

DoveTales

the newsletter of Dove, Inc.

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November 2018

Barbara Blakey Editor

Issue 1811 Published Monthly

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. The Dove Board of Directors would like to inform our friends, advocates, community partners, volunteers and donors of a change in leadership at Dove, Inc. Christine Gregory is no longer serving as Executive Director and is not an employee of the organization. Tammy Wilcox, is now serving as the Acting Executive Director of Dove, Inc. working with the Leadership Team.

The organization will continue serving the community, as it has for more than 45 years, as a coalition of religious organizations, volunteers, and advocates that seek to address unmet human needs and social injustices. As it always has, Dove will continue to work for justice, equality, and understanding among all people. We look forward to working with you, our loyal supporters, volunteers, advocates and partners, as we serve the greater central Illinois community.

Will Graffinds

We want to thank...

- ... the clients that put their trust in us to seek help
- ... the Volunteers who are vital to the work at Dove
- ... the supporters who give their funds and items needed
- ... those who work with us in other agencies

... the congregations who support us with prayer, funds, and work beside us in programs

...and to all who keep updated with Dove, to be able to share with others needing help at Dove ~ Dove Staff



27th Annual Coats for Kids!

through November 30

sponsored by



The 2018 Coats for Kids drive is in full swing and we will be collecting good, used and new coats, for families in need, through November 30.

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

Participating Cleaners

Classic Cleaners 2474 N. Main

Peerless Cleaners 519 N. Monroe

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

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

Participating Drop off sites

Decatur Public Library 130 N. Franklin

Decatur Township Office 1620 S. Taylorville Road

Good Samaritian Inn 920 N. Union Street

GT Church 500 S. 27th

HSHS St. Mary's Hospital main lobby

Illiopolis Christian Church 305 Anne Street, Illiopolis

Kroger Brettwood Plaza, South Shores Plaza Airport Plaza

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

Longcreek Township 2610 Salem School Road

Regions 2340 Mt. Zion Road 350 N. Water, 1355 W. King 333 E. Pershing Road

Richland Community College #1 College Park

Soy Capital Bank and Trust 560 E. Pershing 455 N. Main 4825 US Route 36

St. Teresa High School 2710 N. Water Street

Texas Roadhouse US 51 North, Forsyth

Dove, Inc.

Leadership Team

Tammy Wilcox Acting Executive 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

Community Services Program Sattin Schreiner, Community Engagement 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 Liz Mackey, Piatt County Coordinator

> Homeward Bound Darsonya Switzer, Program Director

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

RSVP • Retired & Senior Volunteer Program Christina Gillaspie, Program Director Debra Hoffman, DeWitt County Coordinator

National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week

Community Forum on Coordinated Efforts of the Macon County Continuum of Care: Housing, Services and Panhandling

Decatur Civic Center - Downtown Decatur, 1st floor classroom Wednesday, November 14 7:00 to 8:30 p.m. (doors open at 6:30 p.m.)

The forum will be moderated by Professor Mary Garrison from Millikin University. Panel members will include community provider representatives engaged in providing services and addressing housing needs.

To be a part of this important conversation and have your questions addressed, please submit questions to for review and potential inclusion in the panel discussion.

> outreach@doveinc.org by 5:00 p.m. Monday, November 12.



National average age of homeless individual: 9 years old

to view past Point-in-Time Surveys on homelessness in Macon County, please check the Dove <u>website</u>

News from Homeward Bound

Seeking Entrance into the Homeward Bound Program?

Walk-in applications will be taken Monday through Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. at the Homeward Bound Office, 788 E. Clay, Decatur.

Coordinated Entry:

Please contact the Homeward Bound office, Monday-Friday between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. for issues of homelessness or at 217.362.7700. After-hours, please call 217.619.5742.

Employability:

Homeward Bound has PAID

employment training opportunities available for individuals who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Please call 217.362.7700 to learn more.

Life Skills:

Homeward Bound offers weekly life skills and budgeting classes for individuals who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. Please call 217.362.7700 to learn more.

Needed items:

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

- Deodorant
- Toothpaste
- Conditioner
- Body Wash
- Baby Wipes

Homeless Advisory Council Continuum of Care (HAC/CoC) Meeting

Thursday, November 8 1:30 p.m.

National Hunger and Homelessness Awareness Week will be the topic of discussion. Please join us!

