

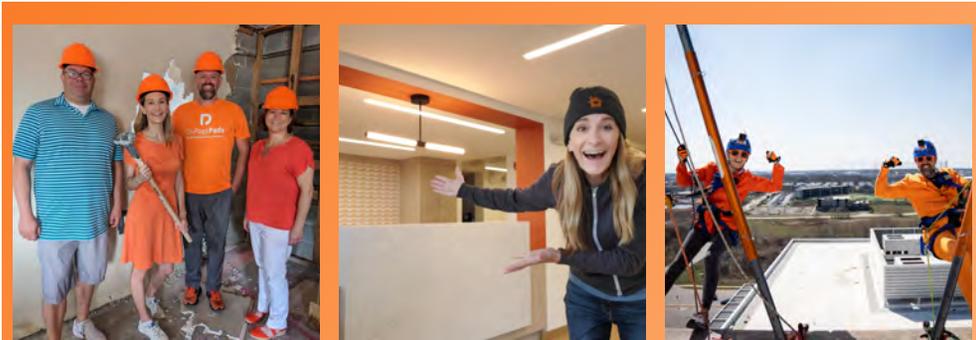


D DuPagePads
The Solution to End Homelessness.

1113
Butterfield Rd

Annual Report
FY 2024 - 2025





Dear Friends,

As we present our impact for Fiscal Year 2025, I want to thank our donor community, volunteers, staff and partners who have been a part of our journey this past year. The federal environment has become more challenging for persons living near poverty level to remain housed, and we have seen not only more people coming to us for help, but also more complex situations among our client base.

Regardless of what we have faced, you have stood with us in our vision to do our work with kindness, and to step up and do more to meet the need.

That has meant expanding our work, and we could not have done that alone. We built a kitchen and needed large numbers of volunteers to cook and serve meals. Our volunteers learned to cook with the agility of an Iron Chef. We added an emergency winter shelter model because a waiting list meant potential fatalities in cold months. Our County Board, the DuPage Foundation, and many private donors came forward to help us save lives. We needed a van so that our Street Outreach team could bring resources to people out in the community and connect them to shelter.

A kind community group sponsored a van, which we promptly wrapped to look like the Mystery Mobile so a person who is sleeping unsheltered knows we're from Pads.

We are profoundly grateful to everyone in our community who, like us, believes every person should have a safe bed to sleep in, and a path toward a home of their own.

April Redzic
President & CEO

Board of Directors

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David Johnson

Vice Chair and Governance Chair
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Chuck Manganelli

Mary Morrissey

Cindy Welsh

Sandra Wunderlich

Carleton Yoder

Dear Friends,

As I reflect on the tremendous accomplishments of DuPagePads and our wonderful staff in FY25, the theme I continually return to is one of moving from strength to strength. It is difficult to steer an organization to a leadership position in its area of focus, as our CEO April Redzic has so ably done during her tenure. However, the far greater accomplishment is that, having achieved levels of program scope, client reach, and operational excellence that until recently would have been unthinkable, we continue to improve. It is the fact that we continue to improve from a place of strength that I am most proud of, as it is the single greatest indicator that our staff, leadership, board, government and corporate partners are all aligned around the simple and profound mission statement that first attracted me to this organization: to end homelessness in DuPage County.

I am an unabashed cheerleader for DuPagePads, but not without reason. The plain facts speak volumes:

- Our 94% success rate in keeping our clients with disabilities in housing is 14 percentage points above the national average.
- We launched an emergency winter shelter program to save lives, and since launch 155 people have gone through the program during periods of extreme winter weather, undeniably preventing multiple fatalities.
- 147 children were registered for school, providing them with the dignity and stability that all children deserve, and reducing their likelihood of experiencing homelessness as adults due to their more stable living conditions as well as their education.

To me, our mission statement is not only an inspiration, but also a challenge. There is more work to be done, but I know that DuPagePads is committed to continued innovation and development of new and existing programs to further serve our mission.

