



DoveTales

the newsletter of Dove, Inc.

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



May 2018

Barbara Blakey
Editor

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Published Monthly

Dove, Inc.

302 S. Union
Decatur, IL 62522
217.428.6616
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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.

Dove's Board of Directors elected to 2018-2020 Term of Service

Filling one-year vacant term
Pastor Andy Sonneborn

for 2018-2020 Term of Service

Jo Carter
Tami Crouch
Teri Fickes - CADV Representative
Darrel Parish
Kim Stahl
The Rev. Richard Swan
Karla Thornton

*Photos from the Annual Meeting
on page 5*

At the 2018 Annual Meeting, Rev. Swan, Vice President of the Dove Board of Directors, presented the slate for election to the Board. They will begin this term of service on July 1.

For the complete listing of the board and terms of service, please check our website.



*Be sure to join RSVP for their Cookout Fundraiser
at the Clinton IGA, May 4 and 5.*

*Come for a great lunch and lively conversations with RSVP volunteers
and support these essential volunteers. See more info on page 3.*



Happy Mother's Day!



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
Sandra 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
Janisha Pealer, 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

Letter from the Executive Director of Dove, Inc.:

Coordinating Efforts to Address Unmet Needs and Social Injustices.

Christine Gregory, Executive Director

Dear Friends,

Celebrating spring with joy at the renewal of life which surrounds us. The sun, the birdsong, the blooming trees and gardens, all point towards a truth of creation, God renews all things.

Here at Dove, we face challenges alongside our clients each and every day. Whether they are struggling with health, aging, poverty, homelessness, loneliness, manipulation, or being empowered, we listen and help them find the tools and resources to seek renewal and resilience. We prayerfully seek God's will in our community.

Thank you to all who support this mission with your prayers, provisions, participation, or pocketbooks. You also renew our staff and clients' spirits with your dedication. We hope that you are renewed in your faith in the God of hope.

If you or your organization's members would like to learn more about supporting Dove's efforts in our community, 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



RSVP OF DeWitt & Macon County is Having a Cookout Fundraiser

The IGA in Clinton will be the site of a Fundraiser to support the RSVP Program. Stop by on Friday, May 4, from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. or Saturday, May 5, from 10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. For \$6.00, you can get a Pork Chop Sandwich with Chips & Drink or \$5.00 for sandwich only; or for \$7.00 you can enjoy a ribeye sandwich with chips and a drink or \$6.00 for sandwich only.

To place an advance order for delivery, call Lyn at 309.830.3836. The day of the cookout call 309.830.3836 or just stop by and see us and take your order with you. We will be offering delivery service - 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. only - on Friday to all business in Clinton who order 8 or more sandwiches.

Sponsored by Dove, Inc. since 1976, RSVP offers individuals 55+ opportunities to match their skills and talents with not for profit organizations, health care facilities and public agencies, to meet a variety of community needs through various volunteer services. Volunteers choose how, where and the amount of time to give. Volunteers draw on their skills or develop new ones through volunteer opportunities that are just the right fit.

For more information, please contact the RSVP office in Decatur at 428.6616 or in Clinton at 935.2241.

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.***

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 at 217.362.7700. After-hours please call 217.619.5742.

Needed items:

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

- Laundry detergent
- Towels



Millikin University kindly donated plates and bowls to assist clients as we move them into housing. (They gave us 3 of those carts full!) The people at MU who worked to make the donation happen are Verneil Phillips, Ruby James and Brad Owens. It is a donation that is very valuable - as we usually are housing individuals without basic items - to ensure a successful start as they transition from the streets to housing.

Missy Aldridge (L) and Alice Moorehead (R)

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

Thursday, May 10, 1:30 p.m.

There will be a special presentation on a Millikin University's Performance Learning experience to Los Angeles, California's Skid Row. Mary Garrison, Professor of Social Work, Millikin University, and her students, Morgan Huffman, Ashley Woods, Ben Viette, Leslie Chandler, and Katie Posch will share on their experiences interacting with extreme, chronic homelessness.

