



705 W. Liberty
Wheaton, IL 60187

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED



Don't miss our 7th Annual
Wake Up Your Spirit Breakfast
November 4, 2009 (See Save the Date)

The Community Memorial Foundation is matching new or increased renewal gifts - dollar for dollar! See insert for details.
DuPage PADS, Inc. is a nonprofit organization committed to end homelessness in DuPage County.

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Save the Date

Sunday, October 18th, 11:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

Rotary Club of Naperville's Soups ON! – Tellabs World Headquarters, Naperville

Enjoy delicious "soup mug" dishes made by local area restaurants at the "Soup's On!" fundraiser. This event is casual & family oriented with a special children's area sponsored by the DuPage Children's Museum. Each attendee will receive a ceramic soup mug. A portion of the proceeds will support the programs and services of DuPage PADS. For more information, go to www.soupsonrotary.com.

Wednesday, November 4th, 2009, 7:00 a.m. to 8:30 a.m.

"Wake Up Your Spirit" Breakfast – Benedictine University, Lisle

The seventh annual "Wake Up Your Spirit" Breakfast will take place on Wednesday, November 4, from 7:00 – 8:30 a.m. at the Krasa Center at Benedictine University in Lisle. Our keynote speaker will be Gary Moore, author of the critically acclaimed book, *Playing with the Enemy*. Join us for a morning of inspiration. Visit www.dupagepads.org or call Jen Williams at 630.682.3846 x242 to register.

Thursday, November 26th, Starting Time 9:00 a.m.

26th Annual Dan Gibbons Turkey Trot

Intersection of Vallette and York Roads, Elmhurst

The Turkey Trot is a 5K fun run enjoyed by thousands of runners, joggers, and walkers each year. A portion of the proceeds will benefit DuPage PADS programs. Volunteers are needed. Call Ann Rowland at 630.682.3846 x234. For more information, visit www.dangibbonsturkeytrot.com

Thursday, March 4th, 2010, 6:00–9:30 p.m.

4th Annual: A Taste of Hope: Chefs Uniting to End Homelessness

Abbington Distinctive Banquets, Glen Ellyn

"A Taste of Hope" is back by popular demand! Leading area restaurants will serve samples of their signature dishes to raise funds for the programs and services of DuPage PADS. Music, auctions, and a unique raffle will round out an evening of dining delights. Let us spread the word about your business! Sponsorship opportunities are available! Call Jen Williams at 630.682.3846 x242.

New Developments

Go Green and End Homelessness One Dime at a Time!

Through its "One Dime at a Time" program, Whole Foods Market donates 10 cents per bag to customers who reuse their own shopping bags for their purchased groceries. From October through December at the Whole Foods Market located at 151 Rice Lake Square in Wheaton, customers have the choice to accept their cash refund or donate the cash to DuPage PADS. This is another easy way to be green while supporting DuPage PADS programs that empower homeless individuals and families to rebound and rebuild their lives.

Holiday Meals in a Bag Create Tables of Plenty

Through the kindness and generosity of our volunteers, the Thanksgiving and Holiday Meals in a Bag program provides a holiday meal to all of the participants living in our supportive housing programs. Last year, we delivered more than 140 bags during the holiday season! To sign up to donate a Holiday Meal in a Bag this year, please contact Ann Rowland at 630.682.3846 x234 or email Ann at arowland@dupagepads.org.



Get on the Bus to End Homelessness!

The Get on the Bus with Us — Raising \$change! Program is designed to provide students from kindergarten through 12th grade in our communities with a visible, tangible, and impactful way to participate in our mission to end homelessness in DuPage County. The funds raised through this program help provide our participants with access to public transportation and critical medical assistance. We need your help. Contact Jen Williams at 630.682.3846 x 242 to get involved!



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DuPage PADS is committed to end homelessness in DuPage County.

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Focus: *Changing lives leads to housing*

Fall 2009

D u P a g e PADS View

An information newsletter for friends & volunteers of DuPage P.A.D.S.

Transitional Housing Puts Tenants in the Driver's Seat to Self Sufficiency

When new tenants enter their Transitional Housing apartment for the first time, each finds a basket on the bed, filled with brand new towels, t-shirts and underwear, shampoo and conditioner, and toothbrush and toothpaste. Felicia Anderson, Transitional Housing Program Coordinator, also makes it a point to coordinate the furniture and carefully select the décor. "This is the tenant's first residence after coming to DuPage PADS. It's important that it feel like a home," says Anderson.

