



DoveTales

the newsletter of Dove, Inc.

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



March 2018

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.

please join us at the

2018 Community Breakfast



*Please RSVP
your attendance at
428.6616 or
dove@doveinc.org
Breakfast is FREE*

Sponsored by the Macon County Continuum of Care
Homeless Advisory Council

Thursday, March 22 | 8:00 a.m.

Salvation Army Conference Room, 229 West Main, Decatur, Illinois

The public is encouraged to attend to learn more about these issues facing our community,
shared by the 2018 Point-in-Time Committee.



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
Debra Hoffman, 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,

“It was a tumultuous time. Marginalized people continued their fight for equality. A 'New Right' mobilized in defense of political conservatism and traditional family roles, and the behavior of the President undermined many people’s faith in the good intentions of the federal government.”

The summary above struck me as I write this, because it is a summary of the year 1970 written for History.com. That was the year in which Dove, Inc. began. Forty-eight years later the names of the key players may have changed, but the national issues are largely the same. Human need is relational, and social injustice is still very much real. To quote another adage, “the more things change, the more they stay the same.”

Ecclesiastes 1:9 tells us this is so, and to some this might seem like a message of defeat. However, I see it as a message of hope for all who are touched by Dove’s service. Because in the past 48 years, we have impacted thousands of individual lives for the better. We have protected, empowered, respected, and supported the dignity of the clients we have been privileged to serve. So, while the challenges repeat, so too will the successes and joys. Dove is here, strong and ready, to meet the challenges of today head on.

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 free of human suffering.

Sincerely,
Christine Gregory



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.

News from Homeward Bound

Homeless Advisory Council:

The Macon County Homeless Advisory Council/Continuum of Care (HAC/CoC) will host the Annual CoC Breakfast on Thursday, March 22, 2018, at 8:00 a.m. at the Salvation Army Community Center. Please plan on attending! We will discuss the results of the Point-In-Time count conducted on January 25, 2018. (More information on page one.)

Coordinated Entry:

Please contact the 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.

Needed items

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

- Laundry detergent

Homeward Bound would like to welcome new staff and congratulate other staff on new roles within the program! We continue to be excited for the direction that the program is headed!

Darsonya Switzer
Homeward Bound Program Director



Celebrating National Volunteer Appreciation Week

President Richard Nixon established National Volunteer Week with an executive order in 1974, as a way to recognize and celebrate the efforts of volunteers. This year National Volunteer Appreciation Week is April 15 - 21.

We here in the RSVP offices, are blessed to interact with so many different volunteers daily. If you know a volunteer be sure to thank them for all that they do for our community!

To celebrate our volunteers, staff will be out visiting stations and volunteers. If you would like us to stop by your station gives us a call at 217.428.6616.

Charlie Gillaspie
RSVP Program Director

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 taken
- Recognition of members in honor of or memorial to

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 2017 in a great way. Thanks to generous support, we were able to help 1,136 families with around \$81,000 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 in 2017. 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

located at: Decatur First United Methodist
Church, 201 W. North, Decatur



Volunteer Opportunities

Many studies show that volunteering helps you live longer, stay healthier, and promotes a positive outlook on life. Have you enrolled in RSVP? The Retired Senior Volunteer Program is for persons 55+. We work hard to match your talent to non-profits in need. Take a look at just some of the opportunities available and then give Charlie Gillaspie or Sandra Harmison a call for Macon County at 428.6616 or in DeWitt County call Deb Hoffman at 935.2241 to get all the great details and to get started.

DeWitt County American Red Cross Blood Mobile

April 5

Volunteers are needed for canteen positions in three-hour shifts: 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., 12:00 to 3:00 p.m., & 3:00 to 6:00 p.m. If you can help on one of these shifts please give Deb Hoffman a call at 935.2241.

DeWitt County Friendship Center

March 3

Ham and bean fundraiser supper for the Friendship Center in Clinton. Donations of

baked goods would be appreciated. Call Deb Hoffman at 935.2241 if you wish to donate or if you need additional information.

Macon County The American Red Cross

Seeking a few more volunteers for greeters and the canteen. Please take a look and call Sandra or Charlie if this is something you can help with please give us a call at 428.6616 and we will get you started.

Decatur Community Drive
Decatur Blood Donation Center
2674 N. Main St., Decatur - First Floor
Each Tuesday, 12:00 to 6:00 p.m.
Need 1 volunteer

Caterpillar

North 27th Street & East Pershing, Decatur
Second Floor Info Tech Offices
3rd Wednesday of even months:
April, June, August, October and December
8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Need 1 volunteer

Macon County Habitat for Humanity ReStore

Tuesday - Friday, 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

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

ReStore, 932 E. Wood, Decatur

Seeking volunteers for greeters, floor sales associates, merchandisers, warehouse associates, donations associates and donations scribes. Give Charlie or Sandy a call at 428.6616 for specific job descriptions.

