

- Employee of the Year
- Home for the Holidays
- Did You Know?

DuPage PADS is committed to ending homelessness in DuPage County.

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## Employee of the Year Passionate. Leader. Advocate.

These qualities perfectly describe DuPage PADS 2012 Employee of the Year, Heather Worobey. Heather's reputation for making the welfare of her clients her top priority echoes around the organization. Says one fellow staff member, "Heather has such regard for her clients that she is almost like a 'Tiger Mom,' protecting her clients from anyone that might be attempting to take advantage of them."

Heather joined DuPage PADS staff in September 2009 and currently serves as Supportive Housing Supervisor. This year, Heather provided leadership while her supervisor was on maternity leave, handling both her own caseload and administrative duties and reporting for the Permanent Supportive Housing Program. Additionally, Heather spearheaded the creation of a



*Employee of the Year, Heather Worobey (left) accepting the Employee of the Year Award from Carol Simler, DuPage PADS Executive Director (right).*

Diaper Bank for clients and coordinated outings for the families in Permanent Supportive Housing. Recently she organized trips to the zoo and a local bowling alley. Says Heather, "These outings provide a chance for the families in our program to do something fun together. They have so much stress in their lives, these trips provide relief and great memories, especially for the children."

Of the award Heather says, "I am so honored to receive this award. I know how hard everyone works here at DuPage PADS and it is an honor to be part of this team."



## Other Staff Achievements

**This year marks Carol Simler's 15th year with DuPage PADS.**

**The following staff all celebrated their 5 year anniversary with the agency:**

**Courtney Boyda**  
*Supportive Housing Case Manager*

**Lynne Rowe**  
*Operations Assistant*

**Louis Rivera**  
*Client Service Center and Interim Housing Case Manager*



## Home for the Holidays **Twelve Homeless Families Move into Twelve New Apartments**

As 37-year-old Janice opened the door to her new apartment, her eyes swelled with tears. Gazing around the apartment she saw a couch, a table, a fully-furnished kitchen and to top it off, a small Christmas tree in the corner. "It's more wonderful than I could ever imagine," she whispers to her 10-year old-son.



*Generous donors supplied new items to completely stock the kitchens for the 12 new apartments.*

**"I'm so excited to have my own place, to decorate and to be with my son and granddaughter for the holidays. This will be the happiest Christmas I've had in ten years!" ~Kristen** was homeless for 4 ½ years.

This year DuPage PADS welcomed 12 formerly homeless families and individuals into 12 new apartments right before the holidays. DuPage PADS is the largest provider of Permanent Supportive Housing in DuPage County and now provides a total of 76 apartments throughout the county.

The process for identifying residents for our permanent housing begins when individuals or families arrive at our Interim (Overnight) Housing sites or Client Service Center. From there, clients are provided with resources to rebuild their lives including: assistance in guided goal planning, counseling, parenting classes, educational opportunities, and employment preparation and placement.

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**"Getting this apartment means calm, stability and peace. I can't wait to get some real rest," ~Arlene**

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For these clients, their apartments represent a fresh start and a way to come back to a place of dignity and belonging in our community. We are grateful for your support of our mission as well as the tremendous support of our partners in the community who helped make this happen.



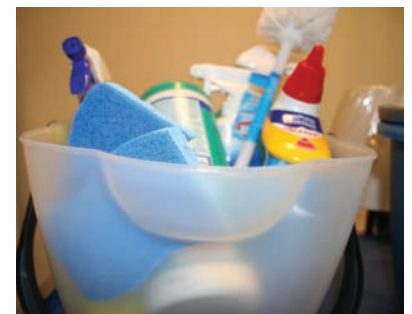
*Moving Day! Volunteers and staff help move furniture.*

Janice shares, "This is the first time in a long time that I have actually felt at home." Together in the New Year, we look forward to assisting many more children and families see their dreams of a home become a reality.

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**"I'm so excited to cook a hot meal for my boys," ~Sue.**

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*Supporters donated complete cleaning supplies for the 12 new apartments.*

# Did You Know?

**Homelessness occurs 365 nights a year.**

Our greatest volunteer need occurs May through September.



**Last year 342 people, including 109 children, obtained independent housing throughout all DuPage PADS' programs.**

DuPage PADS is the largest provider of Permanent Supportive Housing, with 76 apartments in DuPage County.



**73% of those seeking employment found jobs through our Employment Program.**

We have 20 employer partners, 10 of which were added last year.

## Save the Date

**Sunday, February 24th**  
Race Time 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.  
**The Drive for 75**  
**The Race to End Homelessness**

*6-Hour Karting Enduro,  
Benefitting DuPage PADS  
Chicago Indoor Racing, Addison*

Continental Motors Group of Naperville, Chicago Indoor Racing, and DuPage PADS have teamed up for the third annual 6-hour karting enduro for charity! 18 teams will compete in raising money for DuPage PADS with a goal of reaching \$75,000 to assist families and individuals who are homeless.

Racing advantages will be given to top fundraising teams and the minimum team fundraising goal is \$2,500! Contact us today for more information on this fast paced, one-of-a-kind fundraiser.



**Thursday, March 14th**  
5:30 p.m. - 9:30 p.m.  
**DuPage PADS**  
**7th Annual Taste of Hope**

*An appetizing experience benefitting  
DuPage PADS  
Abbington Banquets, Glen Ellyn, IL*

The Taste of Hope will bring more than 500 people to the Abbington in Glen Ellyn for a delicious evening of dining. Enjoy an array of culinary delights from more than 25 of the area's most elite restaurants with wine pairings and an open bar.

Tickets are \$75 per person (purchased on or before 2/28) or \$85 per person (purchased after 2/28). Tickets may be purchased at [dupagepads.org](http://dupagepads.org). Make sure to purchase your tickets early as last year's event was SOLD OUT!



**Saturday, April 20th**  
12:00 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.  
**11th Annual DuPage PADS**  
**Galaxy Bowl**

*DuPage PADS Strikes Back  
Fox Bowl, Wheaton, IL*

Gather your team for this annual event and help us STRIKE BACK against homelessness in DuPage County!

The Galaxy Bowl is a fun, family event to raise money to fund key DuPage PADS programs that assist individuals and families who are homeless.

Assemble your five person team today and start fundraising toward the \$500 team goal. Registration includes t-shirts, pizza, soda, ice cream and more! Plus compete to win prizes while having fun and supporting DuPage PADS!



**For more information on our upcoming events, contact Jennifer Pudwill at 630.682.3846, ext. 2520 or [jpudwill@dupagepads.org](mailto:jpudwill@dupagepads.org)**



705 West Liberty  
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www.dupagepads.org

## Exciting Announcements Inside!

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## Home for the Holidays: Twelve Families Move In!

“DuPage PADS has been a lifesaver to me. When I didn’t have a place to stay, DuPage PADS gave me housing and nourishment. They have been so supportive to me and helped me change my life through their services.” ~Paul

Read the  
full story  
inside!



### Leave a Lasting Legacy.

Please remember DuPage PADS in  
your will or trusts.

Call Janelle Barcelona for more  
information: 630.682.3846, ext.2220.