We have achieved such a great deal. The Interim Housing Center continues to stand out as a beacon of what is possible. Our education and employment support services are focused on providing normalcy and a path to stability for our clients, both children and adults. And our team continues to brainstorm opportunities to better and more fully address our mission, as our work with the emergency winter shelter demonstrates. I am humbled and honored to have the opportunity to serve this wonderful organization, and my commitment to all our stakeholders is that complacency will not take hold at DuPagePads as long as there is a single unhoused person in our community.



David Johnson, Chair
DuPagePads Board of Directors

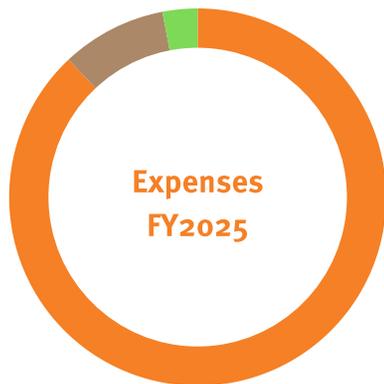


Consolidated Statement of Activities

for the Years Ended in June 30, 2025, and June 30, 2024

Support & Revenue	2025	2024
Contributions	\$5,230,664	\$4,609,884
Grants	6,634,978	5,497,767
United Way	48,961	47,942
Special Events	781,130	648,543
In-Kind Revenue	309,016	333,270
Other Income	654,601	553,413
Total Support & Revenue	\$13,659,350	\$11,690,819

Functional Expenses	2025	2024
Client Service Center	\$3,042,346	\$2,417,702
Emergency Overnight Shelter	3,934,133	2,973,826
Permanent Supportive Housing	4,142,212	3,799,725
DuPage Housing Solutions	118,105	118,682
Management & General	376,330	214,434
Fundraising	1,207,271	1,101,072
Total Functional Expenses	\$12,820,397	\$10,625,441



Programs 88%
Fundraising 9%
Management & General 3%

Grants 49%
Contributions 38%
Other Income 5%
Special Events 6%
In-Kind Revenue 2%

Consolidated Statement of Financial Position

for the Years Ended in June 30, 2025, and June 30, 2024

Current Assets	2025	2024
Unrestricted Cash & Equivalents	\$3,547,446	\$4,065,092
Temporarily Restricted Cash & Equivalents	-	-
Escrow Accounts	88,696	74,850
Investments	3,124,558	3,143,634
Receivables	805,170	1,187,787
Prepaid Expenses	202,298	211,386
Operating lease right of use asset	390,760	49,384
Total Current Assets	\$8,158,928	\$8,732,133

Property & Equipment	2025	2024
Capital Assets, at cost,	\$11,029,375	9,182,563
less accumulated depreciati		
Total Assets	\$19,188,303	\$17,914,696

Liabilities & Net Assets	2025	2024
Current Liabilities		
Notes Payable, current maturities	\$28,750	\$28,750
Accounts payable and accrued expenses	463,358	323,942
Operating lease liabilities, current maturities	73,919	40,441
Deferred revenue	14,750	37,073
Total Current Liabilities	\$580,777	\$430,206
Notes payable, net of current	\$5,604,166	\$5,632,916
Operating lease, net of current	323,021	10,188
Total Liabilities	\$6,507,964	\$6,073,310
Net Assets		
Without Donor Restriction	\$9,709,465	\$8,588,919
With Donor Restriction	2,970,874	3,252,467
Total Net Assets	\$12,680,339	\$11,841,386

Total Liabilities & Net Assets* **\$19,188,303** **\$17,914,696**

DuPagePads' FY25 surplus is due to three generous donations, and one major fundraising event, that occurred during the last weeks of our fiscal year. DuPagePads' board voted in June to allocate surplus funds toward the FY26 budget in order to best honor these donors' wishes to use their gifts to end homelessness. These funds have been used thus far toward increased food and utility costs as we serve 300+ people at the IHC, as well as for facility upgrades (including a snow blower!) that will allow us to continue to save lives through shelter and supportive housing. We are very grateful to all of our donors for making this possible.

