



# DoveTales

the newsletter of Dove, Inc.

**March 2023**

Barbara Blakey  
Editor

Issue 2023 • 3  
Published Monthly

**Dove, Inc.**  
302 S. Union  
Decatur, IL  
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217.428.6616  
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## Watch for updates from the 2023 Community Breakfast!

The March 9 breakfast will highlight:

- the presentation to the Macon County Continuum of Care Advocate of the Year
- the presentation of the 2023 Point-in-Time results

Watch our social media or website for updates or check back here next month!

At the Tuesday, February 21, Decatur City Council Meeting, the council approved "Resolution Approving Sub-Recipient Agreement with Dove, Inc. for Rent, Mortgage and Utility Assistance Utilizing CDBG-CV Funds." Please watch for updates after receiving the agreement with the City of Decatur, which will include the guidelines. \$250,000 in funds will be distributed by DFA. This funding is for Decatur residents.

## Desserts with Dove - Moultrie County!

Have you ever wondered what Dove does in Moultrie County? There is an upcoming opportunity for you to find out more information! You are invited to meet some of the Dove staff and learn more about Dove and what we are up to in Moultrie County. This is an open house, so come and go as you please, bring a friend, and have a yummy treat while you're here.

*more on page 3*

## WNCF Special Evening of Service

Dove Financial Assistance (DFA) and the Energy Assistance Foundation (EAF) are co-hosting a dedicated evening of service to assist Ameren Illinois customers eligible for the Warm Neighbors Cool Friends program. The event will be held on Wednesday, March 15, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at the Decatur Public Library in the Elizabeth Madden Auditorium.

## Dove's Mission

Dove is an organization that engages religious institutions, volunteers, and advocates seeking to coordinate efforts to address unmet needs and social injustices. These needs are met through coordinated programs focusing on domestic violence, homelessness, education, volunteer and community empowerment, and individual emergency need fulfillment. Dove works for justice, equality, and understanding among all people.

## Executive Staff

Darsonya Switzer, Chief Executive Officer  
Barbara Blakey, Chief Communications Officer

## Program Leadership

### BABES Program

Sandy Laesch, Interim Coordinator

### Children's Clothing Room

Kathy Walters, Coordinator

### Dove Financial Assistance

Molly Tenuto, Program Director

### Dove Food Pantry

Jennifer Tolladay, Coordinator

### Domestic Violence Program

Kelsey Probbler, Program Director

Jennifer Tolladay, DeWitt County Coordinator

Becky Comstock, Moultrie County Coordinator

Susie Kensil, Shelby County Coordinator

Andrea Kocher, Piatt County Coordinator

### Homeward Bound

Charo Covington, Program Director

### Neighborhood Services Program

LeAnn Ellis, Coordinator

### RSVP • Retired & Senior Volunteer Program

Angie Williams, Program Director

Kathy Walters, Macon County Coordinator

Dustin Depperschmidt, DeWitt County Coordinator



*Congratulations Darsonya on  
completing the Lilly Family School  
of Philanthropy 4-day Principles &  
Techniques of Fundraising Course  
February 2023*

As we quickly approach SPRING, I cannot help but reflect on the growth that is taking place throughout the organization. We are seeing new faces in leadership and with them comes new ideas and enthusiasm! We are also reaping the benefits from the dedication and knowledge of the long-term staff! Additionally, we are growing programs and relationships with new community partners! We are poised for an even more improved service provision, which directly aligns with continuing to meet the needs of our participants! The excitement is buzzing all around us and great things are on the horizon! Please consider joining us in our efforts!

**Darsonya Switzer (she/her)**  
Dove, Inc. Chief Executive Officer



# *Desserts with Dove!*

**3/23/23**

**11:23 a.m. to 1:23 p.m.**

**Sullivan First United Methodist Church  
216 W. Jefferson, Sullivan, Illinois**

***Stop by for a sweet treat and a quick chat!***

**Learn more about Dove!**

**Meet the Dove Staff Members who primarily work in Moultrie County:**

**Becky Comstock, Domestic Violence Coordinator**

**Molly Tenuto, DFA Program Director**

**Dustin Depperschmidt, Volunteer Resources Administrator**

**(And other staff members, friends and supporters will join in the fun!)**

**And learn about Dove's programs,  
ways to volunteer and  
how to refer people to receive services.**

[dove@doveinc.org](mailto:dove@doveinc.org)

217.428.6616

217.728.9303

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

**Dove, Inc.**



# OUTDOOR SPACES

Location: 302 S. Union, Decatur

As weather permits, help us keep our outside green spaces welcoming to clients, visitors and of course, staff members.