Meeting Location:

Homeward Bound, 788 E. Clay, Decatur

Contact:

Darsonya Switzer, 217.362.7700, for further information

Dove, Inc. would like to welcome new staff to the Homeward Bound Program:

> Michele Johner Life Skills and Employment Specialist



Sunday, November 11, 2018

3:00 p.m.

First Baptist Church 1320 Arbor Drive Decatur

Free Admission Please bring canned goods or warm items to assist our neighbors in Decatur and Macon County.

Sponsored by First Baptist Church & Dove, Inc.

National Hunger & Homelessness Awareness Week





Dove's Moultrie County Domestic Violence Program Christmas Party for the children will be held on December 13, 5:00 p.m. Contact Mary Hughes for additional information, 217.728.9303.

Susie Kensil, Shelby County Coordinator, spoke to the Shelby County Interagency Group at their October meeting in observance of Domestic Violence Awareness month.

If you, or someone you know, is interested in attending our support groups in the Decatur Office, the times are below. Please contact us at 217.423.2238 to set up a time to complete paperwork before attending. Childcare is provided.

• Tuesday – DV 101 Group – 1:30 p.m. – learn about every facet that surrounds domestic violence

• Tuesday – DV Support Group – 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

WE HAVE COATS!!! The DeWitt County Dove Office has coats, gloves and hats for the residents in DeWitt County who are in need. You are free to come by during food pantry hours on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

The Domestic Violence Program is always here to assist with Orders of Protection and support during the court process. We offer counseling for children and adults who are enduring or have suffered through domestic violence. We also offer a ladies' support group on Thursday evenings at 5:30 p.m. Please call Jennifer to let her know if you will be attending, 217.935.6619.

The Committee Against Domestic Violence in DeWitt County needs new members. If you would like to be a part in supporting victims of domestic violence and have some extra time to volunteer, please call Jennifer at 217.935.6619

volunteer, please call Jennifer at 217. 935.6619 for an application packet to become a very valuable member of the committee. Dove's Piatt County Office will be participating in the Annual Mini Tree Festival. Liz will be decorating a wreath to be on display November 24 and 25; and December 1 and 8. Community members will vote on best wreath or tree and winners will be announced in December. Liz has chosen the theme 'Peace at home, battery not included' for her wreath.

Liz will be participating in a community resource meeting where all social services available in Piatt County will come together and create a directory for residents, so in times of need, they will have the ability to access the appropriate agencies.

Dove continues to grow and make our presence known in Piatt County. Every day is something new and a new opportunity to assist the community. If anyone would like to schedule a presentation, please contact Liz Mackey, Piatt County Coordinator, at 217.762.2123. \$18 advance tickets On sale, from November 1, until 1:00 p.m., November 21, at the following sites:

All Things Beautiful • 219 N. Main

Dove Office • 302 S. Union Street

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

Novel Ideas • 480 E. Main Street

Wildflour Artisan Bakery • 256 W. Main

online now at doveinc.org

\$20 ticket Day of Event • begin your tour at Westminster Presbyterian Church 1360 West Main, Decatur Friday November 23 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. & Saturday November 24 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

S Holly

Jeritage



Your ticket donation will support the many programs of Dove, Inc.

ZIIIX

2018 Heritage S Holly Estoric Tour Home Tour

The newest fundraiser for Dove, Inc. is the Heritage and Holly Historic Home Tour, originally an event to highlight the NWRAPS neighborhood, has become a Dove, Inc. annual fundraiser.

The tour is of historic homes (many decorated for the holidays) and local supportive businesses. These are the homes everyone sees and would love to visit for their unique features and timeless architect. This fundraiser will help Dove continue services through their programs like RSVP, BABES, Community Services, MAX, Homeward Bound, and the Domestic Violence programs.

This year's theme is "Golden Memories" and includes locations such as Oglesby Mansion, Parke house, the Arthur Wait house, and so much more. You don't want to miss this exciting event.

Volunteers are needed for a variety of jobs, from house sitters who will check for tickets and assist with tours, to musicians to play in various locations. History buffs are needed and are welcome to share their knowledge of a home or business on this year's tour.

The event takes place on Friday November 23, 4:00 to 8:00 p.m. and Saturday, November 24, 1:00 to 5:00 p.m. Each volunteer receives a free ticket and an invite to the volunteer afterparty. Groups are welcome and encouraged!

If you are interested in volunteering or learning more on how you can help, please give Charlie or Sandy a call at 217.428.6616.