One Transitional Housing tenant, Sheila, joined the program one year ago. Since then, she has developed a plan to lower her debt and save \$5,000 to purchase her first car. She learned how to drive and is proud to report that she passed the driving test on the first try.

"Now that I can drive, transportation is so much easier. I am able to keep my job at Home Depot and keep periodic appointments with my doctor and dentist." Over the past year, Sheila has been awarded eight Homer awards by the store management for providing excellent customer service. She has also earned a Front End Hero Award.

Sheila's success is no surprise to Anderson, "My focus is to engage the tenants and support them with tools that will empower them to obtain and sustain their own housing after completing the program. We work on goal setting, life skills training, money management, communication skills, and effective conflict resolution." What's the impact of this engagement? Anderson believes "Through her challenges at work and experiences living in her new apartment, Sheila has become stronger, more patient, and able to speak for herself."

Sheila plans to take the Test of English as a Foreign Language and apply for a pharmacy internship, which will improve her job security. "I feel very fortunate to stay in Wheaton because it is adjacent to the College of DuPage and my workplace. This

My focus is to engage the tenants and support them with tools that will empower them to obtain and sustain their own housing after completing the program.

— Felicia Anderson,
Transitional Housing Program Coordinator

fall, I'll take some refresher courses there."

"Felicia's energy is infectious. She motivates me and keeps me focused. I look forward to another year with DuPage PADS because I need a place to live to accomplish my goals. I am making positive decisions in my life, with Felicia walking along beside me."

19 tenants

13 continue working toward housing

13 moved into their own housing

2 purchased homes of their own

QUICK FACTS

TRANSITIONAL HOUSING



Carol

Carol Simler
Executive Director,
DuPage PADS

Dear Friends,

In January, DuPage PADS was awarded the Taproot Foundation's Key Messages and Brand Strategy Grant, which provided \$55,000 in pro bono marketing services to assist with agency branding and developing key messages to explain the benefits and services of our work to the community. Through the time and dedication of the Taproot team and board members Sheila Sarovich and Eva Dahm, we were able to discover how to best communicate all that we – as an agency – do.

DuPage PADS focuses exclusively on providing a wide range of housing and supportive services to end homelessness in the county.

What do we **PROVIDE?**

- 1** Interim (overnight), transitional and permanent supportive housing
- 2** Life skills coaching and assistance for employment readiness
- 3** Food and safety
- 4** Services through community partnerships

What is the **IMPACT?**

- 1** Having a place to call home
- 2** Finding employment
- 3** Independence and sustained self-sufficiency

Partnerships for Employment

DuPage PADS has initiated a partnership with the College of DuPage and Literacy Volunteers of DuPage to offer free basic literacy and free GED course preparation classes onsite at our Daytime Support Center. "With this partnership in education and human services, we take a step that moves us closer to empowering people to become self-sufficient," according to Carol Simler, Executive Director, DuPage PADS.



Students in our GED preparation class at our daytime Support Center review long division.

Mentors from Literacy Volunteers of DuPage assist individuals who are reading at a rudimentary level to improve their learning. The goal is to move into more advanced adult education classes.

In the classes, instructors from the College of DuPage tutor PADS participants in reading and math so that they are prepared to progress to the GED preparation course. Four participants are already enrolled in the online GED course and the math face-to-face preparation course, where they use the computer resource center and the guidance of an instructor. Currently, 14 individuals are on their way to obtaining their GEDs and gaining greater independence.

"Getting a GED can be the difference between having and not having a job," says Sherry May, Adult Education and Workforce Development Program Manager at the College of DuPage. "This could be the doorway to a better job and going on to higher education and better pay."

Larry Cada, Employment Coordinator for DuPage PADS, adds, "This is another example of skills building to enable participants to find employment that will help them obtain and sustain housing. The ultimate goal is employment that will ensure housing stabilization."

Staff Shares Success

I would like to share with everyone the positive results of the Howlett Program, a program administered through the DuPage Housing Authority aimed at helping DuPage County families obtain and sustain housing. I worked with a family that came to DuPage PADS without a home and without much hope. Through hard work, Roy eventually found a job and enrolled Charlie in school. Roy and Kathleen also found an apartment with a bedroom for Charlie that they decorated especially for him. When Charlie was staying in the overnight sites, he was anxious, unhappy, and faced with an uncertain future. Now, his family is so grounded and content in their apartment. There is a noticeable change in Charlie, he is so happy; he is all smiles! It puts a smile on my face! Howlett puts a smile on our families' faces!!

