



DoveTales

the newsletter of Dove, Inc.

**November
2022**

**Barbara Blakey
Editor**

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Coats for Kids!

The 31st Annual Coat Drive is in full swing through November 30. See all the locations to drop off a coat for families in need. Have some extra funds but no time to shop? Please send a check to Dove and add CFK on the memo line or donate on the website. We will use these extra funds to fill in the needed sizes.

See more info on page 5

Giving Tuesday Giving Tree Lighting

This event, hosted on Giving Tuesday is a wonderful opportunity to stop by, meet new staff, see what's new with some old friends or to make a donation in person. The lighting of the trees is a special way to wrap up the Thanksgiving season and to light up the neighborhood.

See page 6

Christmas Care & Share

See page 9 to find out ways to help and items needed. Dates and times for volunteering is also there!

NHHAW

Watch our social sites for more information on homelessness issues in Macon County!

Santa's Little Helper Workshop

will be returning to Moultrie County on December 2, Masonic Temple, from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. Family Fun before the annual Christmas Parade in Sullivan.

Dove's Mission

Dove is an organization that engages religious institutions, volunteers, and advocates seeking to coordinate efforts to address unmet needs and social injustices. These needs are met through coordinated programs focusing on domestic violence, homelessness, education, volunteer and community empowerment, and individual emergency need fulfillment. Dove works for justice, equality, and understanding among all people.

Executive Staff

Darsonya Switzer, Chief Executive Officer
Barbara Blakey, Chief Communications Officer
Christina Butcher, Chief Financial Officer

Program Leadership

BABES Program

Sandy Laesch, Interim Coordinator

Children's Clothing Room

Kathy Walters, Coordinator

Dove Financial Assistance

Molly Tenuto, Program Director

Dove Food Pantry

Jennifer Tolladay, Coordinator

Domestic Violence Program

Vacant, Program Director

Jennifer Tolladay, DeWitt County Coordinator

Becky Comstock, Moultrie County Coordinator

Susie Kensil, Shelby County Coordinator

Andrea Kocher, Piatt County Coordinator

Homeward Bound

Charo Covington, Program Director

Neighborhood Services Program

LeAnn Ellis, Coordinator

RSVP • Retired & Senior Volunteer Program

Angie Williams, Program Director

Kathy Walters, Macon County Coordinator

VACANT, DeWitt County Coordinator



As we all prepare to move into the busy holiday season it will become easier than we intend to get swept up in our traditions! Some of those traditions may include traveling to spend time with family or having family spend time in your home. We can smell the aroma of the tasty turkey and sweet desserts in the kitchen right now! The excitement is almost more than we can bear. We will almost always have something to be thankful for as we sit around the table, catching up on stories with our loved ones. What precious memories we make during this time of the year!

This is the time of the year we all reflect on the good that has blessed our lives. And while we all do just that, I would invite you, our friends of Dove, to also remember those who may not have the traditions filled with loving and joyous memories that some of us do. I would invite you to donate to the “Coats for Kids” coat drive for them. I would invite you to donate to the “Christmas Share and Care” for them. I would invite you to participate in the “Giving Tuesday Giving Tree Lighting” for them. I would invite you to contact us to learn more about all the programs here at Dove, Inc. and how your support will change lives in this community! Have a BLESSED November!

Darsonya Switzer, CEO



Dove Financial Assistance

Dove Financial Assistance, DFA, exists to help people through a hardship. That hardship can come from many reasons. Recently, DFA was able to assist someone whose spouse had recently passed away. This was an elderly couple, living on social security. When the spouse passed, that also meant a part of the monthly income stopped, and widower benefits weren't going to kick in for a few months. Talk about a hardship! On top of going through the struggle of losing your spouse, there is also a struggle to make it financially and now there is concern of being evicted from your home.

Thankfully, the property manager reached out on the tenant's behalf to see if DFA could help. The property manager had their hands tied as the corporate office handles evictions, and this manager didn't want to see any more hardship come to the tenant! Due to those of you that have given to DFA, we were able to assist this client, and I'll be honest, when I called the client to share that we could help some, there were tears from both of us.