Nothing here that spikes your interest? We have many other opportunities! Whether you're seeking a volunteer opportunity for once a week or once a month, for an hour or two or maybe even four - we have something to fit your needs. All you have to do is call or stop by to learn about the many volunteer opportunities that are available to you as an RSVP member.

Isn't time for you to take another look?

Call Charlie or Sandy today!
217.428.6616

YOU CAN BE THE DIFFERENCE

Dove's Domestic Violence Education & Volunteer Training

Location •

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

Dates & Times •

Monday - Thursday afternoons, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.
April 30, May 1, 2, 3, 7, 8, 9, 10, 14, 15, & 16

How to Register •

Complete a phone interview between March 7 and
Noon, April 23 by calling 217.428.6616

At the April 25 registration meeting, you would
fill out the needed paperwork and pay the \$150
training fee (some scholarships are available).

Joyce Kirkland and Jared Bohland have been working hard at preparing for our upcoming training. Our training will have a new outlook with updated, new materials but still covering all the needed elements to get your ICADV approved Training!

Joyce and Jared are both IL Certified Domestic Violence Professionals and we are looking forward to their team approach in presenting these materials.

Meet our Certified Trainers





Volunteer Organizational League

The March Volunteer
Organizational

League (VOL) meeting is scheduled for
Tuesday, March 13, noon, in the Dean Simcox
Conference Center, 302 S. Union.

To learn more call Charlie Gillaspie at
428.6616. Those who works with volunteers
at their agency/organization are welcome to
attend. Bring your lunch and learn other ways
to engage your volunteers.

No RSVP needed - just show up!

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

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.

WARM NEIGHBORS ♥ COOL FRIENDS

WNCF is located in the MAX office for
Macon and DeWitt Counties. Below
are the current 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.

- 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 paystubs

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

1	\$1,508 - \$3,016
2	\$2,030 - \$4,060
3	\$2,533 - \$5,106
4	\$3,075 - \$6,150
5	\$3,598 - \$7,196
6	\$4,120 - \$8,240
7	\$4,643 - \$9,286
8	\$5,165 - \$10,330



Domestic Violence Program Macon County • Support Groups and Classes

Domestic Violence Victim/Survivor Support Groups

Tuesdays • 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

(Children's support group available)

Wednesdays • 10:30 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

(Children's services available)

Domestic Violence 101 Class

Begins March 13

Tuesdays • 1:30 to 2:30 p.m.

(Children's services available)

15 week curriculum course

Legal Advocacy Support Group

Mondays • 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. & 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

Healthy Families w/ Parenting Specialist

Wednesdays • 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

(Children's services available)

Bible Study for Victims/Survivors

Wednesdays • 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

Golden Doves: An Elder Abuse Support Group

Thursdays • 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

Nutrition & Healthy Living

1st & 3rd Fridays • 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

(Children's services available)

Self Care & Stress Relief

2nd Fridays • 1:00 to 2:00 p.m.

(Children's services available)

4th Fridays • 6:00 to 7:00 p.m.

(Children's services available)

Life Skills Class

Fridays • 10:00 to 11:00 a.m.

**Before attending • Call for additional information
on these support groups and needed intake.**

217.423.2238

NEWS

from the Domestic Violence Program

Moultrie County Support Group

Join us in Moultrie County on Thursdays at 5:00 p.m. for our domestic violence support group. We explore self-care and boundaries. We are currently learning the difference in ego and self-esteem and how to build self-confidence. Please contact me at 217.728.9303 if you have any questions or would like to bring your children. Meetings are held at 1102 W. Jackson in Sullivan.

Always help light the way for others

Think of it not as your work

Or even your purpose, but as your destiny.

---Jane Almarie Lewis

Mary Hughes
Moultrie County Coordinator



DeWitt Assistance eXchange

The DAX program still has funds for those seeking a one-time emergency financial assistance. Call Jennifer at 217.935.6619 for more information or come into the office at 803 W. Leander, Clinton to pick up an application.

Seeking Volunteers in DeWitt County Program

Hello everyone! Happy St. Patrick's Day!! As spring is right around the corner, we at the DeWitt County Dove office would like to liven up the front of our building. We are looking for some wonderful, giving people who would like to help make that happen. We need an area on the front part of our building painted along with some pretty flowers planted to give our building a more appealing look. If you have any questions, and or interested in donating some of your valued time, please feel free to contact me at 217.935.6619.

We are still in need of individuals who would like to be a part of our CADV - Coalition Against Domestic Violence Committee. We meet monthly and organize as well as participate in small fundraisers for our program, informing the community about domestic violence awareness and the services provided by our program. Contact me at 217.935.6619 if you are interested.