Meeting Location:

Homeward Bound, 788 E. Clay, Decatur

Contact:

Darsonya Switzer, 217.362.7700,
for further information



Photos from the Dove Annual Meeting held on April 23. Thanks to all who attended and the Volunteer Panel who shared on their experiences volunteering at Dove and out in the Community!



*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 217.428.6616 or
dove@doveinc.org*

**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**



Volunteer Recognized



**East Central Award Recipient
Senior Corps: Alice Bray - Decatur
For service to:
Dove's Children's Clothing Room**

RSVP staff were honored to attend the 9th Annual Governor's Volunteer Service Awards on April 18, 2018. Mrs. Alice Bray, a dedicated RSVP Volunteer, was awarded for her hard work and commitment to Dove's Children's Clothing Room. Alice has been serving as an RSVP volunteer for 24 years and the last 14 at the Children's Clothing Room; along with volunteering for the U of I Extension office. Alice's strong desire to help children has helped her and the volunteers at the clothing room to serve more than 31,000 children over those years. Congratulations again Alice Bray!



9th Annual Governor's Volunteer Service Awards

30 Illinoisans and businesses receive Governor's Volunteer Service Award

SPRINGFIELD – The Serve Illinois Commission on Volunteerism and Community Service (Commission) is presenting 25 Illinoisans and five businesses with the Governor's Volunteer Service Award during a special reception at the Old State Capitol.

The award recognizes volunteers and volunteer programs that have made a difference in Illinois and highlights the importance of volunteerism and community service. It is part of the National Volunteer Week festivities and also a signature event of the Illinois Bicentennial Commission.

"Illinois is a state that was truly born, built, and grown with the spirit of volunteerism and community service," said Governor Bruce Rauner. "The individuals and businesses we're recognizing have impacted millions of lives. We're honored to highlight their service."

"These individuals and businesses embody the true spirit of volunteering and are making a difference in their communities through a variety of activities such as helping the homeless, youth education, and assisting veterans," said Commission Executive Director Scott McFarland. "We are proud to have them serving in Illinois."

The Commission received more than 130 nominations in six categories (adult, AmeriCorps, business, senior, Senior Corps, and youth) from the Commission's five service regions across the state (East Central, Northeast, Northwest, Southern, and West Central). Commissioners reviewed the applications and selected 30 award winners.

*More information about the recipients
is on the Serve Illinois website at
www.Serve.Illinois.gov*

NEWS

from the Domestic Violence Program



Advocacy Day at the Capital

On April 11, Advocacy Day began at the ICADV office with employees shuttling folks to the Capital. We all received a packet with a map of the Capital, bills that are of concern, schedule of all activities and names of senators we are to meet with.

cont. on next page

Domestic Violence Shelter Needs:

- Strollers - new
- Pack N Play - new
- Box Fans
- Gas Gift Cards
- Walmart Gift Cards
- Kroger Gift Cards
- Aldi Gift Cards
- New Pillows
- Paper Towels
- Toilet Paper
- Hair Dryers
- African American Hair Products
- Hair Brushes, Natural and Nylon Bristles

Please drop 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**

NEWS

from the Domestic Violence Program

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My granddaughter and I were briefed by Carrie Boyd, ICADV's attorney and dropped off at the Stratton Building where we found our representative's office, Sue Scherer. While checking our map, Carrie directed several advocates into a committee meeting on HB4113. We have been signing slips to oppose this bill and it was very exciting to actually witness part of the hearing. The impact of this law on children would be devastating emotionally as well as a financial burden for victims. There were many people in attendance both for and against this bill. After much discussion and some testimony the hearing was interrupted with notice to reconvene later in the day.

We then made our way to the Capital taking pictures of the statues outside of President Lincoln and Martin Luther King. It was very exciting to enter the Capital as it is very beautiful with art work on the walls and ceiling, depicting life in Illinois. There were people everywhere, some with matching t-shirts in groups to advocate for their cause. We made our way to Senator Andy Manar's office and spoke with his secretary, leaving information about our domestic violence programs for him.

