DoveTales

the newsletter of Dove, Inc.

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October 2017

Barbara Blakey
Editor

Issue 1710
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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 one or all of these
Annual Events, in recognition of October's
National Domestic Violence Awareness Month

Shelby County Candlelighting Ceremony
Thursday, October 5, 7:00 p.m.
First United Methodist Church, 205 West Main Street, Shelbyville

DeWitt County Candlelighting Ceremony
Monday, October 9, 7:00 p.m.
St. John The Baptist Catholic Church, 502 N. Monroe, Clinton

Macon County Candlelighting Ceremony
Thursday, October 12, 7:00 p.m.
Decatur First United Methodist Church, 201 W. North, Decatur

Moultrie County Candlelighting Ceremony
Thursday, October 26, 7:00 p.m.
First United Methodist Church, 216 W. Jefferson, Sullivan

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
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,
It is with great joy that we share during Domestic Violence Awareness month two incredible donations and our plan going forward to be certain that the needs of victims of domestic violence are being met in our community. As you likely know from the news, the Domestic Violence Program at Dove, Inc. was in dire straits at the end of last fiscal year. Due to a generous donation from the James Millikin Estate to cover part of Shelter staff salaries we were able to proceed into FY18 without additional staff and service cuts. Then a further generous donation from the Howard G. Buffet Foundation for the Domestic Violence Program has positioned us to plan for how we can look at our overall funding structure as we move forward in this next era of budgeting.

One of our strong desires in this situation is to be good stewards of the work which the Lord has given us to do. While the generous donations just mentioned carry us through the current financial situation, we hope to build local funds in a structure which enables us to decrease our state dependence and continue our Domestic Violence ministry and all of Dove's ministries into the future. As you plan your stewardship this fall and for the coming year we hope that you will join us in this effort by continuing to donate as individuals and as churches. With those donations Dove hopes to replenish our reserves, potentially develop an endowment, and ensure that our mission to coordinate efforts to address unmet needs and social injustices is met.

This fall you will see our ministries moving forward as we congratulate all of our Recognition of Service Excellence (ROSE) award winners and all who serve in RSVP, our local SeniorCorps. Program, move into the schools to promote positive choices with our Healthy Relationships and BABES programs, with Domestic Violence Candlelighting Ceremonies in each county we serve, Coats for Kids, and National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness activities such as Box City and the Allegiance Concert in November. After Thanksgiving, we will celebrate our neighborhoods with the Heritage and Holly Historic Home Tour and support local needs with the Christmas Basket Project, Dove's longest running ministry in cooperation with Northeast Community Fund.

All of these efforts would not be possible without the help of countless volunteers and local community support. You make Dove what it is, and we are glad to be a part of your ministry to the world. 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

NEWS
from the Domestic Violence Program

As we come upon October, National Domestic Violence Awareness Month, I would like to ask each of you to consider in your own mind "What do I personally understand about domestic violence – or do I?" Do you know what causes it? Drugs/alcohol? Stress? Upbringing? Anger? Did you know that emotional and verbal abuse can hurt just as deeply as physical abuse? Do you understand that domestic violence is very closely related to animal abuse? There are so many questions – but such a lack of understanding, or out and out blame and denial.

Domestic violence is a crime and happens almost every day in our community. Every 9 seconds a woman is beaten – but men also are sometimes victims of domestic violence. The effect domestic violence has on children who are exposed to this environment affects them for the rest of their lives. 60% of children in severely emotionally disturbed classes are from violent homes.

Domestic violence is found in families of all religious backgrounds. Many victims find themselves torn between their religious teachings and their own safety. Rather than leave, they pray for their partners/abusers to change or for the ability to endure the abuse. I encourage all clergy and religious leaders to educate their congregations, create a safe environment for domestic violence victims, and learn how to effectively respond to their needs. Abusive behavior is a choice; it is a learned behavior and knows no boundaries, regardless of race, religious, economic or geographic location.

Please plan to attend our annual Candlelighting Ceremony on Thursday, October 12, 7:00 p.m., at First United Methodist Church, 201 W. North Street. Come be a part of and support victims of domestic violence and the survivors, and to help us recognize all those who work tirelessly every day to held put an end to this unjustifiable crime. Help us fill every single pew in the church and take a stand against domestic violence in our community.

Teri Ducy, Director
Dove Domestic Violence Program

STARTING OVER

We waited as she approached the shelter door
Beaten down and discouraged she could take NO more
Her children followed behind with tears in their eyes
All of them wanting answers to the question of "Why?"

We reached out our hand and offered a smile
To be treated so kind had not happened in awhile
We sat down to talk and then showed them around
Doing our best to assure them they are safe and sound.

The tears in their eyes told us they'd had more than enough
Of the pain and the hurt that have made things so rough
NO ONE deserves to be treated this way
Feeling like a prisoner every single day!