That is why DFA does what we do! That is why the donations from each of you is so important! Thank you for continuing to give to DFA so that we can continue to say yes to these people that just need a little extra help to get through a hardship!

If you would like to make a donation to this emergency financial assistance program, please use mailing address:

*302 S. Union Street
Decatur, IL 62522*

*or on Dove's website
doveinc.org*

Please put DFA on check memo line or on the website comment box.

Your help supports so many families in need.



To learn more about becoming a Dove Member Congregation please contact Barb Blakey at 217.428.6616 or dove@doveinc.org

Dove's Children's Clothing Room
Central Christian Church
650 W. William St., Decatur
Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays
1:00 to 3:30 p.m.

*Thank you to our volunteers
who assist in the clothing room -
you are so appreciated!*



Dove clothing room will be open every Tuesday in November from 1:00 to 3:30 p.m. to give families an extra day for winter clothing or coats if needed, along with the normal hours of Mondays and Wednesdays, 1:00 to 3:30 p.m.

The clothing room is still accepting children's clothing NB to 18 years . Especially needed is winter clothing. Donations may be dropped off during the hours the clothing room is open.

Please continue to share the word about the clothing room. We have seen an increase of families being served. The clothing is free to families in our community.

31st Annual Coats for Kids!

now

*through
November 30!*

The 2022 Coats for Kids drive will continue through November 30.

Participating cleaners will make sure the coats are clean and fresh and ready for the clothing rooms and sites to distribute.

Watch for participating clothing rooms on our website, Facebook and Twitter sites.

Thanks to the RSVP volunteers who help keep everything moving!



Participating Cleaners

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
115 Magnolia, Forsyth

sponsored by



THE CENTRAL SOURCE



**Donate a coat you no longer use and we'll put it into the hands of a family in need.
All sizes needed and accepted!**

Collection Sites:

Decatur Family YMCA , 220 W. McKinley

Decatur Public Library, Downtown Decatur

Decatur Township, 1620 S. Taylorville Rd.

GT Church, 500 S. 27th Street

HSHS St. Mary's , Main Lobby

Illioopolis Christian Church, 304 Anne Street

Kroger
Brettwood Plaza
Airport Plaza
SouthShores 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

WAND Station, 904 Southside Drive



BABES

Beginning Awareness Basic Education
Studies

If you are interested in becoming involved in the
BABES Program
(Beginning Awareness Basic Education Studies)
and would like more information about becoming
a BABES Volunteer

contact Barb Blakey bblakey@doveinc.org

or

Sandy Laesch slaesch@doveinc.org

Thanks to the dedicated volunteers who are in the classroom
this fall! Join us in the new year!



Giving Tree Tree Lighting Ceremony

We were honored to commemorate Dove's Golden Anniversary on Giving Tuesday in 2020, at our 302 South Union St. location, with an outside event. We enjoyed the trees so much we have made this a new tradition at Dove.

The White Lights Tree is in Honor of all the faithful supporters of Dove - those who founded the agency, former staff and volunteers.

The Multi-colored Lights Tree in Honor of the volunteers, staff and advocates who make up Dove now and are fulfilling its mission.

The Purple Lights Tree is in Recognition of those who are working for a safer life without domestic violence and to those who have lost their lives.

The Red Lights Tree in Honor of those working to find safe homes for themselves and their families and to those who have lost their lives due to homelessness issues.

Join us this on on Tuesday, November 29. 4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

- drop off a donation to help keep Dove strong
- make a last minute Coats for Kids! donation
- drop off a donation to support one of the program
- drop off items needed for clients

and just drop by to say hi!

- meet or reconnect with staff
- find out about volunteering opportunities
- hear what's new and future plans at Dove!

"Desserts with Dove"

Wednesday, November 16
12:30 to 2:00 p.m.
803 W. Leander, Clinton

We are inviting ~

🕊️ Community Members

🕊️ Volunteers

🕊️ Agency Representatives

🕊️ Friends

to stop by after their lunch for a Sweet Treat!

