



DOVE TALES

the newsletter of Dove, Inc.

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



July 2017

Barbara Blakey
Editor

Issue 1707
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.

DOVE, INC. • 47TH ANNIVERSARY ESTABLISHED JULY 1970 RECOGNIZING 47 YEARS OF SERVICE!

THANKS TO THE MANY WHO HAVE MADE THIS MILESTONE POSSIBLE!

A few things to consider to help us in this 47th year:

- keep us in your monthly or yearly donation plan
- check into volunteer training opportunities - especially for this fall
- like our page on facebook
- then share our posts to your thoughtful friends
- come to the Continuum of Care Advisory Council Meetings
- follow us on twitter
- retweet our posts
- forward this newsletter to your friends
- keep up to date on the issues of homelessness and domestic violence
- read our website
- encourage your 55+ year old family members and friends to join RSVP
- donate new socks and underwear to the Children's Clothing Room
- send those needing assistance to MAX or DAX
- send those in DeWitt County needing help with food to the pantry
- encourage those who might need assistance with domestic violence to call one of our hot lines
- memorize the hot line numbers to share when there is a need
- read and share our blog site
- submit something to post on our blog site
- donate items for use by the Homeward Bound Clients
- donate items for use by the Domestic Violence Program
- donate items for the service project hosted by RSVP
- attend our special events
- consider becoming part of an Advisory Council Committee
- contact our elected officials and ask them to continue to support Dove and the issues we try to tackle
- send those who qualify for Warm Neighbors/Cool Friends to the MAX office for assistance
- encourage those with outgrown children's clothing to donate to the Children's Clothing Room
- pray for clients' needs and volunteers and staff who keep trying to do the work to the best of their ability each and every day

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

Greetings Friends,

I write today to express my deep gratitude to you as Dove celebrates its 47th anniversary. From the eight churches which began our mission, to the over 120 supporting and member religious organizations today who see Dove as extension of their mission reach into the world, Dove has become a part of the fabric of the five counties we serve.

None of that is possible without each of you. I thank God for you every day. Your gifts, prayers, donations, service, advocacy, and vision continue to change and save lives. Because of you we have remained flexible to the changing needs of our community and committed to supporting our most vulnerable neighbors. Please know that you are in my prayers, and keep our staff and clients in yours as we continue His work in the years to come.

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



OUR THANKS TO:

On June 30th the last day of our fiscal year, Dove was looking at still no state budget and being owed more than \$400,000 for services provided. Our fundraising and generous donors got us to the end of the month when new challenges sprang up, and they were answered in what we feel was a “God thing.” First, our shelter dryer quit, the motor had burnt out. When we called Phil Flaughner for an estimate to fix it he generously called back and donated a new clothes dryer. Then our air conditioner for our shelter quit. The temperature started to climb in our shelter. Because of security reasons we are restricted on opening up all windows. We knew this was not going to be a cheap or quick fix. More friends of Dove have jumped to our aid. Danny Binkley at One Source, brought us a portable air unit and helped us set it up in our client bedroom hallway. Pastor Vivian Clarrington and Eric from St. Peter’s AME Church hopped into her van brought us the church’s heavy industrial floor fans. And last night Michael Sanders of Sunbelt Rentals donated 2 additional air conditioning units. Brandy Stivers from Blue Bunny is bringing ice cream treats to help clients stay cool. We want to say a special thanks to these special people.

To all who have been so helpful in keeping Dove strong – THANK YOU! You are a blessing.

Christine Gregory
Executive Director





VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

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

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

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

Prefer inside on a rainy day? Why not try somewhere drier. The Decatur Public Library's local history room could use more help!

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

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

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



**The Puppets are resting up this summer.
Their meaningful lessons will begin
in K-3rd grade classrooms in the fall.
Watch for training opportunities
coming in September!**



Thank you to everyone who came out and supported DeWitt County Dove at our Garden Gala and High Tea this past June! It was such a lovely event. A delicious lunch was served with a large dessert bar. The 'Tea Ladies of Bloomington' came and presented on the Beauty of a Victorian Garden. It was not only entertaining, but educational! I feel I can say without fear of contradiction that everyone really enjoyed our High Tea this year.

While I'm on the subject of the High Tea and Garden Gala, I would really like to show my appreciation to my amazing CADV members! They put in so much hard work to make this event run smoothly each year. It would not be the success it is without all of you putting in such an effort. THANK YOU ALL SO MUCH!