"I'll never do this again" the abuser would say
Giving her hope to once again stay
But these empty promises no longer mattered
She's tired of the lies and the pain of being battered.

The abuse they have suffered is never justified
As the evening sets in, she closes her eyes
And when morning arrives with the warm rising sun
A new life ahead has FINALLY begun!

By Teri Ducy, 2004

Heritage & Holly Historic Home Tour

Sweet Beginnings

a fundraiser for all Dove's programs

The 2017 Heritage & Holly Tour will continue to bring area history to light and feature area historic homes and businesses. The Trolley will be available to transport visitors to sites on the tour. Donna Williams, who has organized the tour for more than a decade, and other NWRAPS members will continue to consult and volunteer through the transition.

New this year will be a bit of the rich history, "Sweet Beginnings," of Dove and its programs. Along with that, we'll feature the home of a former bakery family and the "cake house." And for a real sweet treat, Wildflour Bakery will be open during the tour hours, for purchasing a warm drink and a sweet treat between viewing the houses.

Please watch Dove's website www.doveinc.org for other locations that will join the Anna B. Millikin Home / Dove, Inc. location for the tour. If you are interested in volunteering for the event , please contact Dove at 428.6616 or email dove@doveinc.org.

This Dove, Inc. fundraiser will support all the programs at Dove, and the many outreach programs.

November

Friday, 24th

4:00 to 8:00 p.m.

Saturday, 25th

12:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Tickets will be on sale
November 1 - Noon, November 22

$18 advance tickets
$20 at the door

Dove
302 S. Union Street

Dove/Homeward Bound
788 E. Clay Street

Land of Lincoln Credit Union
4850 Prosperity Place
3130 E. Mound Road
2890 N. Oakland Ave.
151 N. 22nd Street
1435 N. Water Street

Novel Ideas
480 E. Main Street

Wildflour Artisan Bakery
256 W. Main Street
– will accept Debit/Credit cards

OR online NOW at

NEWS
from the Domestic Violence Program

It has been a very busy month of sorting through resumes, interviewing and hiring for 7 open positions in the program!! So far, we have hired our two 2nd shift Shelter Specialists, our daytime Shelter Specialist, our Receptionist, and our Parenting Specialist. We are still in the process of hiring a Children's Specialist. All of our newly-hired staff will be able to start our upcoming training on October 2nd.

There truly is light at the end of the tunnel and it will feel so wonderful to have stability in our program once again!

As the Director of our program and on behalf of all our staff, I would like to congratulate former Sheriff Tom Schneider on his recent retirement! Tom has been a longtime friend and supporter of our program and we are very grateful to him for his service in our community. We wish him nothing but happiness, good health and many blessings in his future.

Likewise, we also would like to congratulate and welcome Sheriff Howard Buffett as our new Sheriff. We look forward to working with him! He is truly a gift to our community and one who has made made many impacts already in making such a difference through his leadership, generosity, and passion.
Teri Ducy

On September 21st, Mary Hughes, Moultrie County Coordinator, participated in the Family Event for Head Start. They have 20 children enrolled in their program. There were games and prizes for all the children, as well as snacks for the children and their parents.

Susie Kensil, Shelby County Coordinator, participated in a Parent's Fair at Shelbyville Head Start on September 21. It was a great chance to meet Head Start parents and to give them information about our program in Shelby County.

Thank you to the Shelbyville Fire Department for playing for our program in the Annual Emergency Services Softball Tournament. It was a fun day. We so appreciate your support.

We are still looking for anyone who is community-minded and would like to become an active CADV (Committee Against Domestic Violence) committee member for the DeWitt County Program. Please contact Jennifer Tolladay for more information 935.6619.

Please Note:
DeWitt County's
Ladies of Value and children support groups
have moved to Thursdays, 5:00 p.m.

Coming for the Holiday Season

As the Holiday season is upcoming, I would like to invite everyone to the annual Christmas Cantata in Clinton. It is a wonderful celebration of the Christmas season. Choirs from several community churches come together to sing songs about Jesus. It will be the first Saturday in December. Time and location will be announced. We look forward to seeing you there.
Jennifer Tolladay

Moultrie County's Santa's Workshop will be held on December 2nd at the American Legion in Sullivan. Watch for more details later.
Mary Hughes

RSVP
Lead with Experience

Volunteer Opportunities

The BABES program needs some repairs made to the puppets. If you are handy with a needle and thread, give Charlie Gillaspie or Sandy Harmison a call at 428.6616.

This year Dove will be sponsoring the Heritage and Holly event in Decatur. Heritage and Holly is a tour of historic Decatur homes, decorated for the holidays. It takes place on November 24, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. and on November 25, 12:00 to 6:00 p.m. Volunteers are needed to house-sit and greet. Singers, musicians and historians are also welcome to perform during this event. If you are interested in volunteering or learning more on how you can help, give Charlie or Sandy a call at 428.6616. Volunteers get a free ticket to the event. Tickets are $18 in advance and $20 at the door.

