

# Tilting Towards Change:



## How the Bagwells Used Flip Back to Help Others Move Forward

# Dear PADS of Elgin Family,

Something remarkable happened on Tuesday, November 25 at Enterrium. More than eighty people gathered for the Flip Back Charity Pinball Tournament, raising over \$8,000 for their neighbors. **But the heart of the night wasn't the funds or the high scores -- It was Andy and Ruthanne Bagwell.**

For years, Andy and Ruthanne have shown up at PADS not just with encouragement, but with their time, their meals, and their commitment to the people we serve. As Andy explains it: "**Every month Ruthanne and I go to PADS of Elgin, we cook a meal for 30 guests—families, parents, children, everything—and serve it ourselves. It's a big deal to us.**"

This year's Flip Back Tournament—now in its fourth year—was a perfect illustration of how the Bagwells turn passion into purpose. They secured more than forty raffle prizes from beloved Elgin businesses and from pinball-related companies, weaving together two worlds that matter deeply to them. **The result was electric: a room full of people having fun and showing up for something bigger than themselves.**

For Andy, the meaning runs deeper than a single night: "It's especially meaningful to see over the years people that we're serving get homes... To be able to give them a meal is a simple thing, but it's a big deal to me to be able to feed someone like that."

Events like a pinball tournament may not be mainstream, yet they have a remarkable way of bringing people together—and the impact of that togetherness stretches far beyond the arcade. **On November 25, the room buzzed with joy, generosity, and the shared belief that every person deserves safety, stability, and a path home.**

This year alone, 25 guests have moved into permanent housing since July, and demand for our outreach services has risen 372% in two years. Every day, individuals and families arrive seeking warmth, safety, food, and a path toward stability.

**And every day, because of supporters like the Bagwells—and supporters like you—we are able to say yes.**

This is why I love the work we do at PADS of Elgin. I witness transformation, connection, and community in ways that continue to surprise and inspire me.

And it's why your partnership is so essential. When you give, you help create the same kind of connection, compassion, and hope we saw at the Flip Back Tournament. **You help ensure that people rebuilding their lives don't have to do it alone.**

This holiday season, will you stand with us? Your gift today ensures that more neighbors find safety, stability, and a community that believes in their future.

Give today at: [www.padsofeln.org/donate](http://www.padsofeln.org/donate)

With deep gratitude,

*Catie Early*

**Catie Early**  
Development and Grants Coordinator