Dove's

Santa's Workshop

Saturday, December 1, 2018 10:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

American Legion 8 East Strain Street, Sullivan

Bake Sale Silent Auction Crafting Tables for the Children Face Painting • 50/50 drawing

Treats for purchase • hot dogs, nachos, hot chocolate, pop and coffee

Supporting the Moultrie County Domestic Violence Program Sponsored by Moultrie County CADV



Santa's Workshop will be held on December 1, at the American Legion. Santa will be available before and after the Christmas Parade at noon. There will be crafting tables, cards for vets, cookie decorating, pictures with Santa and other free activities for all children. Hot Dogs, Nachos, Popcorn, Pop and Hot Chocolate will be available for sale. There will also be a silent auction, 50/50 drawing, and novelty items for sale. For more information, contact Mary Hughes at the Dove office, 217.728.9303.



"Show Dove Some Love"

Our friends at Coziahr Harley-Davidson are hosting "Show Dove Some Love" donation drive on Black Friday & through that weekend!

It will be about the same as the past couple years: they will encourage their customers to bring in a suggested donation items, and then Friday, November 23-Sunday November 25, anyone who brings something in will receive a coupon for 15% Off Licensed H-D Product!

Check in with the great staff at Coziahr and check out their facebook page for all the up to date info.

<u>Coziahr</u>



Volunteer **Opportunities**

CASA Training

Classes begin on November 6. Every Tuesday for 6 weeks, 2 ½-3-hour classes. Class times available in morning, 9:15 a.m., or evening at 5:15 p.m. Hybrid training—online component between in person classes. Visit our website at www.maconcountycasa.org to begin process; complete application online. Call Julia or Carol at 217.428.8424 for questions!

Judy Mason Thanksgiving Baskets

The 2018 Judy Mason Thanksgiving Basket Project will take place at Hickory Point Mall in the old Sears store. Begin making your plans now to participate in this year's project. Volunteer are needed on the following Saturday dates: November 3, 10, & 17 from 9:00 to 10:00 a.m. and Sunday, November 18, 3:00 p.m. No sign ups needed; just show up and they will put you to work! Children 5 years and older can participate, so grab your grandchildren or great grandchildren and show them what a community of volunteers can accomplish when they work together! No time but want to help? Look at their page for donations: visit www.feed5for25.com to give--\$25 feeds a family of 5/1 box.

Help Retiring Flags

Volunteers are needed to assist the boy scouts in retiring old flags. The grommets and the field of blue needs to be cut out of each flag before burning. Please contact Deb Hoffman at 217.935.2241 if you are interested in helping with this task. There is no date or time currently set.

Backpack Food Program

Please mark your calendar to help with the Backpack Food Program for the Blue Ridge School District #18, serving Farmer City, Mansfield, and Bellflower students.

November 14, 2018 We will continue to package the food at 1:45 p.m. in the Ag Room of the Blue Ridge Senior High School in Farmer City. The Ag Room is located on the north side of the high school. If you have any questions call Alice Jones at 217.870.1484.

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.

The room will be closed for the Thanksgiving Holiday, November 21 and 22, 2018. If you know of a child who needs a coat for winter, be sure to send them to the Children's Clothing Room before they close for the holiday.

Community Services Program Sharing news from the Neighborhoods!

Neighborhood Meetings

CONO 4th Tuesday • 5:30 p.m. Decatur Public Library

Clokey Park Neighborhood Association 3rd Thursday • 6:30 p.m. Prairie Avenue Christian Church

Fans Field Neighborhood Association 3rd Thursday • 6:30 p.m. Decatur Housing Authority

GM Square Neighborhood Association 1st Tuesday • 6:00 p.m. St. Thomas Church, Angela Hall

Greenwood Area Neighborhood Organization 2nd Thursday • 7:00 p.m. Coates Park Building Nelson/Lions Park Neighborhood Association 3rd Tuesday • 6:30 p.m. Prairie Avenue Christian Church

> Millikin Heights 2nd Tuesday • 7:00 p.m. Central Christian Church

Old Kings Orchard 2nd Monday • 5:30 p.m. OKO Community Center

West End Neighborhood Association 2nd Thursday • Quarterly Westminster Presbyterian Church

Torrence Park Neighborhood Association 2nd Tuesday • 7:30 p.m. Fellowship Church

Contact Sattin Schreiner Community Engagement Coordinator for additional information about Community Services Program dove@doveinc.org Congratulations to Angie Williams who won an award at the 2018 Neighborhood Recogntion Event!

(picture from CONO Facebook Page)

And a sincere congratulations to all the neighborhood volutneers who were recognized that night!







