



# DOVE TALES

the newsletter of Dove, Inc.

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



June 2017

Barbara Blakey  
Editor

Issue 1706  
Published Monthly

Dove, Inc.  
302 S. Union  
Decatur, IL 62522  
217.428.6616  
[dove@doveinc.org](mailto: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.



## DOVE'S ANNUAL

# GARDEN TEA LUNCHEON

## SATURDAY, JUNE 17

First Church of the Nazarene, Clinton

Luncheon • 11:30 a.m.

This sit-down luncheon will include a delightful dessert bar.

Tickets • \$15

Tickets must be purchased in advance at the Dove offices or  
from DeWitt County CADV members.

Featured in the ticket price:

### **"BEAUTY OF A VICTORIAN GARDEN"**

will be presented by the Bloomington Tea Ladies

1:00 p.m.

**Sponsored by:**

DeWitt County CADV to benefit the Dove Domestic Violence Program

**For more information:**

Please contact the Dove office at 935.6619 and more  
information will be available at [www.doveinc.org](http://www.doveinc.org)



# DOVE, INC.

## Leadership Team

Christine Gregory  
Executive Director

Tammy Wilcox  
Assistant 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  
Sandy Harmison, 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

Homeward Bound  
Darsonya Switzer, Program Director

MAX • Macon County Assistance eXchange  
Rev. Shane Hartman, Coordinator

RSVP • Retired & Senior Volunteer Program  
Christina Gillaspie, Program Director  
Sheryl Whisman, 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,

June is a time of joy for me, and I hope that it is for you. Dove is doing so many things which give me such hope for the community. Community conversations about how we can respond to crisis needs in the community, and how we can grow. Development of a Coordinated Entry Assessment plan for homeless served by any agency or service in our community. Planning and training of volunteers for next school year to work with our children and youth. Community festivals and opportunities to come together.

As I write this, the Illinois State Budget is not resolved, and we have had to limit some services as a result. But there is also room to hope. The advocacy of our Dove family and the community is working. Please pray for us. Pray for our government leaders to resolve the Budget and allow us as state to plan, respond, and move forward with doing the good work that we do. Pray for opportunities to meet the challenges our clients face. Our hope is in the Lord. He is with us.

If you or your organization's members are ready, 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 a of joy and hope for everyone.

Sincerely,

Christine Gregory

# GARDEN TEA LUNCHEON



I would like to personally invite everyone to this year's Annual Garden Tea Luncheon!

This year we are going to be doing something different. Instead of a tour of the lovely gardens

Jennifer Tolladay  
DeWitt County Coordinator  
Domestic Violence Program

in DeWitt County, we are having a presentation put on by the well-loved Bloomington Tea Ladies. It will be titled "Beauty of a Victorian Garden." The Garden Tea Luncheon will also be a sit-down lunch with a dessert buffet. This will take place before the presentation. Please note that since this is a luncheon, in order to make sure we have enough food for everyone, tickets will only be sold in advance. We will not sell tickets at the door.

Where to purchase tickets? The CADV committee members, Dove and The Flower Corner.

*Additional information on front page!*

# Dove 2017 Annual Meeting



Thanks to the following individuals who have been elected to the 2017-2019 term of service for Dove's Board of Directors. The election took place on May 8, as part of the Dove Annual Meeting. Most of these members are returning, but all will be seated at the board at the July 2017 Meeting. For the complete listing, please check the website [www.doveinc.org](http://www.doveinc.org).

*SuEllen Brauer | Rev. Jason Butterick | Rev. Vivian Clarington  
Keturah Owens | Amanda Podeschi | Marianne Taylor | William Taylor*





## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Are you looking for some fun this summer? We have some of the best places to volunteer. Now is the time to get involved with all the family-focused, outdoor, or kid-friendly opportunities throughout our community.

Love the outdoors? Then the Macon County Conservation District might be right where you belong. Summer/fall opportunities outside include summer camp volunteers, volunteer naturalists (programs/hikes/canoeing/fishing), natural area restoration, trail monitors, and more. Summer/fall opportunities indoors include activities such as nature center greeter (front desk) or library attendant.

Want a few more animal interactions? Scovill Zoo needs drivers for the Z.O. & O. Express or operators to give riders a spin on the Endangered Species Carousel. Scovill Zoo also has opportunities in their Mobile Zoo, Guided Tours, and special events. Background checks required.

Prefer inside on a rainy day? Why not try somewhere drier. The Decatur Public Library's local history room could use a couple new pairs of hands too!

Perhaps you would rather spend some one-on-one time mentoring a child doing something fun. Big Brothers Big Sisters has children waiting for that special Big. Are you him or her?

