

▶ How you can help



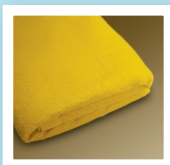
Volunteers

You can impact and support guests by volunteering within the shelter. Daily help is needed to check in guests; distribute pads and blankets; and serve coffee and snacks. Volunteer applications can be obtained through the PADS office or online at padsofelgin.org/how_to_help.html. Interacting on a personal level is the best way to reaffirm the humanity of a person when circumstances seem to have stripped it away.



Events

Each year PADS of Elgin, Inc. hosts several fundraising events to support its operations. These are excellent opportunities for those who cannot volunteer in the shelter to support PADS. Yearly fundraisers include the exciting Winter Harvest for the Homeless Dinner Dance and Auction featuring a dance contest with local celebrities. Many different skills are needed to plan each event, volunteers are always needed to make these fundraisers successful.



Donations

A large number of supplies are needed to operate the shelter each year. PADS accepts donations of needed items such as coffee, blankets, and paper goods. For a full list of needs please contact the office or visit padsofelgin.org/how_to_help.html to download the current list.

Financial contributions are vital to keeping the shelter's doors open to the needy in our community. Donations can be made in a number of ways, including participating in the PADS of Elgin, Inc. Annual Campaign, or contributing directly to the PADS Operating Fund at any time throughout the year.



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ORGANIZATION OVERVIEW



Homeless
doesn't have to
mean
hopeless.



Giving a hand up. Not a hand out.



► What we offer

Full Case Management

PADS recognizes that homelessness results from a complex set of circumstances. For this reason we provide full case management that helps address the diverse issues facing our guests. Trained case managers help guests develop Action Plans which establish client's specific goals and counseling needs. Case managers also recognize the role that developing essential life skills plays in the recovery process. For this reason PADS conducts a number of Life Skills classes. Case management and life skills development help ensure that PADS equips guest with the skills to overcome life's trials.

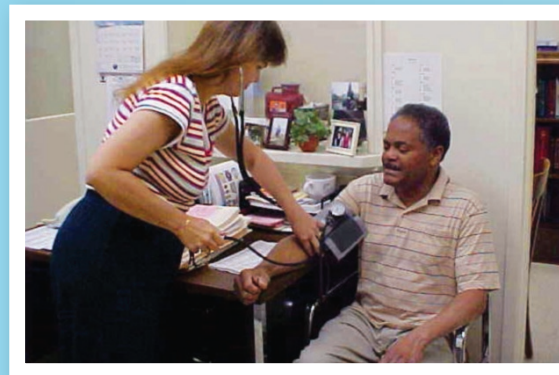


► Who we are

PADS of Elgin, Inc. was established in 1989, and is committed to providing safe shelter, support services, and advocacy to the homeless men, women, and families of Dundee, Elgin, and Hanover Townships.

Each night PADS hosts 40-60 individuals and provides them with a safe shelter, showers, laundry facilities, evening meals and morning breakfasts, warm clothing, and supportive services.

PADS of Elgin, Inc. is breaking the cycle of homelessness by comprehensively addressing the needs of the local homeless population. We have been a catalyst in fostering community and social service agency partnerships, which effectively and efficiently provide coordinated services in support of short-term, as well as long-term, customized care, targeting client growth, development and self-sufficiency.



Referral Services

PADS of Elgin coordinates services with many organizations to help guests receive needed care. These partnerships help connect guests with mental health care, domestic violence counseling, primary physician care, and other resources. PADS guests also have the opportunity to access the CHIP program, an intensive outpatient substance abuse program which includes mental health services. Additionally, guests are able to meet with counselors from many of PADS' partner agencies on site during shelter hours, making it easier for them to receive vital support services and customized care.

Money Management

With lessons on saving and budgeting, the financial literacy counseling guides guests in making wise decisions with their income and strategies for using it effectively. Clients also have the opportunity to participate in a savings program while in the shelter.