Spring is in the air! As winter gives way to the promise of warmer weather we start thinking of all the exciting possibilities the new season brings with it.

Spring at the Shelter means that children can return to playing outdoors on our playground! Just like we strive to create wonderful safe places for our folks inside the shelter, we want to create beautiful spaces outdoors as well.

If you have a green thumb, or don't mind scrubbing playground equipment, or if you know just the right flower and where it should go to help us create eye popping and pleasing spaces in our courtyard, **WE NEED YOUR HELP!**

There is no better time to serve your community in this way than right now! IF this seems like just the opportunity you were looking for be sure to sign up today at [projects](#) we can't wait to see you out there!

Dustin Depperschmidt  
Volunteer Resources Administrator



*Central Illinois Christians in Mission. Dove recently learned that they are experiencing an all-time low in their supply chain, particularly in pots and pans and kitchen utensils, especially knives. They are also in dire need of coffee pots, mixers, and all sorts of glassware, including cups, plates, and bowls. Additionally, they are looking for crockpots and skillets to keep up with their operations.*

*CICM has helped clients at Dove in so many ways since their beginning. Please help them out if you can!*

*click [here](#) for more information*

# NEWS

from the Domestic Violence Program



Registration for this training begins with a phone interview.  
Please call between February 22 & March 27, NOON • 217.428.6616.

**SITE:** Dove, Inc. / Anna B. Millikin Home, 302 S. Union, Decatur

**TIME:** 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

**TRAINING DATES:** April 3, 4, 5, 6, 10, 11, 12, 13, 14, 17 & 18

This training is for individuals who meet the criteria to volunteer at any of Dove's Domestic Violence Programs or who are seeking educational advancement for their employment.

Fee for this ICADV Certified Training is \$200



**217.428.6616**  
**doveinc.org**

## *Our facilitators:*

### **Joyce Kirkland**

Client and Family Services Supervising Coordinator  
Lead Training Facilitator

### **Jamie L. Houchins**

Legal and Rural Services Supervising Coordinator

### *How can you lend a hand?*

- Answering our hotlines
- Covering the Shelter
- Reporting /data collection
- Assisting with orders of protection
- Assisting with/facilitating support groups and more

# Dove's Children's Clothing Room



**Central Christian Church**  
**650 W. William St., Decatur**  
**Mondays & Wednesdays**  
**1:00 to 3:30 p.m.**

**free clothing for**  
**infants through teens**

## Clothing Room News:

Monday, March 6, the Children's Clothing Room will have extended hours for anyone who wants to donate clothing for kids ages 0 – 18. The room will be open from 1:00 to 5:30 p.m. and is located in Central Christian Church, 650 W. William Street in Decatur!

## Welcome Becca!

Hi- my name is Becca Gorman and I am the new Finance Manager. I graduated from Millikin University in May of 2022 with my BS in Finance.

During my last semester at Millikin I did an internship at Dove in the finance department and absolutely fell in love with the organization. I am super excited to be back!



I am a very nerdy dog lover. I currently have a brindle and white plot hound mix named Joule (as in the unit of energy), but she goes by Jo Jo. She is super cute and sweet but also a bit

timid and shy around new people.

In my free time, I really enjoy crafts. I love to sew and have recently started quilting. We'll see how this turns out?!? I also enjoy baking, but I haven't been able to do very much of it lately.

I look forward to being able to do something I love and helping people! I can't wait to see some of you guys again and also excited to get to meet some new people.

## *Please, Save the Date!*

Dove Annual Meeting  
Thursday, April 20, 5:30 p.m.