Meet Dove staff members and learn more about the programs hosted out of the Clinton office:

- BABES - Beginning Awareness Basic Education Studies
- RSVP - Retired and Senior Volunteer Program
- Food Pantry
- Domestic Violence Program
- DFA - Dove Financial Assistance

Dove Financial Assistance

Helping with emergency financial assistance
for families/individuals in need
for in-person sites: see below

Macon County Sites:

Decatur Public Library, 120 N. Franklin, Decatur
Mondays, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

Homeward Bound, 788 E. Clay, Decatur

Tuesdays & Thursdays, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. & 1:00 to 3:00 p.m.

217.619.9108 or DFA@doveinc.org

(Please note, 11/10, afternoon only and 11/24 closed)

Shelby County Site:

Salvation Army Building, 133 E. Main St., Shelbyville

November 17, 9:30 to 11:30 a.m.

DFA@doveinc.org or 217.433.7435

Moultrie County Site:

First United Methodist Church, 216 W. Jefferson St., Sullivan

November 22, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

DFA@doveinc.org or 217.433.7435

Piatt County Site:

First Presbyterian Church, 214 S. Charter, Monticello

November 9 & 30, 9:00 to 11:00 a.m.

DFA@doveinc.org or 217.433.7435

DeWitt County Site:

803 W. Leander, Clinton

November 30, 9:00 a.m. to 11:00 a.m.

DFA@doveinc.org or 217.433.7435



For Macon, DeWitt and Piatt Counties:

217.619.9108 or DFA@doveinc.org

in person sites same as for DFA funding

30-Day Residential Income Guidelines

FOR WEATHERIZATION AND BILL PAYMENT ASSISTANCE

Note: Families must show proof of income. A family's monthly gross income must fall between the below ranges, based upon family size, to qualify.

FAMILY SIZE	LIHEAP INCOME RANGE	WNCF INCOME RANGE
1	\$0 - \$2,265	\$2,266 - \$4,263
2	\$0 - \$3,052	\$3,053 - \$4,871
3	\$0 - \$3,838	\$3,839 - \$5,479
4	\$0 - \$4,625	\$4,626 - \$6,088
5	\$0 - \$5,412	\$5,413 - \$6,575
6	\$0 - \$6,198	\$6,199 - \$7,063
7	\$0 - \$6,985	\$6,986 - \$7,550
8	\$0 - \$7,324	\$7,325 - \$8,038

- Driver's License or other Photo I.D. and copy of current Ameren Illinois utility bill
- Applicant must reside at the address on the bill and have active service in his or her name
- Income eligibility, see guidelines, above
- Applicant can receive WNCF assistance only once per heating season, which is 9/1 to 5/31 each year and once per cooling season, 6/1 to 8/31
- WNCF matches customer payments (within the last 45 days) up to \$350 during heating season and up to \$200 during cooling season
- Heating grants are based solely on income guide-lines while cooling grants are intended for seniors, disabled or those with medical conditions exacerbated by heat (with a doctor's letter)

News from Homeward Bound

Staff have been working to engage and house **24** individuals who have been literally homeless (in a shelter, on the streets or somewhere unfit for human occupancy, such as an abandoned building) for 90-days or more. **5** of those individuals meet the chronically homeless criteria, which means they have a diagnosable disability AND have been homeless for at least 1 year or have been homeless 4 times in the past 3 years, totaling 365 days.

There are **708** total participants currently receiving housing and/or services.

The need for 1-bedroom units for single individuals is still dire!

Dove- Homeward Bound is collecting the following items for participants:

- Diapers (all sizes) and Baby Wipes
- Personal Hygiene Items

These donated items can be delivered to:
Dove-Homeward Bound
788 E. Clay, Decatur, IL 62521
Monday - Friday
9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Move-In Starter Kits

Additionally, please consider donating items for move-in starter kits for individuals and families moving from homelessness to housing. Join the Macon County Continuum of Care in supporting this effort. Donations will be accepted

HOME at Northeast Community Fund (NECF) and distributed in

"starter kits" to agencies serving those moving into housing.

- cleaning supplies
- paper products
- bath towels
- kitchen towels
- sheets/blankets/pillows
- plates/glasses/silverware
- kitchen utensils
- pots/pans

These donated items can be delivered to:
Northeast Community Fund
839 N. Martin Luther King, Jr. Dr., Decatur
Monday, Wednesday, Thursday
9:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.

