



# DOVE TALES

the newsletter of Dove, Inc.

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



May 2017

Barbara Blakey  
Editor

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**Dove, Inc.**  
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**Dove's Mission**  
Dove is a coalition  
of religious  
organizations,  
volunteers, and  
advocates that seeks  
to coordinate efforts  
to address unmet  
human needs and  
social injustices

Dove works for  
justice, equality  
and understanding  
among all people.

## May is Older Americans Month Charlie Gillaspie, RSVP Program Director



The theme for 2017 is "Age Out Loud." How do you "age out loud?" We would love to hear from you. Email Charlie Gillaspie at [cgillaspie@doveinc.org](mailto:cgillaspie@doveinc.org) and share how you age out loud!!!

I know RSVP volunteers that "Age Out Loud" in our community. There are groups that spend time entertaining at local nursing homes singing their hearts out to the residents; volunteers who tutor and mentor both children and adults; volunteers who are not afraid to

help with the petting zoo and touch the creepy crawlers. There are even volunteers who "age out loud" by presenting with puppets through the BABES program. So many older Americans are giving back to our communities in their own unique ways. Come "age out loud" with us and show others what older Americans really look like.

Charlie shared information about RSVP at the April Meeting of YES! (Young Enough to Serve!) at First Baptist Church, Decatur



# 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  
Sandy 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  
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

According to St. Thomas Aquinas, evil is the lack of a good that should be present. "The only thing necessary for the triumph of evil is that good men should do nothing," is a statement which John F. Kennedy once attributed to Edmond Burke. Both sentiments make it very clear that we need to be present and active in this life. In 1970 Dove formed to meet the unmet needs of the Decatur area and since 1980 has sought to be present, a source of hope, good and comfort, in the life of victims of domestic violence. Standing alongside, sharing the burden, and caring for people who have suffered from a specific evil.

As we take steps over these next months to remain present, I ask you today to stand with us. Commit to financially supporting Dove and being active in your congregations in rallying support. Commit to contacting your representatives in government and supporting domestic violence funding. We are facing a budget shortfall of 50% for our Domestic Violence Program due to the lack of state budget and the lack of even an FY17 stop-gap appropriation. Together we can be a present, active force for good in this world.

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 self-sustaining community free of human suffering.

Sincerely,  
Christine Gregory



RSVP OF DEWITT & MACON COUNTY IS  
HAVING A COOKOUT AND WE WOULD LIKE TO  
SERVE YOU!!

**WHEN:**

Friday, May 5, 2017 from

10 AM – 6 PM

Saturday, May 6, 2017 from

10 AM – 2 PM

**LOCATION:** Clinton IGA, Clinton, Illinois

**We will be offering delivery service to all business in Clinton who order 8 or more sandwiches from 11 AM until 1 PM on Friday only.**

To place an advance order for delivery, call Lyn at (309) 830-3836 before May 5<sup>th</sup>. Advanced orders will be taken on Wednesday and Thursday. For same day orders, call Lyn at (309) 830-3836 or Sheryl at (309) 531-2106 the day of the cookout or just stop by and see us and take your order with you.

**Menu:**

Pork Chop Sandwich only	\$5.00
Pork Chop Sandwich with Chips & Drink	\$6.00





## LOOKING AHEAD - SAVE THE DATES!

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 the summer issue.

### Senior Corps Week

Each year during Senior Corps Week, we recognize the extraordinary impact Senior Corps volunteers make across our nation every day. This year, Senior Corps Week takes place May 15-19. Senior Corps Week is a time to highlight the impact of RSVP Programs, Foster Grandparent Programs, and Senior Companion Programs and recognize volunteers, community sponsors, and supporters. RSVP staff will be out visiting in our community collecting stories, taking pictures, and thanking those volunteers and partners by sharing their unique story and how Senior Corps volunteers work for them. If you would like to share your volunteer story, call Charlie at 217-428-6616 to share.

## VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Friends in Action in DeWitt County is looking for volunteers willing to transport clients to appointments, shopping, and/or quality of life activities. If you are interested in learning more about Friends in Action, give Sheryl a call at 935.2241.