Jennifer Tolladay

DeWitt County Coordinator

MARK YOUR CALENDAR
FOR THEIR UPCOMING EVENT!

PORK CHOP AND RIBEYE
LUNCH FUNDRAISER

SEPTEMBER 8 & 9

CLINTON IGA PARKING LOT
STOP BY AND GRAB A LUNCH!
AND BY DOING SO, SUPPORT THE
DEWITT COUNTY
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE PROGRAM!



100th Home Sale Charity Giveaway

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

<http://www.glendawilliamson.com/100th-Home-Sale-Charity>

Looking Ahead!

Coffee Connection
Car Show Fundraiser
for Dove

October 7, 7:00 to 10:00 a.m.

Domestic Violence Shelter Needs:

- Prepaid Gasoline Cards
- Gift Cards from Aldi or Walmart
- 9 V Batteries
- AA Batteries
- AAA Batteries
- New Strollers
- Toddler Sippy Cups
- Infant Bottles
- Infant Spoons/Forks
- Midol
- New Bottles Nail Polish
- Lice Treatments
- Large Hairbrushes
- Sunscreen
- Disinfectant Sprays
- Toilet Paper
- Paper Towels
- Dust Pans
- Dishwasher Detergent Pods

*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 AND THURSDAYS
10:00 A.M. TO 2:00 P.M.

*The Food pantry has seen an increase
of households needing assistance.
As a result, we run out of food
much faster now.*

*If anyone would like to donate food
or diapers to our pantry, we would
greatly appreciate your gift.*

NEWS

from the Domestic Violence Program

Teri Ducey
Domestic Violence Program Director

As of 7-6-17, the State of Illinois FINALLY has a budget!! Dove has certainly felt the pressures as we scrambled at tightening our expenses, cutting back in every way possible, and most of all our minds were set to everyday praying that the legislators would someday somehow – soon – reach a compromise. With this new budget, Dove will receive about 87% of its funding for services we have continued to provide through the signed contracts we have had all along with the State. It will certainly take some time for our State to get back on track, but at least there has been a step in the right direction and we will be receiving our funding for FY17.

I want to publicly thank Dove's wonderful RSVP volunteers who stepped up to the plate and provided many delicious meals to our Shelter clients during the month of June! Thanks to Charlie Gillaspie, RSVP Director, for organizing this project and reaching out to her program volunteers. We could not have made it without you all!!! Sending out Huge THANK YOUS to Janet Gray, Sandy Norris, JoEllen Carter, Joyce Johnson, Diane Swisher and her daughter, Marilyn Smith, Janet Calhoun, Janet Whitehead, Central Christian Church ladies, Linda Riva, Charlotte Aldridge,

Sandy Harmison, Joyce Smittkamp, Terry Holmgren's Bible Study, SueEllen Brauer, and First Presbyterian Church!

I also want to thank Mary Kay Ellis, as well as Sheila Brooks, from Nelson Catering, and Monical's Pizza – South Shores. Your generosity is most appreciated!!!!

I continue to be grateful for the staff of the Domestic Violence Program who have been weathering this storm, as we face the challenges of 2 vacant full-time positions, of which include our 2nd shift and every Saturday. Staff have worked together as a strong team to meet the required Shelter coverage of 24 hours a day/7 days a week. This is a very committed and dedicated group of individuals!!!

As if facing the budget is not enough of a challenge, the compressor in our big air conditioning unit went out and will be a very costly expense in getting repaired. For those wanting to help out in any way with Dove's overall hardships, please go to our website at www.doveinc.org and make a donation. We are so very grateful for your ongoing support!!

Please mark your calendars to sign up and take our Domestic Violence Education

and Volunteer Training!! We need more volunteers – in all counties – Macon, Moultrie, Piatt, Shelby and DeWitt!!!

Fall 2017 Domestic Violence Education & Volunteer Training

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

Dean Simcox Conference Room
302 S. Union, Decatur

\$150 training fee
some scholarships available

Registration begins, July 24, 2017
Call Barb Blakey, 428.6616 for
additional information.

NEWS FROM HOMEWARD BOUND



SEEKING ENTRANCE INTO THE HOMEWARD BOUND PROGRAM?

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

All others can call 362.7700 for an appointment.

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

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

PLEASE PLAN ON ATTENDING! WE WILL CONTINUE DISCUSSIONS ON PLANS FOR NATIONAL HUNGER AND HOMELESSNESS AWARENESS WEEK. INFORMATION ABOUT COORDINATED ENTRY FOR THE MACON COUNTY CoC WILL BE DISCUSSED.