Volunteer Organizational League

The next Volunteer Organizational League meeting will be October 10, 2017 at Rock Springs at Noon. Bring your lunch and come see what volunteer management support can do to help your organization. If you work with, supervise, or otherwise recruit volunteers, this meeting is for you. Contact Charlie Gillaspie at 428.6616 or Jenny Garver at 423.7708 to learn more about this free group.

No RSVP needed - just show up!

Domestic Violence Shelter Needs:

- Prepaid Gasoline Cards
- Gift Cards, Aldi or Walmart
- 9 V- AA & AAA Batteries
- Healthy snacks for children's groups
- Juice boxes/drinks for children's groups
- New Strollers
- Lice Treatments
- Large Hairbrushes
- Disinfectant Sprays
- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towels
- Dust Pans
- Dishwasher Detergent Pods
- Nightlights and bulbs

Please drop any donations to the Shelter at 302 S. Union, Decatur, 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., M-F.

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

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

DeWitt County Food Pantry

803 W. Leander, Clinton

Open Tuesdays & Thursdays 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Thank you to Big D's & Save a Lot for their weekly bread donation to our food pantry!!

BABES

Welcome to our new BABES volunteers, Rita Augsburger, Carol Brown and Marcia Juriga. So happy to have you!

The BABES volunteers are already busy in the schools this fall. Volunteers are presenting the BABES Program to 1st grade students at Harris and Parsons, Kindergartners at Stevenson, and 3rd graders at Sangamon Valley East, Baum, and DeLand-Weldon. How fortunate for the children in our community that we have such dedicated BABES Volunteers. 1st grade students at Stevenson and DeLand-Weldon are receiving the BABES Bridge 4 Lesson program.

Coffee Time at Panera Bread

Volunteers come and relax, share, gather information, and enjoy their favorite brew. If you would like to find out more about BABES and meet volunteers, please feel free to join us.

Tuesday October 10
We meet anytime
between 9:00 to 10:00 a.m.

Thank you goes to Bea Fisher and Chris Foster for being the first volunteers to use the BABES revised scripting and discussion guides. Your input is valuable. Thank you.

Halloween is right around the corner and the safety of our children is important. I wanted to again share a website that has valuable information about keeping kids safe…not only at Halloween, but on the internet and many other situations. Please check out the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children's website at www.missingkids.com, go to Child Safety & Prevention.

If you are interested in becoming involved in the BABES (Beginning Awareness Basic Education Studies) Program and would like more information about becoming a BABES Volunteer, contact me. My email is slaesch@doveinc.org or call 428.6616, ext. 126. There will be another training in January 2018.

Sandy Laesch, BABES Program Coordinator

"Aging Out Loud Color You Wonderful!"

2017 RSVP Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon Highlights

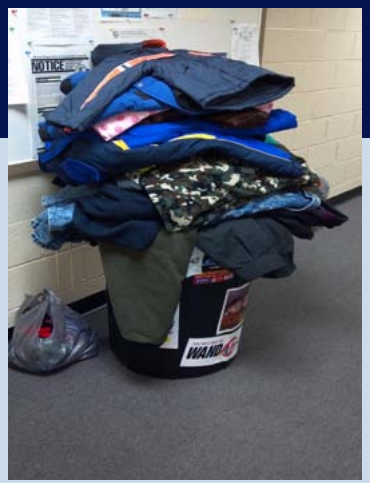
ROSE Award
Gloria Sadowski

ROSE Award
Joe Roundtree

ROSE Award
Lawrence & Shirley Krall

ROSE Award Station
Central Illinois Christians in Mission
Lee Donley - accepting

26th Annual Coats for Kids!



Coats for Kids!
co-sponsored by WAND-TV & Dove
October 11 - November 30

It's simple

- drop off a coat you no longer need - all sizes welcome
- participating cleaners will clean the coats
- clean coats will be delivered to participating clothing rooms
- wonderful volunteers keep it all working!

The 2017 Coats for Kids drive will begin October 11! We will be collecting good, used coats for families in need through November 30. We also welcome new children's coats if you don't have any to share!

Participating Cleaners will make sure the coats are clean and fresh and ready for the clothing rooms to distribute. (All addresses are Decatur unless noted otherwise.)

Below is a confirmed participation list as of this week. Watch for other sites and the participating Clothing Rooms!