**Macon County
Continuum of Care Homeless Advisory
Council (HAC) Meeting**
**Next meeting is scheduled for the 2nd Thursday,
November 10, 1:30 p.m.
EOC, 360 E. Marietta, Decatur**

Coordinated Entry

Homeward Bound, on behalf of the Macon County CoC, continues to provide services and have staff available 24 hours to assist those in need of housing solutions. Please share the contact numbers with anyone you know who is experiencing housing instability issues, 217.362.7700 or 217.619.5742.

Life Skills and Job Club

Job Club Classes are cancelled until further notice, for further information please contact Daciena, 217.362.7700 ext. 106.

Upcoming Events: Children's Group

**Springfield Ballet presents
The Nutcracker,
Decatur Civic Center Theater,
December 3, 2022, 2:00 & 7:00 p.m.,
December 4, 2022, 2:00 & 6:00 p.m.**

**For more information contact
Daciena Simmons, 217.362.7700**



It feels like time goes faster the older I get. I know that's not how things work; time, after all, is a universal invariant. But it certainly seems to be the case. It feels like we just wrapped up Christmas Care & Share 2021 a few days ago! As much work as it is to coordinate a program that's gotten as large as it has (last year we served 836 families, 2,486 children receiving toys), I truly love the program and being able to serve people at Christmas.

For those who don't know, we partner not only with Northeast Community Fund for this program, but also Toys for Tots and Salvation Army. We give referrals to surrounding schools and agencies such as Anna Waters Head Start Program, Baby

Talk, Heritage Behavioral Health Center, Macon County Health Department, and many, many others. Each family who receives gifts is only served once – and we cross reference all referrals to make sure of this – in order to serve as many families and children as possible who are in need.

We obviously couldn't serve so many people if it weren't for all the many volunteers and donors who make sure we have what we need to accomplish the project. We appreciate every single one of you!

This year, we need donations of hats and gloves in all sizes for kids ages 0 – 17, as well as toys and gifts for that age range.

We're also planning to serve between 70 – 75 seniors in nursing homes with gift baskets. If you would like to donate gifts for a senior, or even adopt one of our seniors for Christmas and provide them with a gift basket, please reach out to Angie at 217.428.6616 until November 30. After that you can call or text her at 217.655.5213, as she will be out of the office and working out of St. Paul's Lutheran Church until the end of Christmas Care & Share. The same information applies if you are interested in adopting a whole family for Christmas!

Volunteers are needed to help during the toy distribution between Tuesday, December 13 – Friday, December 16, from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Opportunities include helping to run a toy/gift station. This can be a seated or standing job and will be mostly to let the parents who are shopping know how many gifts they can get for each of their children off the table you're overseeing. The other opportunity involves more standing and walking around with parents to help guide them through the distribution center and assist them in picking out gifts.

There is a short, required training for both volunteer positions. Those training dates are Friday, December 2, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. or 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. or Saturday, December 3, 10:00 to 11:00 a.m. or 1:00 to 2:00 p.m. at St. Paul's Lutheran Church. To register for training and express volunteer intentions, please call Angie at 217.428.6616 or email her at santa@doveinc.org by November 30.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church is located at 1 Bachrach Court in Decatur.

Angie Williams, CC&S Coordinator

Neighborhood Services Program

Sharing News About The Neighborhoods!

October seemed to fly by this year. One of the highlights was the Jasper Street Corridor-Great Streets Great Neighborhoods kick off event in Johns Hill Park. (see page 11 for pictures) I was glad to represent Dove as part of a team who shared some of the various insights into the program. Our particular station told about how transportation moved through the corridor and folks were allowed to vote on some ideas to beautify and/or bring safety to the area.

Among other neighborhood meetings, SIA's (Southside Improvement Association) meeting shared much discussion of the Great Streets Great Neighborhoods Project as it began within their neighborhood. I also got to participate in SIA's street and housing clean up day. This day was complete with picking up any loose trash in the streets and lots and two dumpsters to help neighbors be rid of old unwanted furniture, etc. This took a team of workers and they showed up!

