

- Kenny's Closet
- 12 New Kitchens Donated
- Run/Walk Breaks Record

DuPage PADS is committed to ending homelessness in DuPage County.

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Francis Says,
“Thank You!”

A graduate of the Pharmacy Technician Program shares her story

“I became homeless the week before Christmas in 2011 because I broke my toe on my drive foot. I was employed as a driver and could not work in this capacity. I quickly fell behind in rent and all other bills that go along with basic living.

My boss found me another position other than driving and allowed me to stay at the office until I could get caught up on things and save enough money to move into another place. Yes, I worked in the day at the office and my boss made arrangements so that I could stay at the office overnight in order to avoid any rent payments.



Francis speaking at a PADS Partner event on October 18.

After awhile, I didn't handle things very well and closed the line of communication at work. I lost my job on the last day of February and I came to DuPage PADS.

“The people at DuPage PADS were a gleam of light through the turmoil I was experiencing.”

Sadness. Uncertainty. Frustration. Anger. Disappointment. These were the feelings I had when I first came to DuPage PADS this past February. Initially I was in shock and found going place to place each night difficult. But early on, the staff interacted with me in a very caring manner; they reached out to me and their commitment to help me and my situation is something I will never forget. The people at DuPage PADS were a gleam of light through the turmoil I was experiencing.

Since I became a DuPage PADS client, I qualified through testing and with classes and hard work have completed the Pharmacy Technician program. I am now the proud recipient of a Pharmacy Technician License.

I not only look forward to a job, but a well-paying career. Today was my very first day of orientation as a pharmacy technician with the DuPage Community Clinic here in Wheaton. I am proud to say that with DuPage PADS help, I am on my way to succeed.

So I would like to humbly thank all who are apart of DuPage PADS in any and every aspect from in front to behind the scenes for doing what you do for so many like me. Thank You!”

A Record-Breaking Finish DuPage PADS 8th Annual Run for Home

DuPage PADS is proud to announce that this year's 8th Annual *Run for Home*, held on Saturday, September 8th, was a huge success, with the largest participation in its 8-year history (an estimated 1,000 in attendance) and by raising more than \$100,000 for DuPage PADS' vital housing programs and support services.

DuPage PADS would like to thank the sponsors, donors, congregations, volunteers, runners and walkers who made these achievements possible. Funds raised from the *Run for Home* will help provide critical support services to individuals and families who are homeless in DuPage County to help rebuild their lives and restore their hope.



Thank you to our Run for Home sponsors:



Jim & Kathy Schlessner
Ray & Mary Schulte



The Sarovich
Foundation
Bill Hamik



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Naperville Running Co.

OUR COMMUNITY IMPACT

From 2011-2012, Dupage PADS served:

1,398
Individuals

138
Families

236
Children*



*39% increase in children from previous year. 71% of children served are ages 12 and under.

Housing, Support & Employment:

- Interim (Overnight) Housing was provided 365 nights a year
- 37,801 nights of shelter for 1,028 individuals
- 122,277 meals served at overnight sites and Client Service Center
- 76 Permanent Supportive Housing apartments, including 2 new apartments for veterans
- 4,000 volunteers donating 61,952 hours
- 116 (73%) jobs were found for 158 clients seeking job assistance.
- 10 new employer partnerships in the areas of manufacturing, healthcare, financial and various service industries.

Assistance League Donates 12 New Kitchen Sets to DuPage PADS' Clients

Remember when you first moved into your own apartment? For DuPage PADS clients, moving from being homeless to one of our Permanent Supportive Housing apartments means that they will have few possessions to utilize in their new space.

The Assistance League of Chicagoland West recognized there was a need to help families who had just obtained an apartment. This local group out of Hinsdale has been donating brand new, complete kitchen sets for years and recently donated sets for DuPage PADS' 12 new Permanent Supportive Housing apartments added this year.

"We call the program Operation New Start," says Assistance League's Communications Director, Linda Legner. The kitchen sets include everything clients need including: small appliances, glassware, pots, pans, cooking utensils, small appliances, cleaning supplies and more. League members customize the kitchens to the clients' needs. "We like to find out if the family has little children and if they do, we include sippy cups. If it is a family of four, we provide dishes to serve up to eight," Linda explains.

"Operation New Start" encourages clients to prepare meals at home and the League is grateful for their relationship with DuPage PADS. Linda says, "We take pride in being part of building that new home for people who really need it. It is so exciting to see participants get into their new kitchens and have the opportunity to prepare delicious, nutritious, cost-conscious family meals."



From Left to Right: Marie Raffl of Western Springs, Jamie Marucha of Clarendon Hills, Diane Kurtz of Hinsdale, Debbie Newman of Hinsdale with donated kitchen items.

Get to Know Kenny's Closet

Volunteer Spotlight



90-year-old Kenny proves that there is no age limit for serving others.

"I first volunteered for DuPage PADS through my church. I saw there was a need for clothes, shoes and shampoo.

For three years, I have been acquiring these items and accessories for DuPage PADS clients to choose items from my racks for free at Interim (Overnight) Housing sites. We've named the project Kenny's Closet and it runs three nights a week, each along a different train line.

"...it goes back to my belief that everybody
needs to do a little to help out..."

I get the clothes and toiletries from churches in the area. Usually I go after rummage sales and pick up the unsold items for free or next to free. Now I have clothes being stored on a rack in my living room, in a spare bedroom and in my garage.

People ask me why I continue to do this at 90 years old and it goes back to my belief that everybody needs to do a little to help out...and I like making people smile."

Discover volunteer opportunities at
www.dupagepads.org



Exciting Announcements Inside!

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Save the Date

November 22, 2012 at 9:00am
29th Annual Dan Gibbons Turkey Trot

Intersection of Vallette and York Roads,
Elmhurst, IL

The Turkey Trot is a 5K fun run on Thanksgiving morning enjoyed by thousands of runners, joggers and walkers each year. A portion of the proceeds will benefit DuPage PADS' programs. For more information, visit www.dangibbonsturkeytrot.com.



March 14, 2013
DuPage PADS 7th Annual Taste of Hope

Abbington Banquets, Glen Ellyn, IL

The Taste of Hope offers guests the luxury of experiencing signature dishes from 25 of the area's most elite restaurants in one evening. Music, auctions and a unique raffle will round out an evening of delicious dining. This event will raise funds to support programs that provide housing, support services, career training and employment opportunities leading to job placement. For more information, call 630.682.3846, ext.252.



Leave a Lasting Legacy.
Please remember DuPage PADS in your will or trusts.

Call Janelle Barcelona for more information: 630-682-3846, ext.222.