



# 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.*



## ***Investing in Relationships & Rebuilding Lives***

**CONTINUE  
READING FOR  
INFORMATION  
ABOUT GIVING  
TUESDAY,  
DONATION  
DRIVES, AND  
MORE!**



At PADS of Elgin, every transformation begins with a relationship. Stability grows through trust—built one conversation, one meal, and one safe night of rest at a time. Open 365 days a year for shelter and open-access outreach, we meet people where they are and walk with them as they rebuild.

This past year, your support made a tremendous difference: **12,397+ nights of shelter, 37,190+ meals, 3,205 open-access meals (with 5,500 projected for FY2026), and 22 guests housed since July.** These outcomes happen because staff build long-term, consistent relationships—helping guests navigate rising living costs, shrinking SNAP benefits, healthcare challenges, and the daily realities of finding stability.

People often think “shelter,” but what we really provide is a community of support. A guest may first walk through our doors for a warm meal, but over time, that simple moment can become the doorway to housing, hope, and lasting change.

As we move into the holiday season—with Giving Tuesday, increased donation drives, and the Flip Back Pinball Tournament in Schaumburg on November 25—your involvement strengthens the relationships that make every success possible.

Because when you invest in people, lives change.

**Thank you for standing with us as we continue rebuilding hope, one connection at a time.**



# GIVINGTUESDAY

Giving Tuesday isn't just a global day of generosity—it's a lifeline for organizations like PADS of Elgin. As a 24/7 shelter and open-access hub, our work continues every hour of every day. We provide warm meals, safe shelter, case management, and outreach to neighbors who often have nowhere else to turn—especially as living costs rise and more people struggle to access basic needs.

Giving Tuesday brings our community together at the moment it matters most. Your gift helps keep our doors open, our lights on, and our relationships strong—so every guest has a real chance to rebuild their life.

**On Giving Tuesday, your generosity becomes hope in action.**

***"The first time I walked into PADS,  
I didn't feel invisible anymore."***

— Former Guest

**Your Giving Tuesday support  
makes moments like this possible.**

🔗 Give today at [padsofelpin.org](http://padsofelpin.org)



## Be Part of Someone's Rebuilding Story

This week, several Chase Bank branches across the region came together to donate essential items to PADS of Elgin—a powerful reminder that hope grows when our community unites. Their generosity will directly support guests in our 24/7 shelter and neighbors who rely on our open-access lobby each day.

Because of partners like Chase—and supporters like you—individuals and families across Elgin, Dundee, Hanover, and Rutland Townships have access to daily meals, safe shelter, case management, housing navigation, and basic-needs support.

This is what community looks like. When one group steps up, others follow—and together, we create pathways to stability and home.



**Together, we can ensure that hope is within reach for every person who walks through our doors.**

# Thank You for Making Barrels of Hope a Night to Remember

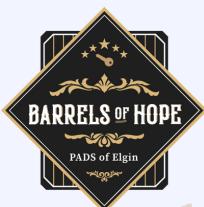
Our second annual Barrels of Hope Bourbon Fundraiser was an incredible success—and it's all thanks to you.

On November 11, supporters gathered at The Distance Social in Dundee for an evening of community, elevated flatbreads from Mockingbird, and exceptional tastings from Chattanooga Whiskey, WhistlePig, and Wolf Point Distilling. More than a fundraiser, Barrels of Hope was a celebration of what happens when a community shows up with generosity and heart.

Because of your participation—whether you attended, sponsored, shared the event, or encouraged friends to join—we raised essential funds that sustain PADS' 24/7 shelter, case management, and open-access outreach. These dollars directly support the relationships that lead to stability and housing for our guests.

A special thank you to our partners at The Distance Social, Mockingbird Bar + Garden, Churros y Chocolate, our volunteers, our tasting vendors, and the donors who helped make the evening meaningful. Your support reminds us that hope grows when people gather with purpose.

Together, we're investing in relationships and rebuilding lives—one generous pour at a time.



WHISTLEPIG

-WHISKEY-



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..... THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT! .....



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*Happy Cleaning Srv.*

*"Where Cleaning Starts!"*