After lunch we sat in the gallery of the Legislative Session. Many Senator's had young

adults that they introduced and honored as outstanding youth in Illinois. There were also many FFA members present who were also honored by the Senator's.

After a short break they began voting on bills. The very first one was to ratify the Equal Rights Amendment. We watched as senators voted 43 to 12 making Illinois the 37th state to ratify the 1972 federal Equal Rights Amendment. Everyone (especially the women) clapped and cheered for the vote. It was very exciting and such an honor to witness! My granddaughter couldn't believe that anyone would vote against equal rights. The constitutional amendment guarantees equal rights for all citizens regardless of sex. It needs 38 states to ratify to change the U.S. constitution.

It was truly a great day to witness our government at work. I encourage everyone to visit and to take their children and grandchildren to our capital. It can provide a great educational experience for all. My granddaughter, Elora Mast, really enjoyed the experience and stated "this is much better than going to school!"

Mary Hughes
Moultrie County Coordinator



RSVP staff had a wonderful time delivering pizzas to stations during National Volunteer Appreciation Week in April. We are still celebrating the week during the official Senior Corps week April 30-May 5. We want to again thank Dave Hinkle for thinking of us and helping through a Thrivent Financial grant that helped us to fund our lunch deliveries. We appreciate it!!

Left - a few volunteers from Northeast Community Fund during their pizza lunch. We also captured Jenny Garver (R) with Macon County Conservation District at Rock Springs. We took pizzas there too, but wouldn't you know it, volunteers were still working when lunch was delivered!!



For 55 years, Older Americans Month (OAM) has been observed to recognize older Americans and their contributions to our communities. Led by the Administration for Community Living's Administration on Aging, every May offers opportunity to hear from, support, and celebrate our nation's elders. This year's OAM

theme, "Engage at Every Age," emphasizes the importance of being active and involved, no matter where or when you are in life. You are never too old (or too young) to participate in activities that can enrich your physical, mental, and emotion well-being. Dove RSVP has opportunities for older Americans to engage in their communities in Macon and DeWitt Counties. We offer a variety of opportunities that are tailored to all ranges of abilities. Isn't it time for you to engage?

It is becoming more apparent that remaining socially engaged can improve the quality of life for older adults. Dove RSVP will use OAM

2018 to focus on how older adults in our area are engaging with friends and family, and through various community activities. We want to share with others all the services our seasoned Americans do every single day.

Come share your wisdom and experience with future generations and give back to others. RSVP makes it easy to get started just give us a call at 217.428.6616 and tell us where your passion lives.

Charlie Gillaspie
RSVP Program Director

NEWS

from the Domestic Violence Program



DOVE, INC., AWARDED AMERICA'S FARMERS GROW COMMUNITIES DONATION FROM LOCAL SULLIVAN/MOULTRIE COUNTY FARMER

Each year, the America's Farmers Grow Communities program partners with local farmers to provide grants to local nonprofits.

Grow Communities, which is sponsored by the Monsanto Fund, provides farmers the opportunity to support and give back to nonprofit organizations they care about in their local communities by enrolling for a chance to direct a \$2,500 donation to a nonprofit of their choice.

Since 2010, the Grow Communities program has given more than \$29 million to nonprofits across rural America.

April 27, Moultrie County farmer David Smith directed a \$2,500 donation to Dove, Inc., as part of the America's Farmers Grow Communities program, sponsored by the Monsanto Fund.

As part of their mission Dove will use the funds to serve victims of domestic violence in Moultrie County. "I would like to thank David Smith for choosing Dove to receive this generous donation. Dove works for justice, equality and understanding among all people." "This donation will allow us to continue this important work with victims and their children" said, Mary Hughes, Dove Inc., Moultrie County Coordinator.

Since the program began in 2010, the Grow Communities program has partnered with farmers to support nonprofit organizations important to them in their local communities. The program has given more than \$29 million to farming communities since its inception, including more than \$3 million in 2018. Each year, farmers enter for a chance to direct a \$2,500 donation to a nonprofit they care about in their community. The organizations reflect the makeup and character of rural America, including emergency response organizations, schools, youth agriculture programs, food banks and many others.