Love working with your hands? Habitat for Humanity has opportunities with every aspect of building homes or repairing furniture/fixtures for the ReStore.

Do you travel all summer and are looking to help come fall? We have you covered there too! BABES combines puppets, stories, and discussions designed to help school children develop positive living skills. They have wrapped up the school year, but will begin taking names for their fall training session.

*Call 428.6616 and ask for Charlie or Sandra today to learn more about one or all and how you can get started on you next big adventure!*

## LOOKING AHEAD

RSVP office will be closed May 29<sup>th</sup> for Memorial Day, and July 4<sup>th</sup>.

DeWitt County Senior Academy will be August 8, 15 and 22 this year at the Vespasian Warner Public Library at 9:30 a.m. Watch for additional information in August.

## 25<sup>th</sup> Annual Coats for Kids Drive

WAND  
Matt Loveless



During April's National Volunteer Awareness Week, we had the opportunity to thank the dry cleaners who volunteer their time to make the donated coats clean and ready to be worn. We also wanted to thank our cosponsor for 25 years, WAND-TV!

Thanks to these participants of the drive, who when teamed with great local businesses, RSVP Volunteers and area clothing rooms, make it easier to get the generously donated coats into the hands of families in need.

Classic Cleaners



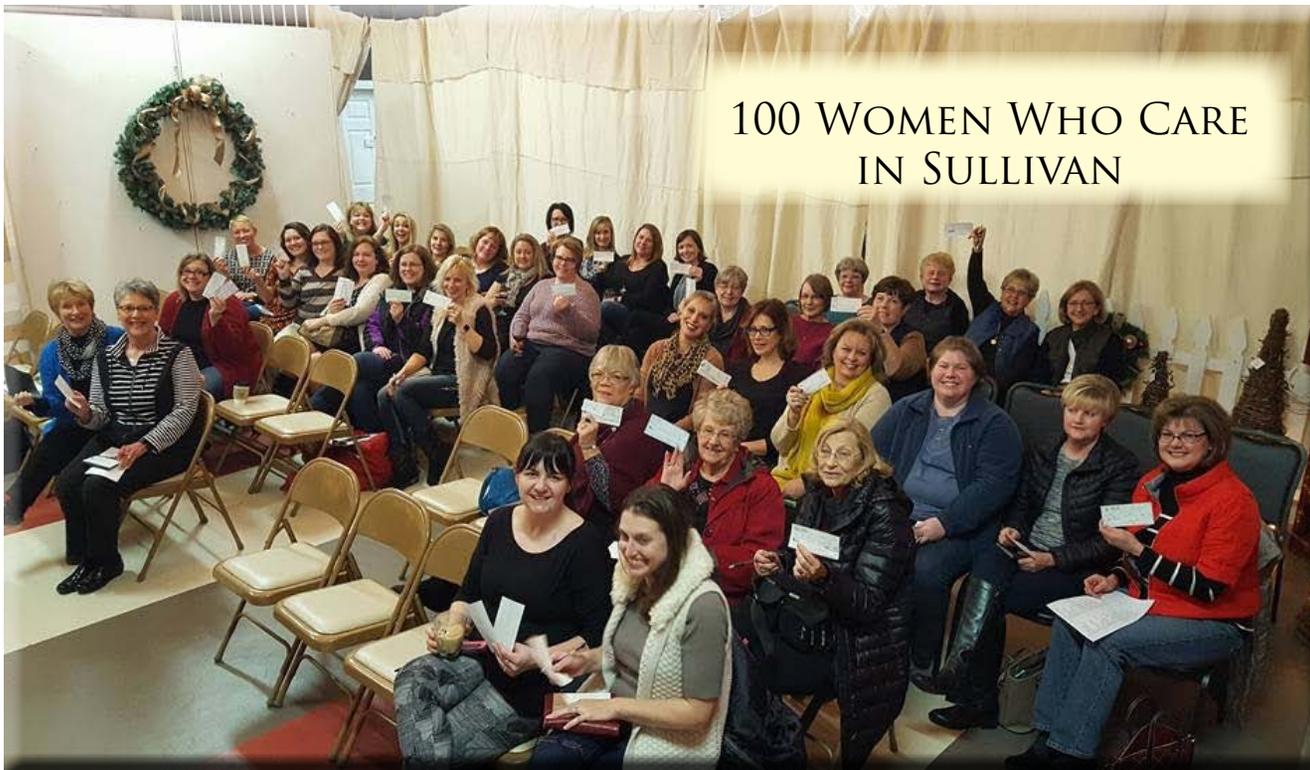
Pride Cleaners  
George Johns



Peerless  
Jackie Stewart and Elizabeth Mootrey



Waite's Cleaners  
Bill Waite



## 100 WOMEN WHO CARE IN SULLIVAN



It's summertime ... and the livin' is easy ... at least that is what the song tells us. But sometimes it is hard to enjoy the carefree days of summer, or to join in the summer fun. If you are dealing with issues of domestic violence, or with unresolved issues from past abuse, please call us. We are here to help get you ... or someone you love ... back on track. We offer individual and group counseling, legal advocacy and services tailored to your needs to get you back to fun in the sun. Call us today at 774.4888 so we can help you get back into the sunshine.