Sandy Laesch and I have kept busy enjoying the BABES Program back in schools as well as sharing the puppets with Decatur Estates and Mt. Zion Grade School during Red Ribbon Week. This year's theme is Celebrate Life, Live Drug Free. While at one of the presentations an adult came up to us and shared that she was so glad we were there! There was at least one child she was aware of whose family home was going through specifically the issues we had just addressed in our presentation. She said it was a timely message and gave her chills.

Last week has been prep time for the Halloween night Trunk or Treat Party with Torrence Park. This event was full of fun and a festive night of costumes, treats and games!

November will be no stranger to festivities, meetings, BABES and more as the community gets ready to celebrate the holiday season! LeAnn Ellis, Coordinator

Coalition Of
Neighborhood Organizations

CONO Meeting

Tuesday, NOVEMBER 15
(3rd Tuesday of the Month)
5:30 p.m.

Staley Room, Decatur Public Library
Downtown Decatur

If we can share information on your
Neighborhood Group, please email info
by the 15th of the month
to dove@doveinc.org

**Great Streets Great Neighborhoods kick off event in Johns Hill Park
Thursday, October 20**



***Dove staff attending
Housing Action Illinois Annual Conference and
35th Anniversary Celebration.
Thursday, October 20***

***Welcome to new Homeward Bound Program Director
Charo Covington
who jumped right into programming, along with her staff
at the convention!***

***(L to R) Dacienna Simmons, Charo Covington, Kendra Warnsley
Cynthia Thomas, and Darsonya Switzer***



Representatives from the
Golden K Kiwanis
dropped by with a donation for the
Shelter

Aldi gift cards, blankets, puzzles,
games, pillows, toiletries and more!

Thanks So Much!



The Community Foundation chose Dove for their casual Friday Quarterly Fundraising. Candra Reed, Office Manager, stopped by a Dove Staff Meeting with their donation! "You continue to do amazing work in our community and it was a no brainer to support Dove! Every employee and volunteer at Dove is a blessing to our community. We appreciate you!!!" Candra Reed. Thanks Candra! And we appreciate all the support to Dove and the Community by The Community Foundation of Macon County!

(L to R) Christina Butcher, Candra, Darsonya Switzer and Barbara Blakey

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NEWS

from the Domestic Violence Program



Guest Speaker, Rachel Louise Snyder

Our sincere "thank you" to all involved in the No Visible Bruises event held on October 20. A special Thank You to our speaker, and now friend of Dove, Rachel Louise Snyder. And remember her book No Visible Bruises is available anywhere you buy books. It is a wonderful and very educational read.



Joyce, Jennifer and Andrea



Anita and Kristina

NEWS

from the Domestic Violence Program

- Piatt County Office participated in No Visible Bruises on October 20 in Macon County.
- October 29 was Safe Trick or Treat in Downtown Monticello and Dove staff participated in handing out candy to various ghouls and goblins that visited!

Andrea Kochner, Piatt County Coordinator

As the calendar flips from October to November the purple signs and purple ribbons begin to be removed and stored away for next October's observance of Domestic Violence Awareness Month. So, the problem is over, right? No, not at all. Domestic violence continues to plague society every day of every month of every year. Approximately 15% of all cases in our legal system are domestic violence related. A woman is beaten every nine seconds. Worldwide, 87,000 women are murdered each year; 58% of these women are killed at the hands of a family member or intimate partner. Every day, kids go to school hungry, sleep-deprived, and scared, unable to concentrate on classroom assignments. Each day the work goes on in shelters and offices all over the world to make a difference in the lives of victims and their families, to make their worlds a safer, happier place in which to live. Please continue to remember these victims and to celebrate those who have survived this issue and moved on with their lives. Continue to be aware of your surroundings and to report any suspicious activity you observe to the appropriate authorities. We pray that sometime in the future this problem can be eradicated, but in the present, we remain dedicated to the mission of a safe, healthy life for everyone.

Thank you to Barb Olivier for the donation of hand-made pillowcases to the Dove Domestic Violence Program. They are beautiful and will provide joy to many people for years to come.