"Farmers play a pivotal role in rural communities, and through their commitment to the Grow Communities program, we are able to provide the monetary support these nonprofit organizations need to make an impact," said Al Mitchell, Monsanto Fund president. "We're proud to play a part in helping these rural communities grow and thrive."

To see if a nonprofit in your local community is a 2018 America's Farmers Grow Communities recipient, visit www.GrowCommunities.com. You can also learn more about the Grow Communities program by checking out Facebook.com/AmericasFarmers.

NEWS

from the Domestic Violence Program

Lauren Henrichsmeyer, Children's Specialist, and Melissa Gillis, Parenting Specialist, participated in two events in April in recognition of Child Abuse Awareness Month. On April 18, they were at MacArthur High School and distributed information about our program and on April 24, they participated in the child abuse prevention event held by Child 1st Center at Eisenhower High School.

Staff plan to attend upcoming trainings in May. On May 10, staff will attend the training, "Coping With Stress as a Responder to Victims of Violence and Trauma Related Experiences," through the Child Advocacy Center of East Central Illinois and facilitated by Erin Merry. Ms. Merry is the founder of Erin's Law, which requires schools to teach children personal body safety for the prevention of child sexual abuse. On May 18, several staff will attend the training "Facilitating Experimental Trauma Information: A Real Change" at St. John's Hospital in Springfield.

In recognition of Volunteer Appreciation Week, the Decatur staff of the Domestic Violence Program enjoyed a nice luncheon at Tuscany with our current volunteers in honor and appreciation for all they have given to our program. We are so very grateful for their dedication and commitment.

A Big thank you to the ladies of Alpha Chi Omega Sorority on Millikin's campus. They are having a spring event called "Give Domestic Violence a Boot!" This is a festival where Millikin students will be performing and there will be games and other activities to raise money for our program. In addition, they are having a supply drive for our program, collecting art supplies, personal hygiene items, etc. This will be a competition between the other Greek Chapters on campus. Their spring formal is also approaching and they will be doing a silent auction and 50/50 raffle with half the proceeds going to our program. Guests who bring supplies will be given extra tickets.

Teri Ducey
Domestic Violence Program Director

The Ladies of Value and Children's support groups are on Thursday evenings from 5:00 to 6:30 p.m. in DeWitt County at the Clinton Office. These groups are open to anyone dealing with or have dealt with domestic violence in the past. The groups are great ways to get together with other strong survivors to come together to support and uplift one another. If you would like to attend a meeting or have questions, please call 217.935.6619.

We are still in need of caring committee members who would like to give an hour a

month to join our CADV (Committee Against Domestic Violence Committee). These much-appreciated volunteers meet to assist with ideas for fundraising and assist in promoting awareness about the services provided by our program. If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information, please feel free to call 217. 935.6619.

Jennifer Tollady
DeWitt County Coordinator

In observance of Volunteer Appreciation Week, Shelby County CADV (Committee Against Domestic Violence) members were honored at an event on April 26. They were treated to dinner and desserts as a thank-you for their service to the Shelby County Domestic Violence Program. These individuals assist in fundraising, ceremonial events and other duties to assist the program coordinator and to further the knowledge of domestic violence in our community.

Susie Kensil, Shelby County Coordinator, participated in a Prayer Vigil for Child Abuse Victims at HSHS Good Shepherd Hospital on April 5. The event featured speakers and songs to honor abuse victims and to pray for an end to the abuse.

BABES



The BABES program is winding down its 2017-2018 school year by finishing presentations at John's Hill and Argenta-Oreana.

Thank you to Marilyn Oftedal for representing BABES and Jackie Sharp-Evans for representing the Domestic Violence program and BABES at the Dove, Inc. 2018 Annual Meeting .



On April 25th we recognized our 20 BABES schools' Secretaries and Principals.