Passion Community Church, 4225 Camp Warren Lane, Decatur

Early evening meeting including update on programs,  
election of Dove's Board of Directors,  
and a light dinner!



Macon County Nonprofit Inter-Agency Council

Please join us for our first **all in** gathering!

Thursday, March 28, 2023 ■ NOON to 1:00 p.m.  
Central Christian Church, 650 W. William, Decatur

Corner of Monroe and William Street, near  
downtown Decatur. Please park off Monroe Street  
and enter North Doors to Fellowship Hall.

Join us for networking and sharing  
information:

- program coordinators
- direct service providers
- information sharers

The pandemic brought many changes to  
our local nonprofit landscape. We are  
wanting a chance to meet monthly, get to  
network and learn more about services of  
our Macon County Community.

*4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month, NOON*

- We will keep the gathering to an hour.
- Feel free to bring your lunch.
- No membership fees.

**for more information.  
please call:**

*Molly Tenuto or Angie Williams  
Dove, Inc.  
217.428.6616*

*or email  
mtenuto@doveinc.org  
awilliams@doveinc.org*

Come enjoy coffee  
and learn about  
community resources



Come join us for our coffee chat at Dove  
and hear first hand from our resource  
partners in the Dean Simcox conference  
room from 9:00- 11:00 a.m.

on March 22, 2023

302 S. Union Decatur, IL 62522

contact [AWilliams@doveinc.org](mailto:AWilliams@doveinc.org) if you plan  
to join!

- Macon County Senior Center
- Childrens Clothing Room
- Conservation District

*Join us as RSVP hosts its first new Coffee Chats series, where a handful of volunteer station managers will be on site in our Dean Simcox Conference Room, offering information on their programs and volunteer opportunities. Everyone is welcome, and if you bring a friend who signs up for RSVP, you might win a cool door prize! Come enjoy a cup of coffee and a pastry and learn about some of the volunteer opportunities in our community.*

*Stations being highlighted this day include Macon County Conservation District, Dove's Children's Clothing Room, Decatur Macon County Senior Center and possibly two others depending on scheduling and availability.*

## Community Volunteer Training Opportunities

Court Appointed Special Advocate, CASA, classes are about to begin their Spring session. Fill out an online application at [maconcountycasa.org](http://maconcountycasa.org) or call 217.428.8424 to learn more. Classes are March 9 – April 13. There are only six classes and you're on the pathway to changing a child's life for the better! CASA advocates spend time with children who are in foster care, and give them a supportive presence in their lives, as well as writing short reports for the court on how the kids are doing. The commitment post training is 8-10 hours of volunteering a month. If you have a heart for children, this might be a great fit for you.

# ***Dove Financial Assistance***

I'm excited to share that we will be co-hosting an evening of service with the Energy Assistance Foundation for those that are eligible for the Warm Neighbors Cool Friends program. The event will be held on Wednesday, March 15, from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m. at the Decatur Public Library in the Elizabeth Madden Auditorium. As I shared last month, the matched funds for the heating season is now \$500. The income guidelines can be found on next page of the newsletter. We are able to assist those eligible for the program in Macon, DeWitt, and Piatt counties. But if you have any questions, feel free to reach out, and please share this sign up night and information with those that you know so we can assist as many people as possible. If you can't make it to our evening sign up, no worries, you can still sign up at any time by contacting me at 217.433.7435 or [dfa@doveinc.org](mailto:dfa@doveinc.org).

We also have a Desserts with Dove event planned for Moultrie County on 3/23/23 from 11:23 a.m. to 1:23 p.m. at Sullivan First United Methodist Church - see page 3. We will have some sweet treats available for those that stop by to learn more about Dove and the services we offer in Moultrie County! I hope to meet several from

the community so that we can grow the awareness of Dove services. If you're in the area, please stop by and bring a friend!

Another exciting update is that at the February 21 City of Decatur Council meeting, they voted for DFA to be the distributors of Covid funds again. These funds will be utilized to assist with rent, mortgage, and utility assistance for those that have experienced a hardship due to Covid. I don't have the specifics yet as to what qualifications there will be to receive assistance, but it should come soon. Please keep an eye on our website for updates, even if you haven't been affected financially by Covid, you may encounter someone you know and will be able to refer them to a resource that might be able to assist.