Susie Kensil

Shelby County Domestic Violence Program

Local women commit to meeting up to four times a year and donate \$100 to a charitable organization in the community at each meeting. The group is modeled after similar programs throughout the country. Their goals are to help local organizations who fundraise, meet other philanthropic people in the community and be part of a larger initiative by joining together with other women-creating a powerful impact in their community. At the January meeting, Dove in Moultrie County was chosen as their beneficiary and received \$4000!

Dove's local advocate, Mary Hughes, was thrilled to receive their generous donation! She spoke to the group on April 11<sup>th</sup>. The donation will allow services to continue for victims and their children in Moultrie County. The support is greatly appreciated!

A huge Thank You to all of the ladies in confirming that together we do make a difference!

# VOLUNTEERS - MAKING THE SHELTER SAFER, CLEANER, AND MORE ATTRACTIVE!



Thanks to the crew from Ameren PCAA Group who have been coming to the Shelter for a few years to do an amazing job of cleaning up the front entrance landscaping and the garden. It looks so beautiful when they are finished, not only cleaning up the winter mess, but added new flowers and garden decorations to make it special. Thanks to all who organize, purchase the materials (mulch, flowers, etc.) and do so much work!



Thanks to these volunteers from St. Peter's AME Church who spent a Saturday morning in the Shelter, disinfecting toys, and other areas to make things healthier for all.

We are thrilled that our children's library is used so much by the families staying in the Shelter. One volunteer organized and put books back in their place!

Thanks for all the good works!





## News from the BABES Program

Sandy Laesch, BABES Program Coordinator

As I wrap up this school year I wanted to take time to reflect on the importance of Beginning Awareness Basic Education Studies (BABES) program to the children in our community.

Did you know?

- Addiction nearly always originated during adolescence. 90% of those currently addicted began using alcohol and other drugs before the age of 18. The younger a person is when they have their first drink or drug, the more likely it is that they will become dependent on drugs and alcohol. (National Institute on Drug Abuse)
- Although drinking by persons under the age of 21 is illegal, people aged 12 to 20 years drink 11% of all alcohol consumed in the United States. (Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention)
- Teens misuse prescription drugs for a number of reasons, such as to get high, to stop pain, or because they think it will help them with school work. (National Institute on Drug Abuse)

- Most teens get prescription drugs they misuse from friends and relatives, sometimes without the person knowing. (National Institute on Drug Abuse)

The BABES program is a foundational start for students in making the right decisions, not succumbing to peer pressure, and knowing who are the adults in their lives that they can talk to. Through the use of puppets and discussion with the children the BABES program reinforces what children have learned from parents, teachers, and law enforcement about the dangers of using alcohol and drugs.

The 2016/17 school year has ended. The Puppets and BABES' volunteers are taking a much needed break. Thank you Vicki Bradley, Patty Cain, Jackie Sharp-Evans, Bea Fisher, Chris Foster, Sally Lauer, Sally Mathieson, Linda Natereli, Megan Neaville, Kathy Pepper, Pam Rhodes, Amy Scott, Becky Volle, Pat Wenda, and Sheryl Whisman who are BABES volunteers who went into the classrooms this year to help the children in our community

develop positive living and decision-making skills. Without their dedication this program wouldn't exist.

Thank you also goes to our community for financial support of the BABES program.

- Exelon Generation Clinton Power Station for printing all the handouts and parent letters for the school year
- The United Way for their financial support and also volunteers that help on the UW Day of Action
- DeWitt County Mental Health Board
- Personal donations
- Everyone who helped and participated in the BABES Mystery Night fundraiser

*Thank you! Thank you! Thank you!*

It will be back to school before we know! There will be a volunteer kick-off to the school year meeting and a BABES volunteer training scheduled in the fall.

If you would like more information about volunteering for the BABES Program, contact me through email [slaesch@doveinc.org](mailto:slaesch@doveinc.org) or call 428.6616, ext. 126.