Participating Cleaners

Classic Cleaners
2474 N. Main

Peerless Cleaners
519 N. Monroe

Pride Cleaners and Launderers
2553 N. Main
1804 E. Eldorado
1154 E. Prairie Ave.
912 W. Eldorado
2056 Mt. Zion Road

Waite's Dry Cleaners
1004 S. Main, Decatur
664 W. Eldorado
115 Magnolia, Forsyth

Drop-off Sites

Decatur Public Library
130 N. Franklin

Decatur Township Offices
1620 S. Taylorville Road

GT Church
500 S. 27th

Jerger Pediatric Dentistry, P.C.
2101 N. Main

Kroger
Brettwood Plaza
South Shores Plaza
Fairview Plaza
Airport Plaza

Land of Lincoln Credit Union
2890 N. Oakland
3130 E. Mound
4850 E Prosperity Place

Longcreek Township
2610 Salem School Road

Richland Community College
#1 College Park

St. Teresa High School
2710 N. Water Street

Texas Roadhouse
US 51 North

Delicious Ways to Help!

Please help out the Domestic Violence Program during October's National Domestic Violence Awareness Month!

Thursday, October 19 • 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Cherry Berry on Oakland, south of West Main
10% of sales

Saturday, October 21 • 7:00 to 10:00 a.m.
Coffee Connection Car Show Fundraiser

Monday, October 23 • 4:00 to 8:00 p.m.
Culver's on N. Water St. - 10% of sales

Monday, October 30 • 4:00 to 10:00 p.m.
Texas Roadhouse - Forsyth

needed flyer>>>

Our 9-11 Day of Service and Remembrance was a collection project to help the local V.A. Clinic for our Veterans. We delivered an abundance of books and puzzles for the Veterans to enjoy and provided over 60-plus calendars so that the Veterans could keep track of their needed appointments.

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.

September Proclaimed RSVP Month at the Decatur City Council Meeting

Coupons!

To date, we have shipped over 1.6 million coupons to Military families living overseas all over the world. Please remember only manufacturer coupons are collected for families. No store specific or restaurant coupons are shipped as they cannot be used overseas.

Thank you and keep those coupons coming. Together, with your help, we could soon reach the 2 million coupon mark!!

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, November 9 • 1:30 p.m.

Please plan on attending and finalize plans for National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week

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

TBA

Meetings Location:
Homeward Bound office
788 E. Clay Street, Decatur
Contact:
Darsonya Switzer, 362.7700
for further information

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

- **Men's Deodorant**
- **Bath Tissue**
- **Laundry Detergent**

Looking Ahead!

National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week Events

Planning Meeting
Thursday, October 12, NOON

Box City
Friday, November 10
Millikin University
Quad

Allegiance Concert
Sunday, November 19, 3:00 p.m.
First Baptist Church

Watch for other Events in the Next Newsletter!

Updates from Homeward Bound Program

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

Hilda Margerum resumes her role as Homeward Bound Client Services Coordinator

Brock Taylor takes the position of Life Skills and Employment Specialist

Shane Hartman joins the Homeward Bound staff in his current role as Housing and Employability Specialist

Melissa Aldridge joins the staff as the Coordinated Entry and Outreach Manager, learn more about her role in an upcoming issue of DoveTales

Daciena Simmons joins the staff as the Permanent Supportive Housing Case Manager

Seth Throneburg joins the staff as the Homeless Case Manager

With the addition of these individuals to the team, in their roles, we are looking forward to continuing to provide services and housing to those in the community that are homeless and at risk of becoming homeless!

M A X

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:
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

energy assistance FOUNDATION

Are you looking for meaningful ways to become involved in helping with this year's Christmas Baskets? There are numerous ways you can extend a helping hand this season:

Churches or church groups could designate one Sunday's offering to help purchase hats, gloves, gifts, and wrapping paper.

You and your family or friends could adopt a family (more on this in next month's newsletter or call Angie at Dove.)

You could designate a box for your friends and family, school or church group to collect hats, gloves, and scarves to help those in need to stay warm.

You could get a group together and collect stocking stuffers for the infants, kids, and teenagers.

Consider collecting new wrapping paper, tape, and gift bags to donate to the baskets.

Are you crafty? Are your friends? Why not have a sewing party and make some stockings?

You could buy Christmas cards and fill them with well wishes to the families, giving them encouragement for the months to come. Have your children help!

You could take up a collection of hygiene supplies (shampoo, soap, razors, toothbrush, toothpaste, dental floss) for individuals or families. We put these in large ziplock bags and place them in each Christmas basket.

You could collect large and XL trash bags, large Ziplock bags, rubber bands, batteries and packing tape. We go through a lot of all these items.

You could sponsor lunch for the volunteers one day during Baskets week, (December 18-23.)

Consider volunteering during Baskets week, or delivering baskets on the 23rd.

These are just a few of the ways you could get involved in Christmas Baskets, but the possibilities are not in any way limited to this list. Let your imagination guide you and help make Christmas brighter for those who need it the most this season.

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