I can't help but smile when I share all that I have in this article! There are a lot of good things coming to assist the community. As always, this assistance is due to your assistance, whether financially or prayerfully, as well as collaboration with others.

Thank you for your continued support to DFA!  
Molly Tenuto, DFA Director

***Donation are needed  
to keep this  
emergency financial  
assistance program thriving,  
and supporting  
families in need!***

***Please use mailing  
address:***

***302 S. Union Street  
Decatur, IL 62522***

***or on Dove's website  
[doveinc.org](http://doveinc.org)***

***Please put DFA on  
check memo line or  
on the website comment box.***

***Your help supports  
so many in need.***

## Dove Financial Assistance

Helping with emergency financial assistance  
for families/individuals in need  
for in-person sites: see below

### Macon County Sites:

Decatur Public Library, 120 N. Franklin, Decatur

Mondays, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Homeward Bound, 788 E. Clay, Decatur

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

March 7, April 4 and May 2, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. ONLY

May 29 – Dove Closed for Memorial Day Observance

DFA@doveinc.org or 217.619.9108

### Shelby County Site:

Salvation Army Building, 133 E. Main St., Shelbyville

March 2 & 16, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

April 6 & 20, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

May 4 & 18, 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.

DFA@doveinc.org or 217.433.7435

### Moultrie County Site:

First United Methodist Church, 216 W. Jefferson St., Sullivan

March 1 & 15, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

April 5 & 19, 9:00 – 11:00 a.m.

May 3, 17, & 31, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

DFA@doveinc.org or 217.433.7435

### Piatt County Site:

First Presbyterian Church, 214 S. Charter, Monticello

March 8 & 22, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

April 12 & 26, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

May 10 & 24, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

DFA@doveinc.org or 217.433.7435

### DeWitt County Site:

Dove, 803 W. Leander, Clinton

March 8 & 22, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

April 13 & 27, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

May 11 & 25, 9:00-11:00 a.m.

DFA@doveinc.org or 217.433.7435



For Macon, DeWitt and Piatt Counties:

217.619.9108 or DFA@doveinc.org

### 30-Day Residential Income Guidelines

#### FOR WEATHERIZATION AND BILL PAYMENT ASSISTANCE

Note: Families must show proof of income. A family's monthly gross income must fall between the below ranges, based upon family size, to qualify.

FAMILY SIZE	LIHEAP INCOME RANGE	WNCF INCOME RANGE
1	\$0 - \$2,265	\$2,266 - \$4,263
2	\$0 - \$3,052	\$3,053 - \$4,871
3	\$0 - \$3,838	\$3,839 - \$5,479
4	\$0 - \$4,625	\$4,626 - \$6,088
5	\$0 - \$5,412	\$5,413 - \$6,575
6	\$0 - \$6,198	\$6,199 - \$7,063
7	\$0 - \$6,985	\$6,986 - \$7,550
8	\$0 - \$7,324	\$7,325 - \$8,038

- Driver's License or other Photo I.D. and copy of current Ameren Illinois utility bill
- Applicant must reside at the address on the bill and have active service in his or her name
- Income eligibility, see guidelines, above
- Applicant can receive WNCF assistance only once per heating season, which is 9/1 to 5/31 each year and once per cooling season, 6/1 to 8/31
- WNCF matches customer payments (within the last 45 days) up to \$500 during heating season and up to \$200 during cooling season
- Heating grants are based solely on income guide-lines while cooling grants are intended for seniors, disabled or those with medical conditions exacerbated by heat (with a doctor's letter)

*See special evening of service on front page!*



# BABES

Beginning Awareness Basic Education  
Studies

Are you interested in becoming involved  
in the BABES Program?

Would you like more information about becoming  
a BABES Volunteer?

Contact Barb Blakey [bblakey@doveinc.org](mailto:bblakey@doveinc.org) or

Sandy Laesch [slaesch@doveinc.org](mailto:slaesch@doveinc.org)

217.428.6616

*Volunteer Training is available to be a part of this  
educational program for K-3<sup>rd</sup> graders in area schools.*

Volunteers and puppets will begin presenting this month and will continue til school ends in May. If you are interested in the opportunity to make a difference in a child's life, we could use your help.