News from RSVP!

The RSVP staff are thankful for another great year with our volunteers. You are all so amazing every day! Have a great Thanksgiving holiday and be safe if traveling. May your time with your loved ones be filled with too many blessings to count.

Coupons for Overseas Military Families

Thanks to those who generously donate their time and monies to our coupon program for overseas military families. So far, we have sent 1,962,373 in coupons to bases around the world and with your continued support our 2 million coupon goal can be reached by December, so keep those coupons coming!

Honor Flight Welcome Home Brigade

Land of Lincoln Honor Flight invites you to Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport to help welcome home Veterans who are taking the October 30th Honor Flight to Washington D.C. Come welcome home these hero's and show them the love and respect they deserve. Plan to arrive around 9:00 p.m., flight is expected to arrive about 9:30 p.m. For more details, call Charlie at 217.428.6616.



Volunteer Organizational League

The next Volunteer Organizational League meeting (VOL) is November 13, noon, at the Dove, Inc. office located at 302 S. Union St. Please use lower parking lot. Bring your lunch and come join the conversation with other volunteer managers. November's meeting will include a speaker and registration for the Volunteer Opportunities Fair to be held in March. All persons working with or managing volunteers, are welcome to join us.

Contacts:

Charlie Gillaspie • Dove, 217.428.6616 or Jenny Garver • MCCD, 217.423.7708

DeWitt County Food Pantry

803 W. Leander, Clinton

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

If you would like to help out your community but are to busy to volunteer, we could always use items in our food pantry.

We are always in need of:

• Peanut Butter and Jelly

- Spaghetti and Sauce
- Side Dishes

and currently collecting items needed for a Thanksgiving or Christmas meal

DAX Program

The DAX program still has funds available for anyone seeking help with a one-time financial emergency. Come into the DeWitt County Dove office for an application and more details. You must provide proof of the bill (shut off notice for a utility bill, eviction notice for rent) and proof of some sort of income.

Macon County Assistance eXchange Helping with emergency financial assistance for families/individuals in need

MAX Hours

Dates and Times through December.

Site: Decatur First United Methodist Church 201 W. North, Decatur Hours: Monday - Thursday, 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Site: Dove Clinton Office 803 W. Leander, Clinton Hours: Tuesday Mornings, 8:30 to 11:30 a.m. Warm Neighbors Cool Friends

Site: Homeward Bound Office 788 E. Clay, Decatur Hours: 2nd & 4th Thursdays of the month, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

> Site: The Good Samaritan Inn 920 N. Union Street, Decatur Hours: 2nd and 4th Fridays of each month, 11:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Site: Prairie Avenue Christian Church 2201 E. Prairie, Decatur Hours: Wednesday Mornings, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

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WARM NEIGHBORS & COOL FRIENDS

WNCF is located with the MAX Program for Macon and DeWitt Counties. Below are the Income Guidelines for Weatherization and Bill Payment Assistance.

Must show proof of income between: Family Size 30 Day (GROSS) Income Range

1	\$1,518-\$3,036
2	\$2,058-\$4,116
3	\$2,598-\$5,196
4	\$3,138-\$6,276
5	\$3,678-\$7,356
6	\$4,218-\$8,436
7	\$4,758-\$9,516
8	\$5,298-\$10,596

As of November 1, back to heating bill requirements - power must be on/ bill must be current-no old bills. No help from DMCOC/Liheap/Pipp in the last twelve months. Must meet income guidelines. Must have proof of hardship and 60 days of pay stubs. No age limit and bill must be under \$750. The matched payment is up to \$350.



BABES



This year the BABES program offered Red Ribbon Week information for parents, ideas for celebrating the week, student programming and posters to all of our BABES program schools. Several Principals and Parent Liaisons reached out and programming was



set up for students. Stevenson 1st graders, Parsons 1st graders, Baum 1st and 3rd graders, Argenta-Oreana 3rd graders, St. Pat's K-8th grade, and Mt. Zion Grade 2nd and 3rd graders participated in Red Ribbon Week Presentations. All BABES program schools received Red Ribbon Week posters with a red ribbon. What an awesome week! BABES volunteers help prepare for Red Ribbon Week!

Thanks again to Thrivent Financial for their support of Red Ribbon Week.









Thank you to the Sigma Eta chapter of Beta Sigma Phi for their help preparing classroom materials and assembling care packages for volunteers.

The BABES program is being presented at Parsons, Argenta-Oreana, Enterprise, DeLand-Weldon, Johns Hill, Sangamon Valley Intermediate, and Holy Family.