-Tim Paul, Case Manager

DuPage PADS is Going Green to Raise Green!



Did you know that you can drop off donations of gently used clothing, shoes, bedding, jewelry, kitchenware, toys, books, and more at our green Donation Bin located at 703 West Liberty? DuPage PADS receives payment based on the volume of all donations collected, which helps raise funds for programs that assist men, women, and children who are homeless in our communities.

If you or your organization is having a clothing collection drive and have

surplus items at the end of your event, our partner, **Fundraise & Recycle Clothes Now**, will collect that surplus for you and pay DuPage PADS.

Also if it is located in DuPage County, your congregation, office, or condo might be a great place to have a **Fundraise & Recycle Clothes Now** Recycling Bin for DuPage PADS! **Fundraise & Recycle Clothes Now** has been in the recycling business for over 40 years. They meticulously maintain the bins and offer an outstanding service history.

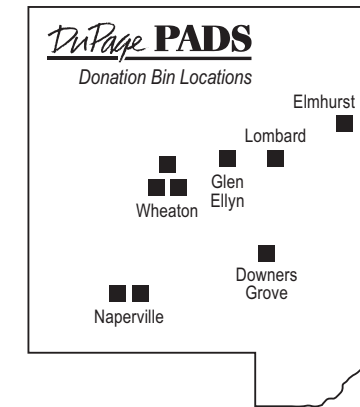
The donation bins and the **Fundraise & Recycle Clothes Now** partnership are examples of ways you can support our efforts to transform lives by providing people who are homeless with housing options and then teach them the skills they need to build and sustain independence and reintegrate into the community.

Not only will you help raise funds to

strengthen programs that assist people who are in crisis, but you will be keeping our community green by facilitating the recycling of donated items.

For more information, call Jen Williams at 630-682-3846 x242.

Check our website at www.dupagepads.org for new donation bin locations.



It's a Match!

If we could show you a way to increase your donation to DuPage PADS without writing another check, would you be interested?

"I am fortunate that my company matches our contributions that support the work of DuPage PADS. Adding strength to my donation without taxing my own budget during these challenging times is a great value to myself and DuPage PADS. It's a simple way to be a catalyst for change in the lives of those who are homeless in the county."

-Ernie Pierz
Board of Directors, DuPage PADS
General Manager, BP America Inc.

Add additional strength to your donation....it's as

EASY AS 1-2-3

- 1** Contact your HR staff regarding your company's matching gifts policy.
- 2** Request the paperwork needed.
- 3** Send completed paperwork to Kathleen Johnson at DuPage PADS: kjohnson@dupagepads.org 630.682.3846 x222

PADS Partners

"Our PADS Partners' key operational support strengthens our ability to remove barriers to housing and provide crucial services for people who are homeless in our county."
-Kathleen Johnson, PADS Partner & Director of Development

Welcome New Partners!

- Mr. and Mrs. Stratis A. Bahaveolos
- Irene J. Boutiette
- Michael Horina
- DRF Installations, Inc.
- Matthew M. Lupo
- Danielle McDonald
- Tom McDonald
- Naperville Newcomers and Neighbors Club
- Mr. and Mrs. Robert D. Olsen
- Lisa Savegnago

Birthday Program



Homeless and nine years old, Daphne didn't expect much of a birthday celebration this year. So when she arrived at the DuPage PADS Interim Housing site where she would be spending the night, she was in for a wonderful surprise. "Everyone sang a rousing chorus of 'Happy Birthday' when we brought out the cake. She was so excited; she was just beside herself with happiness. Her parents couldn't have been more thrilled either," said PADS volunteer Margie Sherburne.

Last year, DuPage PADS experienced a

49% increase in the number of families seeking assistance

and a **43% increase** in the number of children who have no place to call home

75 children at DuPage PADS are under the age of 5

In response to the rise in people coming to DuPage PADS and the large amount of children staying in the Interim Housing sites, we created a program aimed helping homeless children celebrate their birthdays. The Children's Birthday Program started with a generous startup donation from longtime PADS Partner and volunteer, Shelly Simler. "Every child should feel special on their birthday and that is the goal of this new program," stated Ann Rowland, Volunteer Coordinator.

If you would like to support this program, please call Ann Rowland, at 630-682-8635 ext. 234.



Visit our website for more information and to join the Action League at www.dupagepads.org.
Discover simple ways to make a big impact in the lives of the people we serve.