BABES (Beginning Awareness Basic Education Studies) is an imaginative and interactive prevention program which uses colorful hand puppets to teach positive living skills, such as dealing with feelings, peer pressure and decision making, coping with situations they can't control, as well as an introduction of drug and alcohol prevention. The material is age appropriate and presented in a factual, non-judgmental manner. Pairs of trained volunteers present six ½ hour lessons in classes Kindergarten through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade. Scripts are read, there is no need for memorization. Volunteers can choose when and where they present their BABES lessons. This is a great way to make a difference in your community.

If you think that this might be something that you are interested in, please email [slaesch@doveinc.org](mailto:slaesch@doveinc.org) or call 217.428.6616 to discuss training.

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

Sandy Laesch, BABES Interim Program Coordinator

# News from Homeward Bound

Staff have been working to engage and house **15** individuals who have been literally homeless (in a shelter, on the streets or somewhere unfit for human occupancy, such as an abandoned building) for 90-days or more. **Three** of those individuals meet the chronically homeless criteria, which means they have a diagnosable disability AND have been homeless for at least 1 year or have been homeless 4 times in the past 3 years, totaling 365 days.

There are **187** total participants currently receiving housing and/or services.

The need for 1-bedroom units for single individuals is still dire!

**Dove- Homeward Bound is collecting the following items for participants:**

- Diapers (all sizes) and Baby Wipes
- Personal Hygiene Items
- Dishing washing liquid
- Laundry detergent
- Toothpaste
- 

*These donated items can be delivered to:  
Dove-Homeward Bound  
788 E. Clay, Decatur, IL 62521  
Monday - Friday, 9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.*

## Move-In Starter Kits

Additionally, please consider donating items for move-in starter kits for individuals and families moving from homelessness to housing. Join the **HOME** Macon County Continuum of Care in supporting this effort. Donations will be accepted at Northeast Community Fund (NECF) and distributed in "starter kits" to agencies serving those moving into housing.

- cleaning supplies
- paper products
- bath towels
- kitchen towels
- sheets/blankets/pillows
- plates/glasses/silverware
- kitchen utensils
- pots/pans

These donated items can be delivered to:  
Northeast Community Fund  
839 N. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr., Decatur  
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday  
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

## Coordinated Entry

Homeward Bound, on behalf of the Macon County CoC, continues to provide services and have staff available 24 hours to assist those in need of housing solutions. Please share the contact numbers with anyone you know who is experiencing housing instability issues, 217.362.7700 or 217.619.5742.

## Life Skills and Job Club

Job Club Classes are cancelled until further notice, for further information please contact Daciena, 217.362.7700 ext. 106.

## Macon County Continuum of Care

**Homeless Advisory Council  
(HAC) Meeting  
the 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday in May  
1:30 p.m.  
at EOC in the Senior Center  
on the 2<sup>nd</sup> floor**

## Neighborhood Services Program

### Sharing News About The Neighborhoods!

As many of you may know, the neighborhood services program consists of many meetings and sharing information back and forth. Some information shared in February will help those now, and in the future to be able to find needed resources and collaboration.

CHICO stands for Centro for Hispanic and Immigrant Community Opportunities. This organization meets monthly to discuss issues and bring ideas to digest. The mood is set with a genuine atmosphere of respect, appreciation and some delicious looking pastries! This month's meeting was eye opening on many topics including how some in the Hispanic community see Decatur, it's organizations and resources. Many words were spoken by various individuals, some choosing to speak English, some choosing to speak Spanish, and some spoke both languages as they shared. There was an interpreter for those of us who do not understand and/or are not fluid in the Spanish language. I look forward to the next meeting after having the time to process the overall discussions from February. It is with hope that we look to the future, and all that is in store for Decatur as CHICO and Dove collaborate and support one another, along with many other wonderful agencies in our community.

February 15<sup>th</sup> was my first board meeting as a humble, newly positioned member of Block by Block. I look to be actively working in the community along-side this hardworking group to help meet needs by updating, refreshing, digging, planting, and in fact making, a difference for our neighbors within our neighborhoods.