MEETINGS LOCATION:

HOMEWARD BOUND OFFICE, 788 E. CLAY STREET, DECATUR

CONTACT:

DARSONYA SWITZER, 362.7700 FOR FURTHER INFORMATION

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

UPCOMING DATES
10:00 A.M.

THURSDAY, JULY 20
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 14

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

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

RSVP NEWS

A Friendly Reminder

To receive an invitation to our Annual Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon in September, your qualified service hours must be recorded. Any hours that you have served from July 1, 2016 through June 30, 2017, needs to be submitted no later than July 15, if you have not already done so.

This year's theme is "Aging Out Loud, Color YOU Wonderful." The RSVP Advisory Council is already hard at work to make this year's event something special.

Coupons for Overseas Military Families

We are excited to announce that as of June 15, with your help, RSVP has shipped more than 1,596,021 coupons to our needy families overseas. Thank you!!

Please remember we collect ONLY manufacturer coupons (no more than

one month expired) No store specific or restaurants coupons are allowed. With your generous help, we are confident we will reach our 2 million coupon goal in no time. Keep those coupons coming and thanks again for all the support.

Short Stack for a Tall Cause

The Retired and Senior Volunteer Program has been able to team up with Applebee's for a pancake breakfast fundraiser. Our event will be at Applebee's, 1275 S. Route 51, Forsyth, on August 26, 8:00 to 10:00 a.m. Tickets are just \$5 each and are available NOW at the RSVP office or through Advisory Council Members. Tickets must be purchased in advance. Call Charlie at 428.6616 for more information or to purchase your tickets today. Tickets are limited so hurry and get yours before it's too late!

Senior Academy

DeWitt County TRIAD will be sponsoring a Senior Academy in August 2017 to focus on financial and personal safety for residents over 50. The free program will include presentations on Senior Safety, Family Love Letters, Alzheimer's, and Senior Cell Phone Use, as well as Entertainment. Local authorities will give presentations on each of these topics at the Clinton Library during three days in August. The academy will meet from 9 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. on August 8, 15 and 22. Refreshments will be provided by Liberty Village. There will be daily door prizes.

Space is limited and advanced registration is encouraged. To register, please call the DeWitt County Sheriff's Office at 935.9507.

DeWitt County TRIAD is a joint initiative between local law enforcement, social services organizations, and senior volunteers dedicated to senior citizen safety. For more information about the TRIAD, see the DeWitt County TRIAD's Facebook page or by contacting the Sheriff's Office at 935.9507.

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.



Dove's Children's Clothing Room

The Children's Clothing Room served 2,795 children for the fiscal year. Children served ranged in age from newborns to 18 years of age. This is an increase of more than 200 children from last fiscal year.

As part of the state of Illinois budget crisis, Dove had to make the difficult decision to stop purchasing new socks and underwear for the children we serve. Although the need in the community has grown, our budget has shrunk and families are still in need. If you or your organization would like to support the Children's Clothing Room, give Sandy Harmison a call at 428.6616 and ask how you can support children in our community.

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

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.

PLEASE NOTE:

MAX WILL BE CLOSED FROM
JULY 24 TO REOPENED
AUGUST 1.

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



DAX

DEWITT COUNTY ASSISTANCE EXCHANGE

DAX HAS FUNDS FOR
FINANCIAL EMERGENCIES

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

SHORT STACKS FOR A TALL CAUSE



Support **Retired & Senior Volunteer Program** at your neighborhood
Applebee's® located at **1275 S Route 51, Forsyth.**

TICKETS \$5.00 DATE 8/26/17 TIME 8:00am - 10:00am



applebees.com ©2017 Applebee's Restaurants LLC.



Volunteer Organizational League

Hooray for Volunteers

Tuesday, July 11, 2017 12-1 pm

Meeting Location:

DOVE, Inc.

Dean Simcox Conference Center

Lower Level Parking Lot

302 S Union, Decatur, IL

phone:
217.428.6616
fax:
217.428.9239



www.doveinc.org

Charlie Gillaspie
RSVP Program Director

email: cgillaspie@doveinc.org
office: 302 S. Union, Decatur

mailing address:
302 S. Union
Decatur, IL 62522

Jenny Garver
Volunteer Coordinator



MACON COUNTY
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

3939 Nearing Lane • Decatur, Illinois 62521
(217) 423-7708 • Fax (217) 423-2837
jgarver@maconcountyconservation.org