Susie Kensil, Shelby County Coordinator

WISH LIST FOR DOMESTIC VIOLENCE SHELTER:

DISPOSABLE 3 PLY FACE MASKS FOR CLIENTS
VINYL GLOVES (SIZE MEDIUM, LARGE, AND XL)
CLOROX WIPES
AEROSOL DISINFECTANT SPRAY
PAPER TOWEL ROLLS
BABY WIPES & PULL-UPS
SIPPY CUPS
TEETHING RINGS
STROLLERS (CAN BE UMBRELLA TYPE)
PACK AND PLAY FOR BABIES TO SLEEP IN
AIR FRESHENER SPRAY
FULL SIZE BATH TOWELS (NEW ONLY)
BLANKETS- TWIN SIZE (NEW ONLY)
BEDSHEET SETS- TWIN SIZE (NEW ONLY)
NIGHTSHIRTS- WOMENS, ALL SIZES (NEW ONLY)
SWEATSUITS- UNISEX, ALL SIZES (NEW ONLY)
WHITE NOISE MACHINES
GAS GIFT CARDS
WALMART GIFT CARDS
ALDI GIFT CARDS FOR SHELTER FOOD
DISPOSABLE CUPS, PLATES & BOWLS
DISPOSABLE (PLASTIC) EATING UTENSILS
SNACKS & JUICE BOXES
BODY WASH
VASELINE
HANDHELD PERSONAL MIRRORS
AFRICAN-AMERICAN HAIR CARE PRODUCTS (SHAMPOO/CONDITIONER/ETC)
HAIR GREASE
HAIRBRUSHES
CONDITIONER
HAIR GEL AND HAIR SPRAY
TOOTHPASTE
DENTURE ADHESIVE (POLIGRIP OR OTHER)
DENTURE PASTE & CLEANER
MOUTHWASH (ALCOHOL FREE)

NEWS

from the Domestic Violence Program

Would you like to become a HERO?? The DeWitt County Coalition for Domestic Violence is looking for local individuals who are compassionate and want to help!!! The CADV meet monthly for one hour, one Thursday a month. The committee is responsible for assisting Dove Advocates with various fundraisers throughout the year. The committee members also assist Dove in different areas relating to assisting victims of Domestic Violence. If you are interested or would like more information please give Jennifer Tolladay a call at 217.935.6619.

Jennifer is in the office Monday through Friday 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. to support and assist anyone with Emergency Orders of Protection, counseling (in person or on the phone, whichever you are most comfortable with) and to answer any and all questions you may have about Domestic Violence. We also offer DV101 classes to help folks better recognize the different types of abuse and what they look like.

Jen would also like to say a quick thank you to the Sunset Inn for working with Dove for safe shelter for clients suffering domestic abuse who cannot go to the shelter in Decatur.

Jennifer Tolladay, DeWitt County Coordinator



Your gift will ensure that services can continue. Please give generously.

*Dove, Inc.
302 S. Union, Decatur, IL 62522*

or donate online at doveinc.org

Dove Food Pantry Thursdays

**10:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.
803 W. Leander, Clinton**



The DeWitt County Dove Food Pantry now has coats available. You are free to come and pick out coats for anyone in your household who may need a coat. You are free to pick up coats during open pantry hours.

Dove currently has a large supply of baby formula, if your baby needs some, call Jennifer at 217.935.6619 and she can let you know if we have your kind in stock.

- This is a free service to anyone in DeWitt County.
- You can utilize the pantry once a month.
- When you arrive at the door, you will need to show your ID.
- We will bring your food to the door.
- We also have diapers if you have a little one in your household - child must be living in the household.
- We do request that if someone is already at the door receiving food, you stay in your vehicle until it is your turn.
- We are doing all we can to abide by the social distancing guidelines.

RSVP News

Seeking Coordinator to lead in DeWitt County RSVP Program

Dove is seeking an individual to lead our DeWitt County RSVP Program. This Coordinator's job is a 20-hour a week position located at our Clinton office.

Main job responsibilities include assisting our RSVP Volunteers in DeWitt County to find meaningful volunteer opportunities at the many volunteer stations. Individuals must be familiar with the DeWitt County area and be able to learn the volunteer needs of the many stations serving the community.

