

DuPagePads

The Solution to End Homelessness.

view

Winter 2014

DuPagePads Responds to Arctic Blast

DuPagePads remained committed to the health and safety of families and individuals who are homeless. During this winter's Arctic Blast, with windchills reaching as low as negative 40 degrees, we developed solutions that would ensure no one would be exposed to the elements.

The daytime Client Service Center in downtown Wheaton offered shelter to everyone in need. Bus, train and taxi vouchers were provided to transport individuals between the Client Service Center and Interim (Overnight) Housing sites. At the sites, no one was turned away and many sites opened as early as 2:00 pm. Staff ensured everyone had proper clothing: coats, hats, gloves and even supplied hand and feet warmers.

Thank you donors, volunteers and congregations who help us respond to weather emergencies and make sure that our program participants remain safe. Visit our YouTube Page to hear directly from those who benefitted: <https://www.youtube.com/user/DuPagePadsOrg>.

Thank You for Taking Action

- Motivated by thinking of people who are homeless in this extreme cold, 16-year-old Kaitlyn dropped off a cash donation to be used to help transport families and individuals to shelters and warming sites. She hopes her contribution will inspire other young people to take action.
- The Carol Stream Public Library is donating the proceeds from their Jeans Day fundraiser to help keep people safe from the bitter cold.
- ABC 7 Chicago news, My Suburban Life and WDCB Radio News promoted our services to individuals and families who are homeless during the frigid weather.



"We have a place to go to keep warm and they have food for us and hot coffee. Without DuPagePads, I don't think I could have made it. I'm grateful and blessed, thank you DuPagePads!"



"Without a place to stay when it gets 20 below, you can freeze to death pretty quickly. DuPagePads has been very helpful in getting me back on my feet and I'm very thankful."



Pictured from left to right: Janelle Barcelona, DuPagePads Director of Development, Kaitlyn and her mother, Jennifer, dropping off the donation.



Help is still needed...Learn ways you can make a difference:
<http://dupagepads.org/solutions/>

Volunteer Training Goes Live

For the first time in our 28 year history, this January online volunteer training went live to our dedicated volunteers.

Volunteers are asked to register online at the DuPagePads website <http://dupagepads.org/solutions/volunteer/> to access the comprehensive training. All volunteers who complete the training receive a certificate and the first 50 were entered to win a \$50 gift card.

This training was made possible by a grant from the Spirit of Volunteerism Fund of The DuPage Community Foundation.



Volunteers are Saying...

“I learned that DuPagePads does so much more than just provide a pad and food--there are so many other wonderful programs to help the clients.”

“The Volunteer Training Program was well thought out and is informative, comprehensive and easy to navigate. Well done!”

“The crisis intervention steps were very helpful.”



Volunteer Spotlight: Ginny Taylor

My friend Pam encouraged me to get involved with DuPagePads. I started out serving dinner at the night sites at Trinity Episcopal, but for the past 14½ years I have volunteered every Monday at the Client Service Center as a greeter – sitting down with clients and listening to their story.

I’ll tell anyone who will listen that I look forward to coming to the Client Service Center. Every time I’m here I learn something – which is really good. The icing on the cake is when the participant says, “You really helped, thanks for listening to me.”

I love when someone comes back when I’m volunteering and tells me that they have gotten a job or moved into housing. It touches me even more when they return to give back to DuPagePads, helping any way they can.

WDSRA Aktion Club Donates \$500 through Unique Fundraiser



Western DuPage Special Recreation Association (WDSRA) Aktion Club recently donated \$500 as a result of the sales from their handmade dry soup and chocolate chip cookie jars fundraiser. “I think this is a testament to the capabilities of our members and the wonderfully selfless hearts they possess. They are a true representation that just because someone has a disability doesn’t mean they cannot give back to the community just as much as anyone else,” Dayell Houzenga, Outreach Manager and Aktion Club Advisor for WDSRA shared.

DuPagePads was selected as a recipient after the club volunteered at an overnight site serving dinner. Thank you to the Aktion Club for their dedication and hard-work!

Photo: (from left) Aktion Club Member Joe and Advisor Glenn assemble cookie jars.

DuPagePads Earns Standards for Excellence Seal

One of the First Nonprofits in the State

DuPagePads is a recipient of the Standards of Excellence Institute’s Seal of Excellence, a voluntary certification program for organizations demonstrating the highest standards of organizational, operational, managerial and fiscal conduct.

The Seal of Excellence is a symbol for trust, nonprofit management, leadership, transparency and disclosure in nonprofits. This is the second renewal of our two year certification.

Our programs and services, management, fundraising and financial practices were subjected to in-depth examination prior to receiving the Seal. This exemplifies DuPagePads’ dedication to ending homelessness and desire to meet the highest standards of ethical principles.



Christopher Kennedy Captivates at Wake Up Your Spirit Breakfast

On November 6, 2013 more than 450 attendees gathered for DuPagePads 11th Annual Wake Up Your Spirit Breakfast at the Krasa Center at Benedictine University.

Keynote speaker Christopher Kennedy, son of Robert and Ethel Kennedy and past leader of the Merchandise Mart, spoke about the challenges that confront individuals and families we serve on a daily basis. His fast-paced speech was full of statistics and research on social injustice.

Photo: Christopher Kennedy speaking at the DuPagePads 2013 Wake Up Your Spirit Breakfast.



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**DuPagePads
8th Annual
Taste of Hope**

**Thursday, March 6, 2014
Abbington Banquets, Glen Ellyn.**

The Taste of Hope offers guests the luxury of experiencing signature dishes from 25 of the area's most elite restaurants in one evening. Auctions, music and a unique raffle will round out an evening of delicious dining. This event will raise funds to support our housing programs and support services. For more information, call 630.682.3846, ext.2520.



**DuPagePads
12th Annual Galaxy Bowl
Strikes Back!**

**Saturday, April 12, 2014
Fox Bowl, Wheaton.**

The Galaxy Bowl is a fun, family bowling event open to all! So gather your team and help us STRIKE BACK against homelessness in DuPage County! You can assemble your five-person team today by agreeing to raise \$500 in team fundraising or \$100 in individual fundraising. Team registration includes a team t-shirt, pizza, soda, ice cream and more!



**10th Annual DuPagePads Run 4 Home - 5K & 10K Run, 5K Walk
September 6, 2014
DuPagePads, Wheaton, IL**

More details to follow.

Upcoming Events