If you would like to become involved in the BABES Program and would like more information about becoming a BABES Volunteer, feel free to contact me. My email is slaesch@doveinc. org or call 217.428.6616 ext. 126.



Jesus once said that it is more blessed to give than to receive, and in the years doing Christmas Baskets at Dove, Inc., I've found that to be true.

I look at my life, at my home, and I know that I'm more fortunate than a huge percentage of the world's population. I have a loving family, a house to live in, heat in the winter, air conditioning in the summer, a job that I love, food on the table each day, a dependable car to get me where I need to go, and relatively good health. I am beyond grateful for all that I have.

I'm also grateful for the knowledge and awareness I have of those who aren't as fortunate as I am, because it puts me in a better position of helping.

Did you know that nationally, the average age of a homeless individual is 9 years old? According to feedingamerica. org, more than 40 million families in the United States struggle with food insecurity, never knowing if or when they'll have their next meal, let alone receive a gift for Christmas. The numbers are certainly overwhelming to look at or contemplate. But we can't let that overwhelming feeling render us helpless.

We may be unable to help every single person or every family in need, but that doesn't mean we can't help at all. There's an old story about a boy who was tossing stranded starfish into the ocean when an older man came along and asked him what he was doing. He told him he was saving them by throwing them back into the water. The older man scoffed, saying he couldn't possibly save all of them. The boy threw another starfish back into sea and replied, "Maybe not, but I just made a world of difference for that one."

Are you able to assist one person or one family, in receiving a gift or food for Christmas? Can you donate a (new) children's toy for our basket drive? A can or two of food for someone to eat or a new pair of gloves and a hat to help keep someone warm? There are so many ways you could make a world of difference for one person or family by donating or volunteering at our Basket drive. Please consider joining us in assisting families in our community this year.

Please call Angie at 217.428.6616 if you have questions, or if you want to discuss other ways to be involved.

Ikeep in mind -

Some dates to mark on your calendar if you're interested in volunteering or donating:

• We would like to have all donations in by Tuesday, December 18. Before December 14, the above listed items can be brought to 302 S. Union at either the front or back entrance of the building. After the 14th, please deliver to the basement of Decatur First United Methodist Church at 201 W. North Street. Any and all food donations should be delivered to Northeast Community Fund at 825 N. Water St.

• We will need volunteers to sort, count and shop on December 17, 18, & 19 (Monday – Wednesday)

• Volunteers to begin assembling baskets on December 19 & 20 (Wednesday & Thursday)

• Volunteers to help clean up and move things back to 302 S. Union on Friday, December 21

• Volunteers to deliver baskets to families on Saturday, December 22, between 8:30 a.m. and noon

Our Bouquet of Thanks



Thanks to the employess of the Decatur Public Library, who chose Dove as the recipient of their Jeans Day Fundraiser!

Thanks to Fleet Feet for collecting items for the Shelter at their October event for the ladies. Thanks to all at Fleet Feet and to those who made a donation!

Thanks to members of the Linus Project, who made and delivered more than 950 blankets for the 2018 Christmas Basket Drive! Such a wonderful, warm gift for so many families this Christmas Season.

Thank you to all, who attended our Candlelighting ceremony October 4. It was good to see so many people there. Your support is so important to our clients and to our program. Special thanks to my Committee Against Domestic Violence members, to First Presbyterian Church for hosting the event, and to Tami Smith for the cupcakes and beautiful decorations on the refreshment table. -Susie Kensil Thank you to all who attended any, or all, of the October Candlelighting Ceremonies!! Your support to victims and survivors and taking a stand to ending domestic violence in our communities is much appreciated!! Remember – domestic violence occurs every day of every week of every month, all year long – not just during October!!!! -Teri Ducy

Domestic Violence Shelter Needs:

- strollers new
- Pack 'n Play new
- gas gift cards
- Walmart gift cards
- Kroger gift cards
- Aldi gift cards
- African American hair products
- journals
- art supplies
- alarm clocks
- box fans
- towels and washcloths new
- pillows new
- paper towels
- toilet paper
- hair dryers
- new potty chairs
- potty chair rings
- hair brushes natural and nylon bristles

Please drop off any donations to the Shelter, 302 S. Union, Decatur 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Monday - Friday

DomesticShelters.org

Another way to donate to the Shelter is from this website. Purchase what you want and it is sent directly to the Shelter.

You can also find this link on the website doveinc.org