March brings about for me, returning to schools with the BABES program, also, which is always a pleasure to see the children's interaction and excitement for this important program! There will be more neighborhoods back in session among other events and meetings to attend as we collaborate, learn from each other and share the wealth of all that Dove's programming has to offer to the community.

LeAnn Ellis, Coordinator

### Coalition Of Neighborhood Organizations

## CONO Meeting

**Tuesday, March 21**  
**(3<sup>rd</sup> Tuesday of the Month)**

**5:30 p.m.**

**Location: TBD**

# NEWS

## from the Domestic Violence Program

Unseasonably warm weather in February has turned everyone's thoughts toward spring. Even Mother Nature is on board with tree buds swelling, green shoots coming through the ground and early spring blossoms making their arrival. The cold winds of winter may blow again, but the promise of spring is definitely in the air. For me, spring has always been a season of promise....longer, sunnier, warmer days ahead to chase away the gloom of the long winter. Thoughts turn to walks in the sunshine, baseball and tennis.....and spring cleaning. It's all fun and games... until it isn't. But even the work of spring cleaning is a boost to our spirits and a good preparation for the fun days of summer ahead. Many think of the season as a second chance at New Year's resolutions that may have faltered. If domestic violence has touched your life, or the life of someone you know, this is a great time to start on the path to recovery. Dove's Domestic Violence Program is active in all five of our Dove counties: Macon, Moultrie, DeWitt, Piatt and Shelby. Each of our offices would welcome the chance to help you start to navigate the path to a better tomorrow for you and your family. Reach out to one of our offices today to start your "spring cleaning."

**Macon County**  
Crisis: 217.423.2238

**Business: 217.428.6616**

**Moultrie County**  
Crisis: 217.728.9334

**Business: 217.728.9303**

**DeWitt County**  
Crisis: 217.935.6072

**Business: 217.935.6619**

**Piatt County**  
Crisis: 217.762.2122

**Business: 217.762.2123**

**Shelby County:**  
Crisis: 217.774.4888

**Business: 217.774.3121**

**Susie Kensil, Shelby County Coordinator**



### *Welcome Danielle!*

My name is Danielle Cunningham and I am Dove's new Domestic Violence Education and Awareness Specialist! I am beyond excited to be here!

A little about me is that I am a sophomore at Richland working on my last class currently to get my Associates of Arts in May! Fun fact, I am actually not from Decatur, but I moved here from Los Angeles when I was younger. Lastly, I love to travel

with my family and boyfriend; we have a big trip planned in June!

Growing up, I've always loved helping people in the community. To volunteering in food banks and clothing rooms to working as a tutor and mentor in high school. Which is why I am delighted to be working here and able to put my skills to use! I am very ecstatic to be able to meet and help new people when going out in the community. I may seem quiet but I am lots of fun to get to know and talk to!

## Welcome Tyesha!

My name is Tyesha Ashford I am the new Housing Advocate with Homeward Bound. I have worked and lived in the Decatur community my whole life. I've worked in non-profit for over 20 years. I've always had a heart and passion to help others. It feels good to give others a reason to smile, to want to better themselves and just know that there are people who really care about them whole heartedly. I hope that my experience and love for people will help me thrive within the Dove family but also be a blessing to those in need.



To our Area Congregations

Please help us make sure our contact information is up to date!

Please email us with your staff members contact information:  
[dove@doveinc.org](mailto:dove@doveinc.org) or reply here!

## Welcome Kelsey!

Hello! My name is Kelsey Probbler I am the new Domestic Violence Program Director. I am new to Dove and to Decatur. I moved from sunny South Florida to join the Dove family and I am so happy to be here! I have a B.S. in Political Science with minors in Civic Leadership and Gender Studies from Indiana State University and a M.A. in Women, Gender, and Sexuality Studies from Florida Atlantic University. I have been working in DV services for my whole career, from my internship in graduate school to now in this role.