DeWitt County Food Pantry

Our food pantry, for anyone needing food in DeWitt County, is open on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. We have no income guidelines, but one must be a resident of DeWitt County and may utilize the food pantry once every 30 days. Diapers are available every two weeks.

We appreciate any items you are able to donate. Currently, we are in need of

- Spaghetti and sauce
- Pastas and sauces
- Side dishes - boxed potatoes, boxed stuffing, pastas etc.
- Canned meats like tuna and chicken
- Canned fruits
- Toiletries - shampoos, toothbrushes, toothpaste, soap, deodorant
- Cereals

On a side note, one of our freezers has finally bit the dust! If anyone has an upright freezer, that is in good, clean condition you'd like to donate, please contact Jennifer at 217.935.6619. Thank you!

Jennifer Tolladay
DeWitt County Coordinator

NEWS

from the Domestic Violence Program

Piatt County Office Opening in March

We are moving along with our plans in Piatt County. Early March, we will move in to our new office space at 121 N. State Street, Suite 11, Monticello, IL 61856. We are looking forward to renewing our presence there and reaching out into the community to bring more awareness about domestic violence and offering our services. Once settled in, we will invite you all to an open house - watch for details in an upcoming newsletter. And check our website for the new office phone and hot-line numbers. - Teri Ducey, Program Director

Some Exciting news!!

This summer we will again be doing our summer camp! This is open to any child clients of the DeWitt County Domestic Violence Program. There will be more details to follow as it gets closer to summer. We are looking forward to having a blast this year!

- Jennifer Tolladay, DeWitt County Coordinator

If any groups or organizations would like more information about the Domestic Violence Program and our services, please feel free to contact me about scheduling a presentation. Working for Dove and with the community is my passion, and I really want to continue to educate everyone about our wonderful program in the hopes that it may help us reach the people who need us.

-Jennifer Tolladay, DeWitt County Coordinator

Is it time to "clean house?"

Spring is coming... time of rebirth in nature...flowers coming up, grass becoming green again, leaves sprouting on all our trees and bushes. It is a customary time to think of spring cleaning in our homes and offices. But how about some sprucing up for ourselves? If you, or someone you know, have unresolved issues regarding family abuse, this is a great time to "clean house" and find a new outlook on life. Issues we don't deal with can become bigger and darker over the years. Our program here in Shelby County, as in all our counties, is free and completely confidential. We are here for both individual and group counseling for adults and for children. We would be happy to meet with you to talk about your issues and to develop a plan to make this your best spring and summer ever. Give us a call at 217.774.4888 or 217.774.3121 to make an appointment or to have your questions answered. -Susie Kensil, Shelby County Coordinator

THANKS

Our Thanks from the Domestic Violence Program



Dave Schubacher, seen here with Dove Staff Phyllis Swinehart, is the Heart of the Community Chairperson of the IL Loyal Order of Moose. This group delivered two truckloads of items and a check to the Shelter in

February. Thanks to all who donated to this project to support the families staying in the Shelter.



Domestic Violence Shelter Needs:

- Prepaid Gasoline Cards
- Gift Cards for Aldi and Walmart
- 9 V, AA and AAA Batteries
- New Strollers
- Lice Treatments
- Large Hairbrushes
- African American Hair Products
- Dishwasher Detergent Pods
- Disinfectant Sprays
- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towel
- Dust Pans

Please drop 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
www.doveinc.org

WELCOME

Melissa Gillis

**Melissa began working in the
Domestic Violence Program
as our Parenting Specialist
in February.**

**We are happy to have her join
our team!**

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
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 217.428.6616 or

dove@doveinc.org



BABES

Sandy Laesch, BABES Program Coordinator

Volunteers and puppets are really busy this month presenting to 2nd graders at Meridian, Muffley, and Enterprise; Kindergartners at Warrensburg, Oak Grove, Sangamon Valley East and St. Pat's; 2nd graders at Mt. Zion Grade; 3rd graders at Enterprise; and finishing at McGaughey, and Schneider in Farmer City.

On Thursday, March 15, a Volunteer Orientation is being planned from 5:30 to 6:30 p.m. in the Dean Simcox Conference Center. This is an opportunity to find out more about the BABES program and being a BABES volunteer.

A Coffee Time is scheduled for Friday, March 23, from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. at Paneras for BABES Volunteers. If you would like to meet some of our volunteers and find out more about the BABES program, please join us!

Call or email me if you are interested in the opportunity to make a difference in a child's life. My email is slaesch@doveinc.org or call 217.428.6616 ext. 126.

*"Never underestimate your ability to make someone else's life better – even if you never know it."
-Greg Louganis*



Thanks to the members of the USW Local 7838-Based out of Muellers, who collected coats again this year (about 100!) Thanks to Waite's Cleaners, the winter and spring jackets have been cleaned and shared to families in need.

**This generous donation goes a long way to help finish the winter season and take care of Spring needs!
Thanks to all who made this happen!**