Access Center



Street Outreach

This year marks **ten years** since the DuPagePads Street Outreach program first began! Street Outreach allows staff to engage with unsheltered individuals across **39 municipalities** in DuPage County by meeting them where they are.

Working to provide shelter information and supportive services to all neighbors experiencing homelessness, the program served **390 individuals** this year. If you observe someone experiencing homelessness in the community, please call 630-682-3846 option #1 to leave a message for DuPagePads staff.

Emergency Winter Shelter

121 adults and 47 children were sheltered in extreme conditions with offsite hotels this year.

Our deepest gratitude goes out to the many donors, the DuPage Foundation and the DuPage County Board for coming together to support our request for additional emergency support to save lives this winter by providing a safe and warm bed for more than **70 individuals**. Thank you for allowing us to share with the community about the work we are doing and the need for life-saving resources for those experiencing homelessness.

Our Access Center is a safe haven for many people who are unsheltered and living in poverty in our community – a place to receive hygiene products, a warm meal, and a warm welcome from DuPagePads' staff members.

Damien and Vanessa frequently stopped by the Access Center in 2022 and 2023 while Damien slept in his car and Vanessa rented a U-Haul to sleep in. We are thrilled to share that after years of connection with Street Outreach for emergency supplies, hygiene products, and food, both are now clients in our **Permanent Supportive Housing Program** and are happily in their own apartments! We are grateful to provide warm meals, toiletries, and many supportive resources to neighbors who are still on their journey to stable housing.



Interim Housing Center

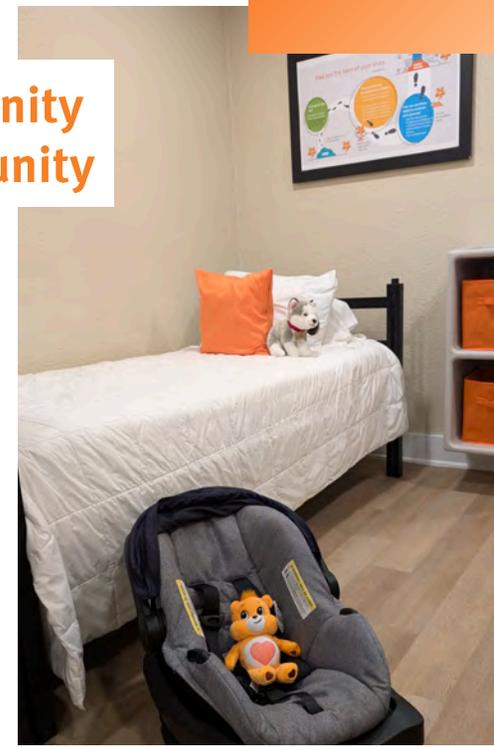
DuPagePads purchased a former motel in 2022, and now operates a 115-unit Interim Housing Center (IHC) that provides a safe bed in a room with a door, food, personal care items, and case management to help families and neighbors end their homelessness. Prior to 2022, families in DuPage County had no access to year-round, 24/7 shelter. Emergency beds rotated nightly across church sites, leaving neighbors without stability. The opening of DuPagePads' 115-room IHC transformed this system, providing consistent shelter, meals and services that prioritize rapid housing placement.

Families and individuals benefit from private, renovated rooms with bathrooms, bunkbeds, desks, discrete bus transportation for school-aged children, as well as an integrated Education & Employment program that ensures academic stability for children and job readiness support for adults. By combining safe shelter with dignity, family supports and strong housing outcomes, the IHC has become a cornerstone for ending family homelessness in DuPage County.



Providing Housing & Dignity for a Healthier Community

Approximately 33% of DuPage County's homeless population are children. Historically, parents experiencing homelessness had been reluctant to utilize congregant shelters because they lack privacy, security, and space for families to call their own. Repurposing a hotel property as an IHC prevents children from being forced to live in cars with their families or other more dangerous living situations. We prioritize rooms at the IHC to families with children, individuals with mobility or significant health issues, and those fleeing domestic violence.