*Have a safe and wonderful summer!*



We want to give a big THANK YOU to the members of the Junior Welfare Association for their recent donation of \$900 for the Domestic Violence Program. Seen here, is Sara Leigh (R) representing the ladies for their donation of adorable handmade bracelets and Mother's Day cards to give to our clients! What a very personal and thoughtful thing to do!!

Thank you, for thinking of us - we so appreciate your support!  
Teri Ducy (L) and Chris Gregory (M) accept the donation.

*THANK YOU to Rosella Young and her ladies group from Illiopolis Christian Church for their generous gifts to our clients in honor of Mother's Day. We are very thankful for your ongoing support over the years in helping make Mother's Day so special for many women!*

*To learn more about becoming a Dove Member Congregation or to schedule a speaker for your congregation please contact Barb Blakey, Director of Volunteers  
&  
Community Relations  
at 428.6616 or dove@doveinc.org*

## Looking Ahead!

Fall 2017 Domestic Violence Education & Volunteer Training

September 11 - 27  
Monday - Thursday Afternoons  
1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Dean Simcox Conference Room  
302 S. Union, Decatur

\$150 training fee, some scholarships available

Registration begins, July 24, 2017  
Call Barb Blakey, 428-6616 for additional information.

### 100<sup>th</sup> Home Sale Charity Giveaway

Be on the lookout for this annual charity fundraiser from Glenda Williamson Realty. Dove is thrilled to be one of the five local charities who could benefit from this event. Dove will need all our friends to vote daily!

When will you be able to vote?  
When their 100<sup>th</sup> home is sold!

Coffee Connection  
Car Show Fundraiser for Dove  
October 7, 7:00 to 10:00 a.m.

# NEWS

from the Domestic Violence Program

## Staff Training

Many of the domestic violence staff attended a training on May 4<sup>th</sup> at the Decatur Conference Center. This training, "Strangulation: The Final Warning Shot," was planned and sponsored by the Macon County State's Attorney's Office. Gael Strack, former prosecutor at the San Diego, CA, City Attorney's Office and current Chief Executive Officer and Cofounder for Alliance for HOPE International, was the trainer.

## Support Group Cancelled

As a result of the shortage of staff and lack of funding, effective immediately, there will no longer be a Tuesday night Domestic Violence Support Group at the Dove Decatur Shelter address. The Wednesday morning Domestic Violence Support Group will continue at 10:30 a.m., and children will be in the Domestic Violence Children's Group at the same time.

Please note, at this sending, the Domestic Violence Staff is down one full-time and two half-time staff members and there is a hiring freeze.

## - W E L C O M E -

Raynesse Coleman to our Committee Against Domestic Violence in Macon County! Raynesse completed her domestic violence training with us and is currently employed at CASA, Court Appointed Special Advocate, as an Advocate Supervisor.

The Shelby County Committee Against Domestic Violence (CADV) welcomes Brittany Reynolds to membership on our Committee. Brittany is Social Services Director at Shelbyville Manor and lives in Shelbyville with her husband, Gabe, and her daughter, Sydney. Welcome, Brittany. Thank you for supporting our program.

## DEWITT COUNTY FOOD PANTRY

803 W. LEANDER  
CLINTON

OPEN  
TUESDAYS AND  
THURSDAYS  
10:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.

THE FOOD PANTRY  
IS AVAILABLE FOR  
ANY RESIDENT IN THE  
COUNTY

## NEWS FROM HOMEWARD BOUND



### SEEKING ENTRANCE INTO THE HOMEWARD BOUND PROGRAM?

Walk-in applications will be taken on Wednesdays and Fridays between 9:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. at the Homeward Bound office, 788 E. Clay, Decatur.

All others can call 362.7700 for an appointment.

HOMELESS ADVISORY COUNCIL  
CONTINUUM OF CARE  
(HAC/CoC) MEETING

THURSDAY, JULY 13, 2017  
1:30 P.M.

PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING!  
WE WILL DISCUSS THE  
UPDATES FOR  
NATIONAL HUNGER AND  
HOMELESSNESS  
AWARENESS WEEK.

#### MEETINGS LOCATION:

HOMEWARD BOUND OFFICE, 788 E. CLAY STREET, DECATUR

#### CONTACT:

DARSONYA SWITZER, 362.7700 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

SOAR (SSI/SSDI OUTREACH,  
ACCESS AND RECOVERY)  
COMMITTEE MEETING!

UPCOMING DATES  
10:00 A.M.

THURSDAY, JUNE 15  
THURSDAY, JULY 20  
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

# RSVP NEWS



Sheryl Whisman, RSVP DeWitt County Coordinator and Charlie Gillaspie, RSVP Program Director, shared information about RSVP to those who attended the Eagle Ridge Health Fair in April.

