



DoveTales

the newsletter of Dove, Inc.

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our blog - <http://doveinc.blogspot.com>
doveinc.org



March 2019

Barbara Blakey
Editor

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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.

2019 Macon County Continuum of Care Annual Community Breakfast

*Grace United
Methodist Church
901 N. Main
Decatur, IL*

*Thursday,
March 21, 2019
8:00 to 10:00 a.m.*

*Free event, but please register at
dove@doveinc.org
or 217.428.6616*



The public is encouraged to attend
to learn more about homelessness
issues facing our community.

The 2019 Point in Time survey
results will be shared with
the community.

Learn about ways to
become involved with
the CoC Advisory
Council.



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



*Hands are for holding
not hitting*

February is Teen
Dating Violence Awareness Month

Since February is Teen Dating Violence Awareness Month, Piatt County Coordinator, Liz Mackey, attended the Impact Coalition Meeting at the Piatt County Mental Health building.

The Coalition is a group of community service providers, from all sectors, working together to promote drug awareness and prevention in Monticello schools.

Drugs, alcohol, and family abuse so often co-exist and this meeting is just one way in which the community is putting together prevention measures.

Joyce Kirkland, Youth and Family Services Coordinator for Dove Domestic Violence Program, provides teen dating violence education and individual supportive services for teens throughout Dove's service area of DeWitt, Macon, Moultrie, Piatt, and Shelby counties.

In 2018, Joyce provided 56 teen dating violence presentations to 1,255 teens. Students in the following schools received presentations or individual services:

- **DeWitt County: Clinton High School**
- **Macon County: Millikin University, Eisenhower High School, MacArthur High School, Lutheran School Association High School, Argenta-Oreana High School, Maroa-Forsyth High School, Mt. Zion High School, Sangamon Valley High School, Sangamon Valley Middle School**
- **Moultrie County: Sullivan High School, Arthur-Lovington/Atwood-Hammond High School**
- **Piatt County: Bement High School, Bement Middle School**
- **Shelby County: Shelbyville High School, Moulton Middle School**

We will be there to share information about becoming a volunteer at Dove!

This will be a great place to visit with 30 different agencies and learn about their volunteer needs, plus you can register for some great door prizes while you are there.

Come see us on March 28th!!

Project Read Plus
ADULT LITERACY • READING + MATH

LIVE UNITED
United Way



MEALS ON WHEELS
MACON COUNTY
TOGETHER, WE CAN DELIVER.

Big Brothers Big Sisters.
OF CENTRAL ILLINOIS

HSHS St. Mary's Hospital



Dove, Inc.



ILLINOIS
Extension
COLLEGE OF AGRICULTURAL, CONSUMER & ENVIRONMENTAL SCIENCES



HARBOR LIGHT

Macon County Conservation District

MACON COUNTY VOLUNTEER FAIR

HOSTED BY THE VOLUNTEER ORGANIZATIONAL LEAGUE

THURSDAY, MARCH 28
10 AM - 2 PM

DECATUR PUBLIC LIBRARY, MADDEN AUDITORIUM

The Volunteer Organizational League (VOL) was created to connect community non-profits who utilize volunteers. VOL would like to connect YOU with volunteer agencies. Join us to find out where your time can best be used volunteering in our community!

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
- 1st 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

NEWS

from the Domestic Violence Program

As most of you probably are already aware, our community has now suffered two deaths in Decatur this year, both related to domestic violence. Our new year began with a tragic domestic violence incident. 38-year-old David W. Murray died as a result of being stabbed to death. His 22-year-old girlfriend, Billiejo L. Soyster, has been arrested, and is being held in Macon County Jail facing a preliminary charge of first-degree murder. The 2nd DV related death occurred on Monday, February 11. Reports state that officers were called to a home Monday morning and found an unresponsive 2-year-old female who was immediately taken to HSHS St. Mary's Hospital where she was pronounced dead upon arrival. Once Police began to investigate and after conducting interviews and gathering evidence at the scene and from medical personnel, a 21-year-old woman was arrested on Wednesday, February 13. Twanka L. Davis was booked into the Macon County Jail on preliminary charges of murder, involuntary manslaughter and endangering the life and health of a child. She was the child's mother. Anthony Myers, the boyfriend of the child's mother, Twanka Davis, was arrested Friday morning, 2/22/19. He faces preliminary charges of murder, one felony count of endangering the life/health of a child and one misdemeanor count of endangering the life/health of a child.

I am pleased to announce we have hired Muriel Jones as our other 2nd Shift Shelter Specialist. Having two staff members on this shift is such a benefit to the program!! Muriel comes to us after retiring 16 years as Dispatcher with the Decatur Police Department. Her first day was Tuesday, February 19. Our new Receptionist is Jennifer Jostes. She will begin Thursday, February 28.