8,824 REQUESTS
for shelter assistance and support



327, 612 MEALS
fresh and frozen provided



139 PROTECTED
who became homeless due to domestic violence



109,204 NIGHTS
of emergency shelter provided



115 ROOMS
provided shelter for 679 individuals and families



145 CHILDREN
enrolled in school while staying in shelter

318
individuals exited the IHC to stable housing!

117
families served at the Interim Housing Center





Kitchen

New

With an average of 200 adults and 100 children safely staying at the IHC each night, the need to feed our neighbors fresh and healthier meals is urgent. Because the former hotel did not include a kitchen, food service immediately following the IHC purchase was not easy. Prior to starting kitchen construction, meals provided were either microwaveable, thanks to the generosity of donated nonperishables and Factor Meals, or prepared off-site with our amazing faith and mission partners before being brought and served to guests. To address this issue, donor-supported construction took place this year, renovating the IHC guest lobby, new vending room, a volunteer-managed pantry, and finally the IHC kitchen, inviting more volunteer groups to come onsite and cook hot and hearty meals for DuPagePads' IHC guests.

A fresh, healthy meal improves the well-being of our guests. Not only is there dignity in a freshly prepared meal, but oftentimes, our clients have gone through periods where they did not have access to food. Being able to go to school or work without an empty stomach allows our guests to focus on overcoming life's challenges and leads to a brighter future.



Thanks to you, our **new kitchen**—installed at the Interim Housing Center in 2025—**feeds hundreds of neighbors each day**, strengthening their path to lasting housing and a better tomorrow.

Thank you for **fueling the journey** to stability and hope.





Guest Pantry

New

DuPagePads provides a fully volunteer-operated Guest Pantry at the Interim Housing Center, allowing guests access to essential supplies and food throughout their stay. Thanks to generous donations from our community, DuPagePads is proud to provide toiletries, shelf-stable food and snacks, and other supplies.

The pantry is designed to ensure that all guests feel supported and can focus on rebuilding their lives without worrying about basic necessities. Volunteers work diligently to keep the shelves stocked and organized, creating a welcoming environment for everyone who visits.



Playground

New



In 2024, DuPagePads constructed an on-site playground space, allowing the over 100 children who stay at the Interim Housing Center nightly to engage in physical activities and play together! This area creates a space that will improve children's social-emotional learning, build strength and expel energy, and simply allows kids to be kids in the midst of a traumatic housing crisis. Thanks to an incredibly kind donation combined with state funding, we are so thankful to see the physical health, mental health, and wellness improvements for our youngest and most vulnerable guests made possible this year.

The joy and laughter that echoes from the playground are reminders us of the impact that generosity and community support can have in transforming lives!



Housing Solutions

DuPagePads provides affordable apartments and support services to individuals and families whose household has a history of homelessness. **DuPagePads is the largest provider of Supportive Housing in DuPage County with 210 apartment units.** These units throughout DuPage County are typically one or two-bedroom apartments and are furnished and move-in ready thanks to the support of our many community partners.

Permanent Supportive Housing

Meet Jerrick, a remarkable individual who first sought refuge at DuPagePads overnight church sites, stayed at the Interim Housing Center (IHC), and eventually moved into an apartment of his own with DuPagePads' **Permanent Supportive Housing (PSH)**! Jerrick's journey from chronic homelessness and mental health struggles to stability and returned hope is a testament to the power of community and compassion.

Growing up in Aurora, Jerrick was prom king and a promising student with dreams of practicing law and advocating for his community. After finding success in the corporate world, mental health crises led him to have to stay with family while combatting homelessness on and off for years.

At DuPagePads, our dedicated team provided him with the stability and care he needed to regain his sense of dignity in moving forward. Today, Jerrick is not only housed but also working hard on his physical and mental health while reconnecting with the things he holds dear!

offers subsidized housing for individuals, families and veterans who have been homeless and meet eligibility, typically through a documented disability.