This Coordinator works as part of a 3 person team serving DeWitt and Macon Counties.

If you're interested, please see doveinc.org for a thorough job description, or reach out to Angie Williams at 217.428.6616 or by email at awilliams@doveinc.org



Do you know anyone who's age 55 or better, that is looking to serve in the Macon or DeWitt communities? We would love to hear from them and get them linked with our Retired and Senior Volunteer Program. All they would need to do is fill out a simple enrollment form and document the hours they spend volunteering and turn them in monthly. Perks include invitations to special RSVP events like our Volunteer Appreciation Luncheon in the fall, secondary insurance coverages, and the knowledge that you're helping one of the Dove, Inc. Programs! If you or someone you know is interested, please reach out to Angie or Kathy at 217.428.6616.

We're also seeking more individuals to be on both of our advisory councils. There is a separate council in Macon and DeWitt, and the advisory councils help us plan events, help us learn more information about volunteer opportunities in the community, and help recruit new RSVP volunteers. Is this you? We hope so! You do not have to be 55 or older to be on an advisory council (though you certainly can be!). If you're interested, reach out to Angie at 217.428.6616 or by email at awilliams@doveinc.org.



You can support Dove by participating with the Kroger Community Rewards Program!

To use the Kroger Community Rewards Program, simply visit <http://www.kroger.com>

Once logged into your Kroger account you can search for DOVE INC either by name or DK772 and then click *enroll*.

New users will need to create an account which requires some basic information, a valid email address and a rewards card.

If you do not yet have a rewards card, the cards are available at the customer service desk at any Kroger.



And Thanks to all who support Dove in this way!



RSVP Volunteer Opportunities



Habitat For Humanity ReStore

Habitat needs greeters, to either sit or stand by the front door and welcome our customers into the store. A sorter is needed to assist in the back garage/ break room area and sort through the many boxes of donations that come in. A dishwasher, to wash and clean the many items that come in. A tester to test the donations that arrive and make sure they work properly. The ReStore Hours are 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Tuesday – Friday and Saturday 9:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. and you can choose your own hours. Anyone who is interested would be welcomed into the Habitat family. If interested, call Stephanie at 217.425.6446.

Weldon Springs Park

Old Fashioned Christmas with Santa. December 11, from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. Volunteers needed to help with passing out cookies and hot chocolate. It takes place inside the Schoolhouse. Call or text Stephanie Russell 217.737.3081.

Clinton YMCA

Christmas Sale Presale. Help is needed November 14 and 15 for set-up and organization of sale items, from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. Call or text Stephanie Russell 217.737.3081.

Christmas Sale. November 16-19, 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. you can pick your time. Lots of help is needed to pack up purchased items and reorganize sale items. They are loaded with trees this year - big and little. All the sale money goes for children's swimming program. Call or text Stephanie Russell at 217.737.3081.

Operation Enduring Support

A gentle reminder that RSVP is teaming up with Operation Enduring Support to collect items for our troops at Christmas. Items can be delivered to Grace United Methodist Church, 901 N. Main St., Decatur, Mondays – Thursdays from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Items need to be received by November 17.

Donations of the following are requested:

- Beanie Babies
- 2023 Calendars
- Puzzle Game books
- Playing cards
- Gorilla tape/duct tape
- Protein bars/granola bars
- Nutritional Snacks/Popcorn
- Slim Jims & Beef Jerky (no pork products)
- Hard candy and gum
- Individually wrapped snacks (no chips, too easily crushed)
- Hand warmers
- Individual packets of instant coffee
- Individual powdered drink mix (like Crystal Lite and Hot chocolate)
- Hanging deodorizers (air fresheners)
- Solid deodorant
- Gold Bond Powder (1 oz)
- Body wash/shampoo combo
- Hotel size shampoo, conditioner, lotion
- Eye drops and Chapstick
- Funky socks
- Q-tips (travel size)
- Band-Aids
- Eyeglass wipes
- Alcohol free wet wipes
- Toothbrushes
- Toothpaste
- Black Ballpoint Pens
- 4X6" notepads
- Fine point permanent markers
- Blade Razors
- Small American Flags