



# The Way Home Newsletter

*To respectfully and compassionately empower persons and families in need of housing to become self-sustaining by providing shelter, needed services, and professional guidance.*

## We are overwhelmed with gratitude.



\$500,000

\$400,000

\$300,000

\$200,000

\$100,000

"Without our programs, more families end up sleeping in their cars or on the street. Without our programs more veterans slip through the cracks. Without our programs more people facing health crises and disability have nowhere to stay tonight. Without our programs more children go without a safe place to sleep."

**\$157,634.07 - TOTAL AS OF OCTOBER 15TH**



**\$41,927.62 - TOTAL AS OF SEPTEMBER 15TH**



THE PATH **HOME**  
STARTS **HERE**

# Community Compassion Meets Critical Need

This momentum is a testament to our community's compassion and commitment to ensuring no one faces homelessness alone. But we're not at the finish line yet, and the need has never been more urgent. COVID-era funding has ended. Federal help isn't coming. Our work now depends entirely on the financial support of neighbors like you who believe that housing is a human right.



## Why Your Support Matters Right Now

The crisis is escalating. As homelessness rose substantially in Kane County in 2024, our drop-in visitors surged from 300 monthly to nearly 500 in August alone. Last year, we provided over 12,000 nights of shelter while our no-barrier drop-in lobby served meals, hygiene kits, and relief from the weather daily from 7am to 9:30pm. Without our programs, more families end up sleeping in their cars or on the street. More veterans slip through the cracks. More people facing health crises and disability have nowhere to stay tonight. More children go without a safe place to sleep.



In the past five months alone, 16 guests have successfully transitioned to sustainable housing. For many, the path home starts at PADS of Elgin—where they show up and find a community committed to showing up for them.

## Will you help us reach our \$500,000 goal?

**DONATE**



**Every dollar brings someone closer to stable housing.  
Every gift says, "You matter. You belong. There is a path home."**



# A Grand Reopening Celebration

What a joy it was to welcome so many of you to our Grand Reopening! The energy in the room was electric as community members, partners, and supporters gathered to celebrate this important milestone together.

**PADS of Elgin appeals to community as it welcomes supporters to tour refurbished shelter**



Photo credit: Rick West



- Starbucks Hanover Park
- Sign Gypsies
- Ambassador DJs
- James Harvey Photography
- Image 360
- FastSigns Carpentersville
- Team Concept Printing
- Northern Kane County Chamber
- Elgin Area Chamber
- PADS of Elgin Staff and Board of Directors
- Wayside Cross Ministries

As guests toured the renovated facility, we heard the same reaction again and again: "This feels like home." Many who remembered the previous iteration of our shelter were amazed at how welcoming and dignified the space has become. And here's something remarkable: PADS of Elgin invested no funds in this renovation—it was completely funded by our landlord and partner, Wayside Cross Ministries.



**DONATE**



# A Moment We'll Never Forget

The most powerful moment of the day came when one of our current guests—a veteran—stood before the crowd and shared his story. Out of respect for his privacy, we asked that no one record his speech, and every single person in that room honored that request. In the quiet reverence of that moment, we were reminded why this work matters so deeply.

He spoke about finding community support within our shelter during the renovation. As he helped renovate the building, he realized he was renovating himself too—rebuilding his life alongside the walls being transformed around him. There wasn't a dry eye in the room. His courage to share, and his journey from crisis to hope, embodied the heart of PADS of Elgin's mission.



**Your donations fund the staff who create community. The meals that nourish bodies and spirits. The case management that helps guests navigate the path to housing. The drop-in services that offer dignity and relief every single day.**

**The building may have been renovated by Wayside Cross Ministries, but the programs that happen inside these walls? Those depend entirely on you.**



# Thank You for Making Our Autumn Unforgettable!



Prost! Thank you to everyone who joined us on September 18 in raising a stein for our mission.



Special thanks to Plank Road Tap Room for hosting, our generous sponsors, all our brewery partners, and the Le Truff Noir food truck. Beyond the craft brews and German fare, we celebrated what matters most: community coming together to help neighbors find their path home.

What a magical Friday night of music and community! Special thanks to Jeff "Doc Diamond" Silberfine of Silberfine Chiropractic for donating his talent, the Village of South Elgin Parks and Recreation for the space, and St. Thomas More Catholic Church for our concessions.

The best news? Doc Diamond has promised to make this an annual event!



## One Last Autumn Event on November 11!



~15 unique bourbons  
+ heavy appetizers

6:00 - 9:00 PM  
The Distance Social  
314 N River Street  
East Dundee, Illinois



[Click here](#)



# Up Next for PADS of Elgin

PADS of Elgin will be at the October 20th concert and will be accepting donations of snacks and unused keys



HELP MAKE IT A TRUE

- Homecoming -

DONATION DRIVE AT OCTOBER CONCERTS



- You are invited to a free webinar to learn about-

## Legacy Giving



with



**HENDRICKS**  
WEALTH & ESTATE MANAGEMENT

SCAN HERE



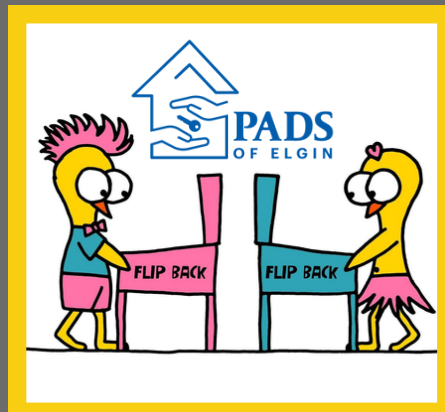
[Click here](#)

Wednesday, October 22, 2025  
12:30 - 1:15 PM  
On-line webinar

## FLIP BACK CHARITY PINBALL TOURNAMENT FOR



*Your hosts*



[Click here](#)

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25  
6:00 - 10:00 PM  
ENTERRIUM  
2 WOODFIELD MALL UNIT A,  
SCHAUMBURG, IL  
RAFFLES, PRIZES, FUN

# *Get involved with* **PADS OF ELGIN**

- ✓ **ATTEND OR SPONSOR AN EVENT**
- ✓ **PROVIDE DINNER ONCE A MONTH**
- ✓ **JOIN OUR MONTHLY GIVING TEAM**
- ✓ **ORGANIZE A DONATION DRIVE**
- ✓ **PARTICIPATE IN A SERVICE DAY**
- ✓ **SERVE A MEAL IN THE SHELTER**
- ✓ **BECOME AN EVENT VOLUNTEER**
- ✓ **DONATE BREAKFAST MONTHLY**
- ✓ **SHARE EVENT LEFTOVERS**
- ✓ **SIGN UP FOR OUR E-NEWSLETTER**

SCAN



FOR MORE INFORMATION:

VISIT [WWW.PADSOFELGIN.ORG](http://WWW.PADSOFELGIN.ORG)

CALL 847-608-9744

EMAIL: [INFO@PADSOFELGIN.ORG](mailto:INFO@PADSOFELGIN.ORG)

**DONATE NOW**

**TOGETHER WE CAN END HOMELESSNESS.**

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- 1730 Berkley Street, Elgin, IL
- [info@padsofelgin.org](mailto:info@padsofelgin.org)

**DONATE NOW**