DuPagePads PSH offers case management with 24-hour crisis intervention and ongoing support.



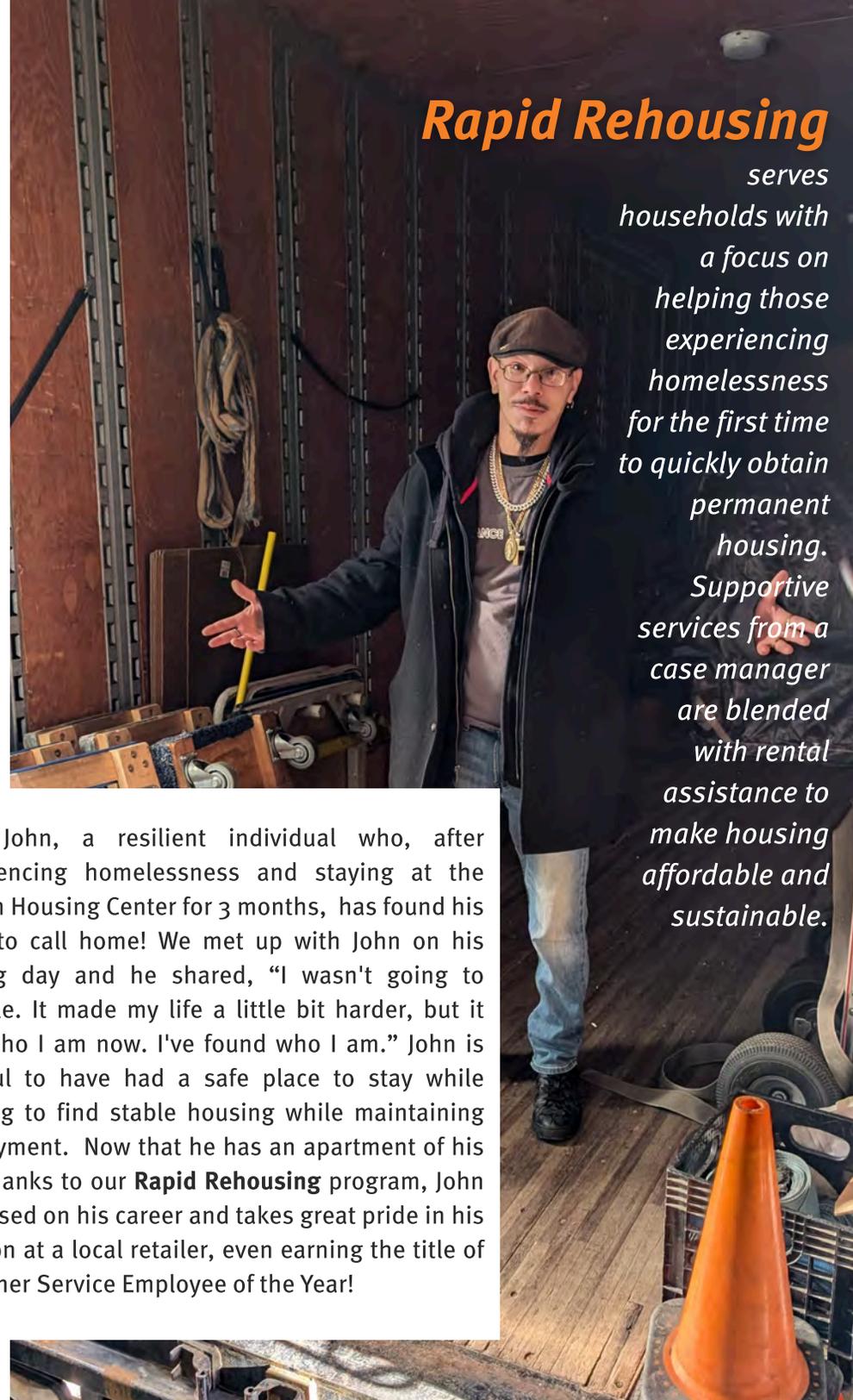


Housing Now

Alma, in her seventies, came to the IHC in 2023. Alma had been staying with friends, but after they had to move out of state, she faced homelessness. Alma faced a significant barrier to obtaining housing: her blindness. Despite this, she was determined to be independent during her time at the Interim Housing Center, and she learned the importance of advocating for herself and accepting help from others.