I love working with people from all walks of life and seeing them grow and move to their next phase of life free from violence and abuse. I am a passionate advocate and believe in Dove's mission to work for justice, equality, and understanding among all people. As a Jewish person, my faith guides my work. In the Talmud, one of our religious texts, it says they who save a life, it is considered as if they saved an entire world. By helping one person change their life for the better, it changes their world. This is what motivates me every day to do this work.

I am so excited to serve the survivors at Dove and work to create a safe, warm, empowering environment for all those who need our help. Feel free to reach out to me if you have any questions or would like to chat!

I look forward to my future at Dove and learning more about central Illinois.

A few staff  
members were  
able to represent  
Dove at the  
5<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Greater Decatur  
Black Chamber  
of Commerce  
Black History Gala.



Congratulation  
to all the  
Award Winners!



# RSVP Volunteer Opportunities

## Give Blood

On April 6, there will be a blood drive from 10:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. at St. John the Baptist's Church, 502 N. Monroe in Clinton. Appointments must be made ahead of time in order to donate blood.

But cookies are needed (nothing with peanuts or peanut butter please!) to pass out to donors after their appointments. We are also seeking a volunteer to assist. You're welcome to tackle the entire day if you want, or it can be split between 10:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. or 2:00 to 5:30 p.m. If you're interested and able to assist with either making and dropping off cookies on the day of the drive, or if you want to volunteer, please reach out to Angie Williams at 217.428.6616 or by email at [awilliams@doveinc.org](mailto:awilliams@doveinc.org).

## Meals on Wheels (Macon County) and Peace Meals (DeWitt County)

need drivers to deliver warm meals to homebound seniors. Routes usually take 1 – 2 hours to complete. If you're interested, please reach out to Laura Cullison at Catholic Charities (Macon County) at 217.428.3458, or to Jill

Hanson Murray (DeWitt County) at 309.661.5045 for more information.

The **Decatur Macon County Senior Center** is seeking volunteers to help answer the phones and make appointments for people, as well as assistance with working in the thrift store sorting and pricing things. They're always seeking entertainment and people to play games with the seniors, and to help call Bingo on Tuesdays and Fridays from 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. If interested, please reach out to Margaret Miller at 217.429.1239 or by email at [mmiller@primroseretirement.com](mailto:mmiller@primroseretirement.com).

RSVP Volunteers cover **Good Samaritan Inn** on the 5<sup>th</sup> Monday of any month that has a 5<sup>th</sup> Monday. They help prepare food from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m., and then serve those in need of a hot meal from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. If you are interested in helping out with this need and haven't done it before, please reach out to Angie Williams at 217.428.6616 or by email at [awilliams@doveinc.org](mailto:awilliams@doveinc.org).

*Your gift will ensure  
that services can  
continue.*

*Please give  
generously.*

*Dove, Inc.  
302 S. Union Street  
Decatur, IL 62522*

*or donate online at  
[doveinc.org](http://doveinc.org)*

# NEWS

## from the Domestic Violence Program

### Domestic Violence Program Hygeine Products needed for Shelter Clients

Body Wash  
Vaseline  
Handheld Personal Mirrors  
Contact Lens Multi-purpose Solution  
African American Hair Care Products  
Hair Grease  
Hairbrushes, Natural & Nylon Bristles  
Hair Conditioner  
Hair Gel  
Hair Spray  
Nail Polish Remover  
Nail Clippers  
Toothpaste  
Denture Adhesive  
Denture Cleaner  
Mouthwash, Alcohol Free



**You can support Dove by participating with the Kroger Community Rewards Program!**

**To use the Kroger Community Rewards Program, simply visit <http://www.kroger.com>**

**Once logged into your Kroger account you can search for DOVE INC either by name or DK772 and then click *enroll*.**

## Dove Food Pantry

**Thursdays**

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

**803 W. Leander, Clinton**



- This is a free service to anyone in DeWitt County.
- You can utilize the pantry once a month.
- When you arrive at the door, you will need to show your ID.
- We will bring your food to the door.
- We also have diapers if you have a little one in your household - child must be living in the household.
- We do request that if someone is already at the door receiving food, you stay in your vehicle until it is your turn.
- We are doing all we can to abide by the social distancing guidelines.