Congratulations to Sam Molina, 2nd Shift Shelter Specialist and Jennifer Tolladay, DeWitt County Coordinator, who were both selected to be a part of the 3rd ICADV (Illinois Coalition Against Domestic Violence) Advocacy Boot Camp! This Boot Camp gives the opportunity for additional training of staff to work with survivors who are in various stages of trauma. Only 30 advocates were selected for this training. This Boot Camp also offers an adjacent training for Program Directors in providing an overview of the advocate training content and organizational opportunities to support staff in their advocacy efforts. I was selected as one of 15 Program Directors. The Advocates' Training was held on February 5 and 6 and the Program Directors' Training was held on February 12 – both in Springfield. I really enjoyed this training and gained several tips in assuring that our program provides the best client-centered services as possible

and that we operate in a non-restrictive, non-controlling environment.

I met with Chris Morrell from Millikin University who is the Director of Counseling Services. I initially met Chris while joining him on the panel following the event, "Can't Help Falling in Love: A Benefit for Dove, Inc.", on February 3, coordinated by Justin Moniz, Vocals Director. I gave him a rundown of all the services provided by our program and gave him a tour of the shelter. I then provided him with many posters with the tear-off sheets that include all of the program hotline numbers in all five counties we serve. He agreed to place them in various places on campus. I also provided him with several program brochures to hand out to students he may see in his counseling program, who might benefit from our services.

I met with newly elected State Representative, Dan Caulkins, in January. The full hour with him passed quickly and it was a very productive meeting, discussing various issues and education around domestic violence. We both agreed to follow up with another meeting in the future.

Teri Ducey, Director
Dove Domestic Violence Program

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, Inc. would like to welcome new hire to the Dove-Homeward Bound program:

*Heather Urbanowicz
RRH Case Manager*

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

- diapers (all sizes)
- baby wipes
- toothpaste
- soap
- feminine hygiene products

DeWitt County Food Pantry

803 W. Leander, Clinton

Open

Tuesdays & Thursdays

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

Our food pantry is doing well, and we still have diapers for those who need a little extra assistance getting through the month.

If you would like to donate to our food pantry, all donations are welcome and very much appreciated. We are especially in need of the following items.

- Side dishes
- Canned fruit
- Peanut butter and jelly
- Spaghetti
- Mac and cheese
- Canned meats

Our Bouquet of Thanks



Linda Staff, seen here while speaking at the 2017 Macon County Candlelighting Ceremony

The Domestic Violence Program would like to give a special thank you to Linda Staff. As of this month, Linda surpassed her 50 hour* mark for volunteer hours (*since we've begun individual tracking). Linda is a former Dove staff member who started our Clinton Domestic Violence Program in 1990 and for over a year now, has been volunteering by way of facilitating a weekly Bible study for survivors here in the shelter. The offering helps to meet the spiritual needs of many of our victims who choose to attend, and wouldn't happen if it wasn't for the dedication of a volunteer like Linda. She shows up every week, even when there is no guarantee of anyone attending, with several tubs full of well-prepared materials. Whether a one on one counseling session or a group of survivors, Linda is always ready to be a support with one of the most compassionate hearts you will find. I'd be remiss if I didn't also acknowledge the regular care packages for staff consisting of cards of encouragement and always candy for just about every public holiday. Linda is one of a kind and we are blessed to have her as part of our team.



The Dove, Inc. Domestic Violence Program would like to take a minute and give a special thank you to Janet Broderick. Janet is an extremely valuable volunteer who serves in numerous capacities including legal advocacy, therapy, and shelter assistance. It is our honor to announce that Janet has surpassed her 100 hours of service milestone in January. Thank you, Janet, for all that you do to make a difference in the lives of domestic violence survivors!
Jared Bohland, Client Services Coordinator

MAX

Macon County Assistance eXchange

Helping with emergency financial assistance for families/individuals in need

THANK YOU

Thank you to all the area churches, foundations, and individuals who support the MAX Program! People's lives are better because of your generous financial gifts. It is so amazing to witness the relief on people's faces when their needs are met. Thank you for making this possible!

*Pastor Shane Hartman
MAX Coordinator*

*Please note!
MAX will be closed
March 25 - 29
and Spring Hours
will begin on April 1.*

Winter 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!



Friendly Reminder

The RSVP offices in Decatur and Clinton will be closed March 5, 6, and 7. Staff are attending a Senior Corps Conference out of town.

Staff Update



RSVP Specialist, Sandy Harmison, has decided to retire after 5+ years of service in our program. Sandy has been a wonderful asset to our program and is going to miss immensely. Sandy's last day with the RSVP will be March 14, 2019.

Expired Coupons for Overseas Military Families

We collect manufactured coupons, (please, no store specific or restaurant coupons) for everything from food to household or pet supplies, and baby items. We ask that coupons not be expired for more than ONE MONTH, so keep those coupons coming. Shipping has increased, each box now costs \$18.45 to ship so monetary donations are appreciated. Want to volunteer with sorting or clipping? Just give our office a call and we can help you get started. To date, we have shipped 2,046,161 coupons to military families around the World.

Free Tax Prep

RSVP partnered with AARP and the Vespasian Warner Library to offer free tax preparation for the third year in DeWitt County. Services are offered twice per week during the tax season, Thursdays, 2:00 to 4:30 p.m. and Saturdays, 9:00a.m. to noon, through April 13, 2019. Call the Vespasian Warner Library to schedule your appointment to get your taxes prepared at 217.935.5174.