Alma's confidence grew and she and DuPagePads staff searched for a housing program that was affordable for seniors and could accommodate her needs. Once she found a place to call home, our **Housing Now** program offered immediate financial assistance for Alma to afford move-in costs, first month's rent, and the security deposit. They also connected her with an agency that would provide meal assistance and other services that would help her to remain independent in her new home.

This program supports those that can afford the monthly cost of housing costs but that face barriers to accessing housing at this time.



Rapid Rehousing

serves households with a focus on helping those experiencing homelessness for the first time to quickly obtain permanent housing. Supportive services from a case manager are blended with rental assistance to make housing affordable and sustainable.

Meet John, a resilient individual who, after experiencing homelessness and staying at the Interim Housing Center for 3 months, has found his place to call home! We met up with John on his moving day and he shared, "I wasn't going to crumble. It made my life a little bit harder, but it isn't who I am now. I've found who I am." John is grateful to have had a safe place to stay while working to find stable housing while maintaining employment. Now that he has an apartment of his own thanks to our **Rapid Rehousing** program, John is focused on his career and takes great pride in his position at a local retailer, even earning the title of Customer Service Employee of the Year!





Education & Employment Services

Our Employment Staff specializes in assessing strengths, skills, and experiences to find a career that is compatible to the needs and abilities of each candidate. The Empowerment Center offers training of resume building, soft skills, and how to use a variety of different career discovery techniques. Our staff works to create opportunities with local employers and offer career training programs.

Our Education Staff specializes in meeting the social and emotional needs of students, connecting students and families with resources, ensuring students are connected with tutors, serving as a contact between families and schools.