'Refresh' gifts were delivered to them since they are :



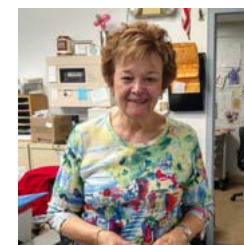
Refreshingly
Enthusiastic
Friendly
Resilient
Energetic
Super
Helpful



In April the BABES program hosted a Soup and Salad luncheon for BABES volunteers at Olive Garden. This was to show our appreciation of these dedicated women that help lay the foundation for children in our community to make safe and healthy decisions.



The School Secretaries and Principals are so receptive of the BABES program and our BABES volunteers. Thank you!



Sandy Laesch,
BABES Program Coordinator





*MAX Program
Volunteer Appreciation Coffee*



*Sharing information from a
community partnership*

A Conversation on Childhood Maltreatment 2018

**join in this community discussion
Decatur Public Library
139 North Franklin, Decatur
Madden Room**

Thursday, May 24, 10:00 a.m.

NEWS

from the Domestic Violence Program

Summer Camps!

The Macon County Domestic Violence Program staff have been busy planning our Summer Camps!

For children whose parents are clients of the program, ages 5-12. The camp will be held in June every Monday & Thursday
9:00 a.m. to noon.

Some of the fun includes:

- Pawprint Ministries
- Paint & plant day
- Scovill Zoo & Express train ride
- Baking Day
- Children's Museum
- and MORE!

Call 217.428.6616 for information

DeWitt County Dove Domestic Violence Program will be having our summer camp again this year! The summer camp will be in June on Mondays and Wednesdays from 10:00 a.m. to Noon, beginning June 4 through 28. This camp is open to all children whose parents are clients of the program. If you have a child who is interested in attending, please call Jennifer for more information so we can make sure we have enough materials.

There are several great events planned this year!!

Also, if anyone has any old or unwanted magazines, please feel free to donate them to the Clinton office for one of our summer camp projects.

Call 217.935.6619 for information

Look for Dove's booth at the
Monticello Chamber of Commerce
2018 Business Expo
Friday May 11, 4:00 to 6:30 p.m.

DeWitt County Food Pantry

803 W. Leander, Clinton

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

The DeWitt County Food Pantry is open to all residents in DeWitt County who are in need of food.

DAX Program

The DAX Program, DeWitt County Assistance eXchange, has funds for individuals and families who have a financial emergency. Please contact Jennifer if you have any questions or need further information, 217.935.6619.



Volunteer Organizational League Meeting

Self-Care

May 8, 2018
12:00 to 1:00 p.m.
HSHS St. Mary's Hospital
1800 E. Lakeshore Dr., Decatur
Room G24
(stop by Info Desk for directions)

Volunteer management can be a very rewarding occupation, but with all aspects of life it is possible to get overwhelmed. We are going to explore different techniques of self-care and participate in an exercise that helps to melt the stress away. When we are in tip top shape, we are better able to help our volunteers be in tip top shape.

Volunteer Organizational League (VOL) benefits volunteer managers by sharing knowledge, successes, and support. Anyone working with or managing volunteers is encouraged to attend. Bring your lunch and drink along.

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

RSVP appreciated, but not required. For more information or notifications for future meetings contact:

Charlie Gillaspie
cgillaspie@doveinc.org
217.428.6616
Jenny Garver
jgarver@maconcountyconservation.org
217.423.7708

WARM NEIGHBORS ♥ COOL FRIENDS

WNCF is located in the MAX office for MACON and DEWITT Counties. Below are the current 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.

- Power must be on/ Bill must be current/no old bills
- No help from DMCOG/LiHeap/Pipp in the last twelve months
- Must meet income guidelines
- Must have proof of hardship and 60 days of paystubs

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

1	\$1,508 - \$3,016
2	\$2,030 - \$4,060
3	\$2,533 - \$5,106
4	\$3,075 - \$6,150
5	\$3,598 - \$7,196
6	\$4,120 - \$8,240
7	\$4,643 - \$9,286
8	\$5,165 - \$10,330