Peace Meals in DeWitt County is looking for a delivery person to help deliver nutritional, balanced, hot meals to area residents. If you enjoy talking with neighbors and spreading good cheer, call Sheryl at 935.2241 to learn how you can join Peace Meals.



## MAYOR'S DAY

Every day, in counties and cities across America, National Service is tackling tough problems and strengthening communities. Locally our Mayor Julie Moore-Wolfe participated in Mayor and County Recognition Day for National Service by issuing a Proclamation for National Service Volunteers on April 3. Charlie Gillaspie, RSVP Director, and Desi Thomas, AmeriCorps VISTA serving with Big Brothers Big Sisters, shared the honor of reading the Proclamation.



Desi, Charlie and Sandra

*Thanks to the members of Unity Fellowship who grabbed a bunch of items from our wish list and donated to the Shelter! Thanks for sharing! Chris Gregory (L) and Jared Bohland (R) seen here with the representatives from the fellowship.*



**The BABES volunteers, puppets and I will finish in schools May 22. This has been a busy and rewarding school year.**

**Thank you to all the BABES volunteers!**

**A few of the volunteers could gather for a Soup and Salad Luncheon during National Volunteer Recognition Week.  
- Sandy Laesch, Program Coordinator**



# Dove, Inc. Annual Meeting

Monday, May 8, 2017

First Evangelical Lutheran Church, 250 West Decatur Street, Decatur

5:00 p.m. • Tour to see updates to the Shelter, 302 S. Union, *Optional*

5:30 p.m. • Gathering at FELC

5:45 p.m. • Dinner, followed by the meeting

## Meeting Highlights

- Report from Executive Director, Christine Gregory
- Remarks from Rev. Jason Butterick, Board President
- Program Updates
- Election of Board of Directors Members for the 2017-2019 Term of Service
- Panel Discussion, hear from Dove Clients and Program Participants

Please RSVP to Barb Blakey:

428-6616 or [dove@doveinc.org](mailto:dove@doveinc.org)

by noon on Monday, May 1





# DOVE'S ANNUAL GARDEN TEA LUNCHEON SATURDAY, JUNE 17

Luncheon - 11:30 a.m.

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

First Church of the Nazarene,  
Clinton

Tickets - \$15

Tickets will be available mid-May and must be purchased in advance  
at the Dove offices or from DeWitt County CADV members.

Featured in the ticket price:

**"BEAUTIES 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)

**GARDEN  
TEA  
LUNCHEON  
  
SATURDAY  
JUNE 17**

# NEWS

from the Domestic Violence Program

Our volunteers are very important to our Program here in Shelby County, although sometimes I am not sure we let them know that often enough. As a token of thanks to them, they were my guests for a dinner party on April 25. Everyone enjoyed the evening and each other's company for an evening of food and fun, with no work added. Thanks, ladies, I could not do this without you.

- Susie Kensil, Shelby County Coordinator

Moultrie County's advocate would like to thank all the employees at Scott State Bank for their recent donation. Each Friday, the employees pay one dollar to wear blue jeans to work and then select a charity or organization to receive the proceeds. This month they selected to donate the funds to Dove in Moultrie County. The branches who participated are; Sullivan, Bethany and Dalton City. We appreciate your support for Dove's Domestic Violence Program in Moultrie County!!!

- Mary Hughes, Moultrie County Coordinator

## D A X

DeWitt County Assistance eXchange

The DAX Program still has funds to assist with utilities and rent. Please contact Megan or Jennifer at 935-6619.

### Domestic Violence Shelter Needs

- BOX FANS
- TOILET PLUNGERS
- NIGHTLIGHTS
- WHITE NOISE MACHINES (2-3 for 2<sup>nd</sup>/3<sup>rd</sup> shift working clients trying to sleep, as well as large families, to mask noise)
- TABLET (for Group use)
- AA & AAA BATTERIES
- GAS GIFT CARDS
- NEW STROLLERS
- WALMART GIFT CARDS
- DISHWASHER DETERGENT 'PODS'
- SNACKS (HEALTHY)
- ADVIL, IBUPROFEN, ALEVE
- ANTIBIOTIC OINTMENT
- HYDROCORTISONE CREAM
- BABY MEDS (PAIN, STOMACH)
- NOSE / EAR SYRINGES
- CONTACT LENS MULTI-PURPOSE SOLUTION / CASES
- AFRICAN-AMERICAN HAIR CARE PRODUCTS & BRUSHES
- ORAJEL