60+ local employer partners

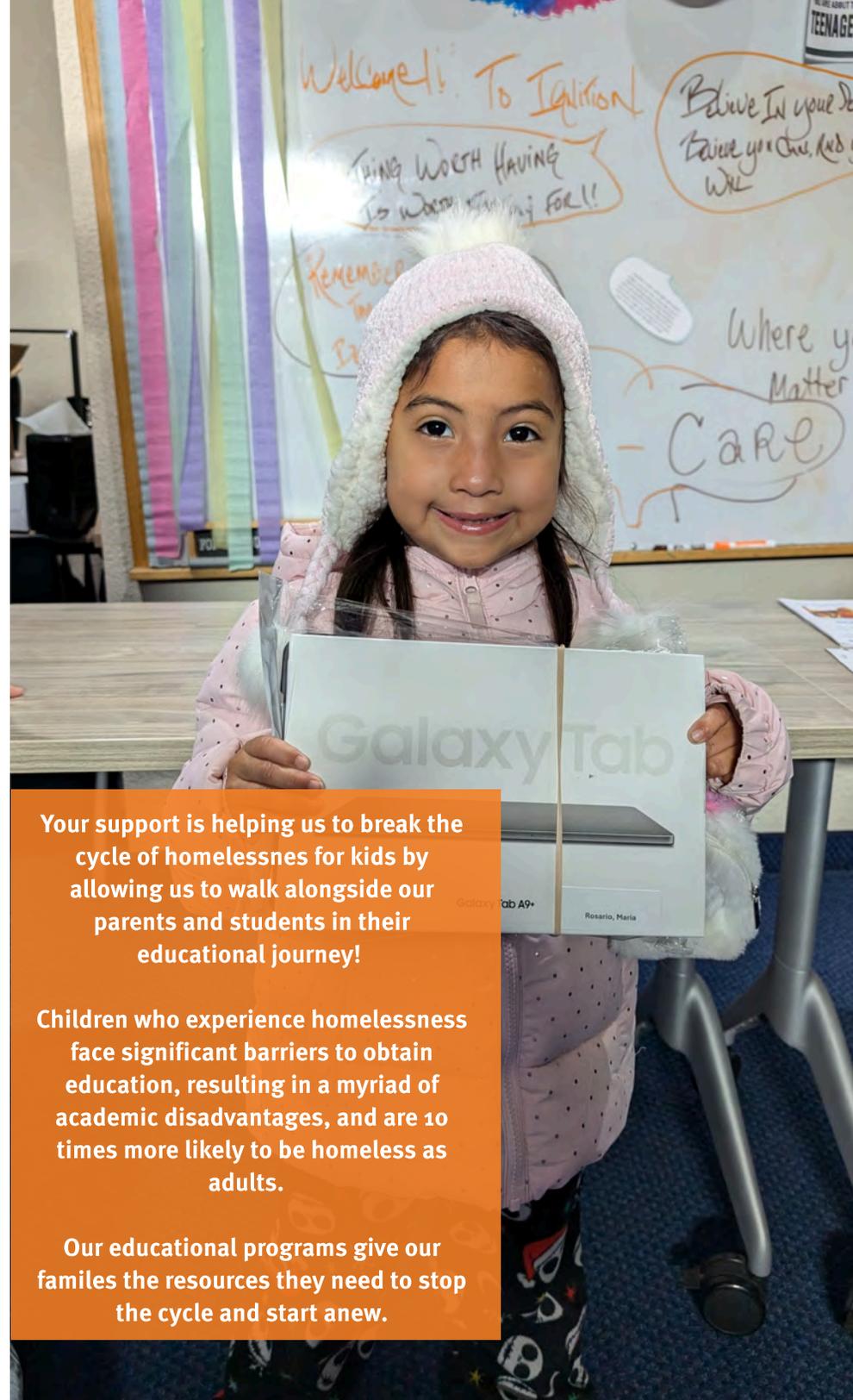
40+ clients found employment

26 job fairs hosted

220 individuals received educational services

378 participants in over **618** client groups and workshops

48 financial and career-focused workshops provided



Your support is helping us to break the cycle of homelessness for kids by allowing us to walk alongside our parents and students in their educational journey!

Children who experience homelessness face significant barriers to obtain education, resulting in a myriad of academic disadvantages, and are 10 times more likely to be homeless as adults.

Our educational programs give our families the resources they need to stop the cycle and start anew.

“THANK YOU.
YOU’RE THE
REASON I’M
HERE. I’M
GRATEFUL.”

-THOMAS,

DuPagePads Client





Thomas: Finding Home Again

Growing up in DuPage County, Thomas*, in his 40's, never expected to find himself without a roof over his head. At age 19 he followed in his father's footsteps and joined the Navy, thinking he would have a long path of service ahead of him.

"Being in the military was everything I had ever wanted," Thomas recalled. "I was acknowledged by my father. And, you know, it was probably one of the best opportunities I ever had. And the fact that it fell apart...it followed me for many years after."

His Navy plans were jeopardized due to an automobile accident which caused severe brain swelling and ultimately his discharge from the military. Secondary effects of the traumatic brain injury led to depression and other mental health struggles that took many years for Thomas to understand and address.

"Mental illness led to a lot of pitfalls that brought me to homelessness," Thomas shared. "No matter how concrete things are, if you build your house on sand, it's just going to sink."

Despite these struggles, Thomas was determined to remain stable and worked hard in the restaurant industry for decades. Following the COVID-19 pandemic, Thomas lost his job and eventually his relationship and home.

"Everything disintegrated. There was no right, there was no left. It's like being out in space."

Without a job, Thomas began staying at a local motel that he could scarcely afford. He found himself panhandling on the streets to keep his room. He remembers hearing about DuPagePads from a family member. He gathered his last few dollars for the train fare to ride from Villa Park to Wheaton and stepped through the front door of the Client Access Center looking for help.

