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

- Diapers (all sizes)
- Baby Wipes

The Homeless Advisory Council will host the **Annual Macon County CoC Community Breakfast** in March.

Please be on the lookout for the details. The data from the annual Point-in-Time count will be released at the breakfast.

Welcome new hires to the Homeward Bound Program:

Thalassa Peck
Case Manager

Alexandra Taylor
Employability Specialist

Jalisa McClenon
Coordinated Entry/Outreach
Specialist

Our Bouquet of Thanks

Dove, Inc. Domestic Violence Program was extremely blessed to get a donation of teddy bears from the Decatur Youth Hockey League and the Decatur Blaze. This collection of toys is more than just some stuffed animals, but represents a piece of joy in the midst of heart ache, confusion, and unfamiliar people in an unfamiliar place for children coming from abusive households. The fact that a group of young men would take the time to not only collect the items, using their podium in life to make a stand against domestic violence, but would also take the time to come out in their free time and hand deliver them says a lot about the hope that rests with our future.

That very night a young princess received a little princess bear whose shiny little dress practically matched the one she wore as she skipped around the shelter in excitement. That very night a boy who was learning that it was now safe enough to finally talk about what life with his dad was really like received a strong teddy bear almost as big as he was, cool enough even for tough little survivors like him. We at Dove are thankful for our local partners, including the ones who are strong enough to take a hit on the ice and stand up for survivors of violence at the same time.

Jared Bohland
Client Services Coordinator



DeWitt County Food Pantry

803 W. Leander, Clinton

Open

Tuesdays & Thursdays

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

If you would like to help out your community but are too busy to volunteer, we could always use items in our food pantry. We are always in need of:

- Peanut Butter and Jelly
- Spaghetti and Sauce
- Side Dishes

MAX

Macon County Assistance eXchange
Helping with emergency financial assistance
for families/individuals in need

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:

2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Site:

The Good Samaritan Inn
920 N. Union Street, Decatur

Hours:

2nd and 4th 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!

Winter Weather Reminder

I think it is safe to say winter has arrived!! Please be sure to bundle up (Be sure to wear extra layers) pants, shirts, and extra socks if you must go out. Assemble a Car Emergency Kit. Be prepared in case you have a roadside emergency during inclement weather. It is also good to familiarize yourself with government terms for winter weather emergencies so that you can make an informed decision as to your plans.

- Freezing Rain - Rain that freezes when it hits the ground, creating a coating of ice on roads, walkways, trees and power lines.
- Sleet - Rain that turns to ice pellets before reaching the ground. Sleet also causes moisture on roads to freeze and become slippery.
- Winter Weather Advisory - Winter weather conditions are expected to cause significant inconveniences and may be hazardous. When caution is used, these situations should not be life threatening.
- Winter Storm Watch - A winter storm is possible in your area. Tune in to NOAA Weather Radio, commercial radio, or television for more information.

- Winter Storm Warning - A winter storm is occurring or will soon occur in your area.
- Blizzard Warning - Sustained winds or frequent gusts to 35 miles per hour or greater and considerable amounts of falling or blowing snow (reducing visibility to less than a quarter mile) are expected to prevail for a period of three hours or longer.
- Frost/Freeze Warning - Below freezing temperatures are expected.

Always check with your local news or volunteer station before heading out to ensure they are open before you travel. As always, volunteer safety is first. If you do not feel safe going out, please stay home. Simply give us, or your volunteer station, a call to let us know you are not available. We appreciate all that volunteers do in our communities and appreciate your dedication to so many.

Be safe and remember we are only 48 days from the first day of spring as of February 1, 2019.

Charlie Gillaspie, RSVP Program Director



Volunteer Organizational League

The next Volunteer Organizational League meeting (VOL) is February 12 at noon at the Dove's 302 S. Union office. Please use lower parking lot. Bring your lunch and come join the conversation with other volunteer managers, persons working with or managing volunteers are welcome to join us.

Contacts:

Charlie Gillaspie • Dove, 217.428.6616 or

Jenny Garver • M CCD, 217.423.7708

VOL Agency Registration form

Our Bouquet of Thanks



Thanks to the members of United Steel Workers, Local 7-838 - Muellers - who shared their collection of coats again this year! Thanks to all who donated and who are helping to make it a warmer winter for many!