## A Friendly Reminder

In order to receive an invitation to our Annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon your qualified service hours must be recorded. Any hours that you have served from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017 need to be submitted no later than July 10, 2017, if you have not already done so.

There was a panel discussion from clients and volunteers to the programs at the 2017 Annual Meeting. Patty Cain (L) spoke about being a BABES Volunteer (and is a RSVP Volunteer) and Joyce Johnson (R), shared about RSVP. Seen here with Sandy Harmison, RSVP Program Specialist.

## Coupons for Overseas Military Families

We are excited to announce that as of May 4, 2017, with your help, RSVP has shipped more than 1,527,809 coupons to our needy families overseas. Thank you! Please remember we collect ONLY manufacturer coupons (no more than one month expired.) No store-specific or restaurant coupons are allowed. With your generous help we are confident we will reach our 2 million coupon goal in no time. Keep those coupons coming and thanks again for all the support. Coupons can be dropped off at any Dove office location.

## A Note about Hours

You can pick up timesheets from our office, your RSVP station (if station is out, please call), or online at [www.doveinc.org](http://www.doveinc.org). A blank timesheet is always attached to the RSVP weekly email update as well. It is imperative that you continue to record and submit your hours in order for RSVP to tell Illinois state your story. Together we can show them how important your experience, skills, and dedication to the community is. Without your time and dedication our communities would have less, without reporting hours our community receives less. We encourage everyone to submit their hours on a monthly basis by the 5<sup>th</sup> of the following month. Timesheets can be emailed, faxed, mailed via USPS, or dropped off at our office located at 302 S. Union St. We even have a mailbox labeled RSVP in our lower level parking lot for your convenience.



# 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.*

For ease of making a donation of children's clothing, a shed is located south of the church in the parking lot.



## HAPPY FATHER'S DAY!

YOUR GIFT WILL ENSURE THAT SERVICES CAN CONTINUE.

PLEASE GIVE GENEROUSLY.  
DOVE, INC., 302 S. UNION, DECATUR, IL 62522  
OR DONATE ONLINE AT  
[WWW.DOVEINC.ORG](http://WWW.DOVEINC.ORG)

# 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

WARM NEIGHBORS  COOL FRIENDS

WNCF is located in the MAX office for MACON and DEWITT Counties. Below are the 2016-2017 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.

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

<b>1</b>	\$1,485 - \$2,970
<b>2</b>	\$2,003 - \$4,005
<b>3</b>	\$2,520 - \$5,040
<b>4</b>	\$3,038 - \$6,075
<b>5</b>	\$3,555 - \$7,110
<b>6</b>	\$4,073 - \$8,145
<b>7</b>	\$4,591 - \$9,183
<b>8</b>	\$5,111 - \$10,223



# DAX

DEWITT COUNTY ASSISTANCE  
EXCHANGE

DAX HAS FUNDS FOR  
FINANCIAL EMERGENCIES

IF YOU HAVE ANY QUESTIONS,  
PLEASE FEEL FREE  
TO CONTACT  
JENNIFER  
AT 935.6619

**REGISTER  
NOW**



**Reserve your appointment**  
to attend the  
**Residential  
Electronics Collection  
Event**

on Saturday, June 10, 2017  
at Decatur Civic Center Parking Lot

**Must be registered  
to attend!**

Consumer electronic items may be dropped off for recycling by residents who register for a confirmed appointment and pre-pay \$10.00 for each TV/monitor to be collected.

Except for TVs/monitors, other accepted items may be dropped off free of charge by those with a confirmed appointment.

**To register, click on "Register Now" at [www.MaconGreen.com](http://www.MaconGreen.com) or submit a mail-in registration form.**

Registration forms are available at Macon County Environmental Management, 141 S. Main St., Room 408 or by calling 217-425-4505.

**Items Accepted at the Event**

Up to 10 residential electronic items will be accepted per confirmed registrant, including:

- Televisions & monitors without broken glass (limit of 3 with pre-payment of \$10 each, submitted at time of registration)
- Computers, laptops, printers & peripherals
- Control boxes, receivers, consoles & controls for games, satellite & cable TV boxes, media players & recorders
- Phones, tablets, cables & accessories

Sponsored by



**217/425-4505**

**[www.MaconGreen.com](http://www.MaconGreen.com)**



Join community leaders  
from Macon County  
for an **important conversation**  
about our children.



A Conversation on  
Childhood Maltreatment

Decatur Public Library Madden Room  
Tuesday, June 6 at 9 a.m.