"I would wake up in the morning, 8am, when Pads would open. I would go get my small bag of food."

During this time, Thomas balanced staying in a motel when he had any money, staying at DuPagePads' overnight congregate shelter sites, and sleeping outside. He thought he could find opportunities in another state but ended up sleeping on the streets of New Orleans for months. He made his way back to DuPage County and after staying in parking lots, he again went to DuPagePads. By that time, the Interim Housing Center had opened its doors.

After weeks of being involved with the DuPagePads Street Outreach program, a room finally became available for Thomas. He remembers staff at the front desk welcoming him, helping him get settled, and offering him food and toiletries.





*“Without that team of people,
I would have fallen apart again.”*

His case manager helped Thomas navigate the housing voucher process through the Veterans Affairs office. He attended programs such as a computer class, helping him to navigate digital applications. Thomas worked hard to get his paperwork in order, attended all his psychiatric appointments, and dreamt about having his own home.

“If I get the apartment that we’re aiming for, I’ll have a balcony to sit on. For years, from the moment I woke up and to the moment that it got dark enough to find somewhere to hide and sleep, I’ve been moving,” Thomas said with tears in his eyes. **“I just want to stop. Even for five minutes. Just sit on the balcony and breathe. Because I finally can.”**

In April 2025, Thomas moved out of the Interim Housing Center and signed a lease for an apartment of his own, with his very own balcony. Thomas took deep breaths as he sat still and gazed out, thinking of his life ahead of him.

He is looking forward to getting settled in, finding a job in the restaurant industry, and reconnecting with his daughter. On that day, he recalled how DuPagePads staff, donors, and volunteers helped him on his journey.

“From the moment you walk in there, you’re not treated any differently than any person,” he remembered. “They see you for who you are. Thank you. You’re the reason I’m here. I’m grateful.”

Thomas’ transformation from being without a safe place to sleep to a stable tenant with a lease of his own and a renewed sense of hope is a testament to the power of community support. Thanks to kindness like yours, DuPagePads provided Thomas with a warm bed, hearty meals, and a supportive environment, becoming the steppingstone he needed to rebuild his life. It was the programs, the dedicated staff and volunteers, and the generous donations from neighbors like you that made this possible.

Thomas’ story is just one of many, highlighting the profound impact that your contributions can have. You can help provide critical resources and support to countless others, empowering them to find their path toward a brighter future with the reminder that when someone believes in you, everything can change.





Our Volunteers



170+

Congregations and
volunteer groups
supported our mission of
ending homelessness!



9,000+

Total registered
volunteer hours logged
at all DuPagePads
locations.

Click to
Volunteer!
volunteer.dupagepads.org





Our Supporters

DuPagePads received over \$300,000 of in-kind donations of items and services this fiscal year!

Your donation of in-kind goods and services are invaluable, given our limited resources. Donations of items from our [Urgent Needs List \(click to view\)](#) such as non-perishable food, seasonal clothing, infant care supplies, and much more make a significant impact and allow more financial resources to directly support shelter and care for families and individuals at DuPagePads.

In-kind donations can be made 24/7 using the orange donation boxes in front of our Access Center at 703 W. Liberty Drive in Wheaton!

Another simple way to help: [Make a Donation \(click to donate\)](#), helping to replenish critical supplies for families and individuals experiencing homelessness.



Thank You
In-Kind
Donors!

The Great Descent



SIGNATURE EVENTS

“ YOUR SUPPORT
CHANGES LIVES ”



The Taste of Hope

THE GREAT DESCENT

Naperville

WAKE UP YOUR SPIRIT BREAKFAST

Glen Ellyn

TASTE OF HOPE

Oak Brook

DRIVE FOR 195

Joliet

ROCK & BOWL

Wheaton

Drive for 195



Wake Up Your Spirit Breakfast



Rock & Bowl



DuPagePads

The Solution to End Homelessness.

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everything can change.*