RSVP and Community Members collected items to honor Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., with a Day of Service. This year in Macon County we collected donations for the Education Programs at the Boys and Girls Club located in Decatur. In DeWitt County, Ms. Abbey Lesko-Youngberg's Special Education classroom was selected for her dedication to her students. A few pictures from the B&G Club presentation.



NEWS

from the Domestic Violence Program

With sadness, our new year started out with a death related to domestic violence that occurred on January 1, 2019. As we are aware, we continue to read in our newspaper and hear on the local news about the many incidents involving domestic violence that continue to occur in our community. This is a relentless crime that involves each and every one of us. It affects our own family members, our church family, our co-workers, our classmates, our neighbors – and it can and does happen to anyone!! There is never a justifiable reason for abuse. Violence does not solve violence. What can you do? Learn about your local domestic violence program. Call the police if you see or hear domestic violence. If you know someone who is involved in an abusive relationship, refer to our program. We have a 24-hour hotline number – 217.423.2238. Our shelter is open 24-hours a day, 365 days a year – and is located at 302 S. Union Street. All services are free and confidential and one does not have to be living in shelter to receive our services. Let's all do our part in making our community safe.

WELCOME to Kristina Rosati who began her employment with our program in January. She was formerly the Victim Advocate within the State's Attorney's Office. We are happy to have her join our team.

Teri Ducy
Domestic Violence Program Director

DeWitt County News

We still have many children's coats! If you know of anyone who needs one, please send them to our office on Tuesdays or Thursdays to pick one out. We also have hats and gloves. We also have an ample supply of diapers, which you may receive every 2 weeks.

Our food pantry is doing well and we have plenty of food. We are, however, in need of food pantry volunteers. If you, or anyone you know, have some free time and would like to volunteer, for a 4-hour time slot, please call Jennifer at 217.935.6619 and she can help you with getting an application filled out and provide you with more details.

DAX has funds for emergency financial assistance. If you find you are in need, please call the office at 217.935.6619 and Jennifer will be happy to help you with the application and explain the program to you. You only need to bring the outstanding bill and proof of income. We have no limits on how much you can make.

If you are interested in being more active in the community, we are still wanting to add new members to our Committee Against Domestic Violence. We meet monthly for 1 hour; contact Jennifer at 217.935.6619.

Our Ladies' Empowerment Group is a new group that we will be having every Monday at 5:00 p.m. We will discuss positive ways to empower ourselves and each other. This is open to all survivors of domestic violence. We look forward to having a large group to lend our support to!!

Piatt County News

January in Piatt County has started 2019 off with snow storms and cold temperatures, but the Dove office has been working hard to warm the hearts of the residents of Piatt County. Helping in any way she can, Liz has helped secure a place for 4 kids in the Y-Zone Program, which is before and after school care for the children of Monticello. Y-Zone is the creation of the YMCA of Clinton and has been an amazing asset to the community in just the short time it has been taking place.

On January 22, Liz attended the monthly collective meeting of the resources in the county, hosted by the United Way.



Volunteer Opportunities

Dove's Clothing Room needs additional volunteers. A volunteer at the clothing room gathers donations from the drop box at the church, sorts those donations, hangs clothes when appropriate and assists clients with their choices. There is no exchange of money. The clothing room opens at 1:00 p.m. and closes at 3:30 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and is located at the Prairie Avenue Christian Church. Please give Sandy a call at 217.428.6616 if you think you may be interested in helping. She will be glad to take you to the clothing room and show you around or accompany you on your first volunteer shift.

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.

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

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

Community Services Program

Sharing news from the Neighborhoods!

CONO Meeting

4th Tuesday • 5:30 p.m.

Decatur Public Library

Please note, many of the neighborhood groups do not meet in the winter months. Please check with your neighborhood contact to see if your group will be meeting.

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

Macon Zero, an organization working to promote grassroots action and community engagement, is having an Activism Forum on February 18, 2019 from 5:30-7:30 p.m. at the Salvation Army Community Center. Local organizations will set up tables to share their messages and seek new membership, Reed Sutman will present on community engagement and volunteering, and there will be a Garden Party door prize where volunteers will build and plant you your very own garden. Refreshments, including vegan options, will be available. Please contact Reed with questions, if you would like to volunteer, or if you would like to set up a table for your group—217-413-9202 or reed@maconzero.com. [Facebook.com/MaconZero](https://www.facebook.com/MaconZero)