*Please drop off any donations to the  
302 S. Union offices,  
M-F, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.  
Thanks!*

### 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

The Food Pantry is in need of the following items:

- Canned Fruit
- Peanut Butter
- Jelly
- Canned Soups
- Cereal
- Diapers, sizes 5 & 6



## 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

The Homeless Advisory Council/ Continuum of Care (HAC/CoC) will meet on Thursday, May 11, at 1:30 p.m. at the Homeward Bound office, 788 E. Clay Street. Please plan on attending! We will discuss the Point in Time numbers and how we can continue to reduce them. We will also have a report from the SOAR (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery) Committee.

### SOAR Committee Meeting! (SSI/SSDI Outreach, Access and Recovery)

The Decatur Area SOAR Committee meeting will take place on Thursday, May 18, 2017 at 10:00 a.m. at Homeward Bound, 788 E. Clay, Decatur. We will continue discussions on implementing the Decatur Area SOAR action plan. Please plan to attend. Contact Darsonya Switzer at 362.7700 for further information.

### Will you help?

We are looking to have several of the Homeward Bound participants interviewing through the month of May and June. It is our hope to be able to supply them with personal hygiene products.

These items include:

- Deodorant
- Razors
- Combs
- Brushes
- Shampoo
- Soap

Any support would be greatly appreciated.

And at this time, Homeward Bound is collecting the following items for the participants of the program:

- Diapers (all sizes, from newborn to pull-ups)
- Baby wipes

Items can be dropped off M-F, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at 788 E. Clay, Decatur.

# RSVP NEWS

## **National Volunteer Appreciation Week**

**National Volunteer Appreciation Week is April 23 - 29. RSVP Staff will be visiting stations to honor and thank volunteers in our community. We know all volunteers are worth a “mint” to our communities and we thank you for all you do!**

THANKS TO ALL WHO  
DINED AT TED'S GARAGE IN  
CLINTON IN MARCH.  
MORE THAN \$280 WILL BE  
DONATED TO RSVP!

RSVP HAS SENT MORE THAN  
1,500,000 COUPONS  
TO OVERSEAS MILITARY  
FAMILIES!

IF YOU HAVE  
MANUFACTURER COUPONS  
YOU ARE NOT GOING TO  
USE, DROP THEM OFF TO US!  
WE'LL CLIP, SORT AND GET  
INTO FAMILIES'S HANDS TO  
HELP THEM OUT!

COUPONS CAN BE  
DROPPED OF AT:

302 S. UNION IN DECATUR

OR 803 W. LEANDER IN  
CLINTON



# 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.



KUDOS TO BUSEY BANK VOLUNTEERS,  
ERICA KIRKSEY AND TANAYA MUSGRAVE, WHO  
CAME TO THE CLOTHING ROOM TO HELP  
SWITCH OUT THE SEASONS!  
THANKS FOR THE HELPING HAND!

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.



*Our sincere Thanks go out to the  
MAX Volunteers for all your help  
with the program. Pictures are from  
the "Coffee" held on April 12.*





# SHARE A HAIRCUT

MAY 1-2, 2017

#ShareAHaircut  
#HCBautyOfGiving

The National Network to End Domestic Violence (NNEDV) and Hair Cuttery are excited to announce that Hair Cuttery is conducting its fourth annual Share-A-Haircut program to provide haircuts to survivors of domestic violence in our community. “We believe that a fresh haircut can help survivors and their children feel pampered and relaxed amid the chaos that abuse brings—and feel confident with a new style!”

On Monday, May 1 and Tuesday, May 2, every time a client purchases a haircut at any Hair Cuttery salon, Hair Cuttery will donate a free haircut certificate to a survivor of domestic violence through the local program.

In 2016, Hair Cuttery donated 55,000 free haircut certificates to survivors.

Local Hair Cuttery  
NORTH COURT OF DECATUR  
149 East Pershing Road  
DECATUR

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:

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