Volunteer Organizational League

The next Volunteer Organizational League meeting (VOL) is March 12, noon, at the Dove's 302 S. Union office. Please use lower parking lot. The VOL is a way for those working with and managing volunteers to have added support and network with professionals on best practices and more.

Contacts:

Charlie Gillaspie
Dove, 217.428.6616 or

Jenny Garver
MCCD, 217.423.7708

NEWS

from the Domestic Violence Program

Shelby County Program

Signs of Spring are beginning to be seen it surely can't snow forever. As the sun shines more often and brighter, we turn our thoughts to warmer days, outdoor fun and spring cleaning. Not only do our homes sometimes need deep cleaning, so can our minds. If you, or someone you know, is struggling with family violence or unresolved issues from past abuse, please give us a call at 217.774.4888 (crisis line) or 217.774.3121. We help with Orders of Protection, legal advocacy, group and individual counseling for adults and children, and various other services so that victims and their families can return to lives of safety and security. Give us a call today..... enjoy your summer and your life.

Susie Kensil, Coordinator

Moultrie County Program

Come and join us to learn about healthy relationships. We meet each Thursday at 5:00 p.m. Children are welcome and will have a light supper while here. Call the office for more information, 217.728.9303.

Mary Hughes, Coordinator

Piatt County Coordinator

Liz attended a Meet and Greet in Jacksonville, IL to meet the new policy point of contact for ICADV, along with many other Domestic Violence Service Providers from across the state.

March is on the horizon and many new opportunities will bloom as they always do as Monticello prepares for spring.

Liz Mackey, Coordinator

DeWitt County

Spring is around the corner!! I am so excited for the flowers to begin blooming and to hear the birds chirping and seeing all the kids out riding their bikes and playing. As we are working our way into the warmer months of the year, we at Dove are busy planning fundraisers for the year. If you are an idea person and would like to volunteer for our program, please give Jennifer a call and she can get you signed up to be a committee member or a volunteer. Her number is 217. 935.6619.

Jennifer Tolladay, Coordinator

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



Volunteer Opportunities

Volunteers needed to deliver Peace Meals in DeWitt County. If you are able to assist with delivering meals in the city of Clinton, please contact Deb Hoffman at 217.935.2241 to get started.

Central Illinois Christians in Mission (CICIM) is always open for extra sets of hands to help with pick up and delivery of furniture items to those in need. If you are interested, please call Charlie Gillaspie at 217.428.6616 to learn more.

RSVP will host the Red Cross Blood Mobile, April 4, 2019 at St. John's Church in Clinton, IL. Shifts and hours for volunteers are 9:00 a.m. to noon, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. and 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. Please contact Deb Hoffman at 217. 935.2241 if you can volunteer for one of the shifts, or if you would be willing to donate a couple dozen cookies for donors to enjoy that day, please let her know. (Please no cookies with nuts as it is not allowed - ideas: Chocolate Chip, Snicker Doodles, and Sugar.)

Do you have an hour once per week to help deliver meals to homebound citizens? Meals on Wheels is a great place to volunteer if you are looking for something short and sweet. You can choose to deliver meals once per month, once per week, or several times a week. This is a great way to give back locally with big impact. Call Charlie with questions today. 217.428.6616 (Background check is required and would be administered by MoW.)

Would you like to help distribute food at a local food pantry? There are several pantries that operate in the Decatur and Clinton area that could use your help. Northeast Community Fund, AMELCA, or Salvation Army just to name a few. This is the opportunity that helps you see the immediate results of your service. Call Charlie today at 217.428.6616 to find the right place that fits your schedule.

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.**

Community Services Program

Sharing news from the Neighborhoods!

BABES

CONO Meeting

4th Tuesday of the month • 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 and watch for information in the upcoming Spring months!



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

What a Winter! But it did not stop BABES Volunteers. They trudged through snow, drove on icy roads and braved sub-zero temperatures to present the BABES Program. What dedication. Thank you!

Spring is in the air and I, for one, am ready for it! The BABES Program is as busy as ever to get all the programming in this school year. The volunteers, puppets and I are presenting at Schneider in Farmer City, Mc Gaughey, Baum 1st and 3rd grades, Oak Grove, Warrensburg, Meridian, Sangamon Valley Elementary, Enterprise, Mt. Zion Grade, St. Patrick's and Holy Family.

This year Holy Family has added their 3rd graders, receiving the Advanced BABES program and the BE YOUR BEST for the 5th graders. The 5th graders at Holy Family are a wonderful group of young people. They are open to discussion about bullying, cyberbullying, making safe and healthy decisions, friendships and peer pressure.

If you think you might be interested in volunteering for the BABES program, join us for Coffee Time at Panera's on Monday, March 11, from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. Volunteers and I get together to visit and catch up with each other. I'm sure they would be happy to share their stories and why they volunteer for BABES. Or feel free to call or email me for more information about becoming a BABES Volunteer. My email is slaesch@doveinc.org or call 217.428.6616 ext. 126.

Happy Spring!
Sandy Laesch, BABES Program Coordinator

