

All About Us

Peru Shelter
1320 Menards Drive
815-224-3047

Ottawa Shelter
1120 Canal St.
815-433-1292

Lily Pads Resale Shop
4471 Progress Blvd.
Peru, IL
815-224-7970

Visit us at our website:
www.ivpads.com

You may also join us on Face Book to see weekly specials at Lily Pads, right click-open link



or to see what is new this week at the shelters, right click- open link



HELP
FOR
TODAY.....
HOPE
FOR
TOMORROW.....

TWENTY FOUR YEARS OF
SERVICE IN YOUR
COMMUNITIES SINCE 1991



MOMENTS AT

Letter from the Executive Director

Homelessness! We have not been able to solve the issues that cause homelessness. So Illinois Valley PADS with the support of our communities in LaSalle, Bureau and Putnam Counties are dedicated to effectively working with those in crisis. We are endeavoring to fulfill our mission to the homeless.

Our Core Values:

- Value human dignity and worth
- Serve with compassion and generosity
- Partner with community resources
- Achieve results through support and opportunities
- Empower people to be self-sufficient

We are pleased to share with you that these are not just words on paper but values we truly demonstrate every day. We would like to share some testimonies from past clients.

One client writes, *"I would like to thank you all for being there when I needed you the most. You helped me through one of the roughest times of my life. You helped and supported me in getting where I needed to be."*

Another client wrote, *"The people at PADS allowed me to believe anything was possible. I experienced hope, faith, and yes, even love. It is because volunteers and staff express these that we have a place to stay and will be O.K..."*

Another writes, *"I have noticed during my stay how the entire community is very giving, considerate, and caring. I really appreciate how the communities come together to help those in need through PADS."*

Really, I could not say it any better. As we celebrate another holiday season sharing with our family and friends, I would like to encourage you to consider giving to those who need shelter, food, clothing, and care. I am so grateful that we are one of those places where this help is provided.

As a client said, "Thank you from the bottom of my heart." I agree and look forward to the care compassion from each of you. Enjoy the holiday season and God bless each of you.

Sincerely,
Carol Alcorn

UP TO THE MOMENT

How we help:

- 286 individuals served
- 24 families/ 29 children
- 7209 times a bed was used
- 13,840 meals and sack lunches
- 300 items of clothing
- 17,000 referral to local resources through case management
- 78 found housing, 37 found jobs
- provided transportation when required
- Support group meet in both shelters
- Employment, budgeting, computer classes are offered
- Household items and furniture given when moving

HOW DONATIONS HELP!

Family Rooms: Three rooms were built in the Ottawa shelter dedicated to housing families as a unit within our program. A playroom was furnished by a local girl scout for her Gold Award. Thanks to volunteers and Fairmount Minerals.

Remodeled Kitchen: Food is a very basic need for everyone. We were not able to provide enough food since our kitchen was inadequate to cook from scratch. The Health Dept. has approved and licensed our renovation of the kitchen. We are receiving donated food as well as cooking food.

Floors: Thanks to Pat Bryson for ceramic tiling the kitchen and dining room floors at the Ottawa shelter.

Painting: Thanks to Noah Rimes for painting outside of Ottawa shelter.

New beds: Peru's wooden beds were falling apart and Ottawa needed more beds. We have purchased 10 sets of military style bunk beds and mattresses for each shelter. The wooden modified frames and a mattress will go to clients moving to an apartment.

Inside Moments...

Volunteers are wonderful and we truly appreciate them. I would like to share a volunteers experience and I hope that it encourages you to consider volunteering. Monica writes: "My experience at PADS has been a gift. I could be having the worst day and then I get to the shelter and it goes away. The people there have become an important part of my life. Serving food, cleaning bunks, doing laundry, making coffee, or Kool-Aid was satisfying and I did not once minded doing it. Every client has made some impression on me. Some have become special. We are all human beings. We all need someone to listen or to get a hug or smile from someone. My kids have so much more compassion for people no matter who, what, where, when, how or why." Hope you consider joining Monica at the shelter.

Success Stories of the Moments...

This summer I answered the door at one of the shelters. It was a young man who had once been a client about 6 years ago. He was traveling through the area going back home to Rockford after being release from a hospital downstate. He was almost out of gas and money. We put gas in his tank. He shared what he had been doing with his life. While he stayed with us, we asked him what his dream job would be. He wanted to start a tree service. We encouraged him that it was not an impossible dream, and staff and volunteers began listening and sharing how he could accomplish this. He stated that this encouragement stayed with him as he moved on in his life. Four years ago he started and now manages his own tree service in Rockford. He works alone or hires daily helpers and was so excited about his work. We were so glad to hear from him and how well he is doing.

This last spring a man came into the shelter. He had been employed in a shelter program in Iowa where the management decided to downsize the program while refocusing their mission. His unemployment had expired and he was homeless. While he stayed with us, we learned about his experience along with observing his character. This year, he is an employee at one of the shelters. This is an unusual situation but we are proud to have him on our team.

Lily Pads Resale Boutique just celebrated the 7th year anniversary in August and has been at the present location for 5 years on October 15. Thanks to the volunteers, staff, donors and customers for making a real difference in the lives of so many by providing income for the shelters as well as income for employment for community members. There is a partnership with community resources for providing vouchers for clothing. We have quality items at very affordable prices. Thanks for shopping with us.



Have some extra time on your hands, Lily Pads would love to have you volunteer and share your talents with them, or if you just love hidden treasure stop by and see what treasure you can find at Lily Pads.



Not sure how you can help the shelters and are interested in volunteering, go to the website www.ivpads.com, click on the "How can you Help" tab and check out the fulfilling possibilities that await you.

Are you interested in helping but just don't have any spare time to volunteer, you can always make a monetary donation by going to our website www.ivpads.com. We appreciate our volunteers and those who can also support our financial needs. We also are a charity who appreciates any estate gifts.