



2023 Report to the Community

(This data is for the year beginning August 1 and ending July 31 for each year)

Mission Statement:

Illinois Valley PADS (IV PADS) exists to provide shelter, food, and services to people in need.

We rely on financial support from individuals, businesses, churches and schools within our local communities.

Core Values

- ♥ Value human dignity and worth
- ♥ Serve with compassion and generosity
- ♥ Partner with communities for local resources
- ♥ Empower people to be self-sufficient

Faithfully Serving LaSalle, Bureau and Putnam Counties

Providing **SHELTER**
 Providing **FOOD**
 Providing **SERVICES**

Illinois Valley PADS (IV PADS) is a place that provides shelter, food, and service to people in need.

IV PADS includes:

- Peru – 66 shelter beds
- Ottawa – 55 shelter beds
- Lily PADS Resale Boutique – Peru
- Lily PADS Too Resale Boutique - Ottawa

| | |
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www.ivpads.com

Illinois Valley PADS
P.O. Box 1012
LaSalle, IL 61301
 email: info@ivpads.com

Our Board of Directors



L-R – Front Row

Joanne Sheldon

Pat Applebee - Vice President

Mary Joe Urbanski - Secretary

Gerilyn Hocking - President

L-R – Back Row

Chris Drewel

Ken Brown - Treasurer

Bob Hylin

Tom Rooney

Bob Piercy

Our Support Staff

Carol Alcorn

Executive Director

Our Shelters

Marissa Trumper

Ottawa Shelter – Director

Brenda Salas-Cisco

Peru Shelter – Director

Jennifer Ringhofer

Kelly Baird

Peru Store Managers

Our Lily PADS

Jessica Munson

Ottawa Store Manager

LETTER FROM OUR EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Carol Alcorn



As we approach the end of another year, I want to take a moment to express my deepest gratitude for your unwavering support of Illinois Valley PADS and our mission to provide safe shelter, hope, and dignity to those experiencing homelessness.

This year has been a testament to the power of community and compassion. With your help, we've been able to make significant strides in our efforts to continue to combat homelessness even as it increases in our community. We've sheltered dreams, provided warm meals, offered a safe and warm bed, and provided vital services to help individuals get back on their feet.

Some of our 2023 accomplishments and some heartwarming stories are included with this package. Please take a few moments to understand the challenges and the accomplishments. Many of these achievements serve as a testament to your generosity and commitment to our cause. However, there is still much work to be done. The challenges of homelessness persist, and the need for your support remains as critical as ever.

*"My hope is that you will come to understand that we are **"More than just a bed"**. Every homeless person who enters our doors finds new hope. The program exists to provide not only a safe, comfortable shelter, showers, food, and comprehensive services, but also ... and equally important ... dignity and compassion in addressing the unique stressors and stigmas experienced when living on the streets in our communities."*

Our Resale Stores

Our self-sustaining and successful fundraising projects are our two **Lily PADS** resale stores which are located in Ottawa and Peru. They provide quality used items at affordable prices as well as a place to donate and recycle used items in good condition. Net profits from these stores directly support the services in the shelters while also providing clothing for clients and furnishings for housing they obtained.

Our Heartfelt Thank You

Our entire PADS family would like to thank each person who has: volunteered at one of the facilities; been one of the thousands giving financial or material donations; or has remembered us in your prayers. **Together** we can serve and provide services to our homeless clients in our own community.

Ottawa Build

You will be hearing more about the need for a new facility replacing the Ottawa Shelter. Stay tuned as we make progress on this very important and exciting advancement.

Thank you for standing with us as we work tirelessly to provide shelter, warmth, and hope to our homeless neighbors. Together, we can change lives and make this year brighter for everyone.

Blessings,

Carol

Homelessness Awareness – Understanding the NEED: The faces of homelessness are increasing in the Illinois Valley community, and so is the need for immediate, compassionate action. By taking a comprehensive and collaborative approach, IV PADS and the community can work together to address the immediate needs of those experiencing homelessness while also tackling the underlying causes. This multifaceted strategy can create a more compassionate, supportive, and understanding environment for individuals and families in the Illinois Valley region.

Reasons for Homelessness

| | |
|------------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Loss of job or insufficient income | Family disputes |
| Lack of affordable housing | Eviction / overcrowding |

Illinois Valley Specific Barriers

| | |
|--|---|
| Few mental health and rehab inpatient services | Lack of income for housing and medical care |
| High poverty levels | Transportation limitations |

Understanding these factors is crucial for developing effective solutions and support systems that address the root causes of homelessness in the Illinois Valley region. Advocacy, community outreach, and targeted interventions can contribute to breaking down these barriers and fostering a more supportive environment for those experiencing homelessness.

Challenging stereotype and promote understanding of the homeless

"Homelessness is not a label; it's a circumstance. Let's replace stereotypes with understanding and compassion."

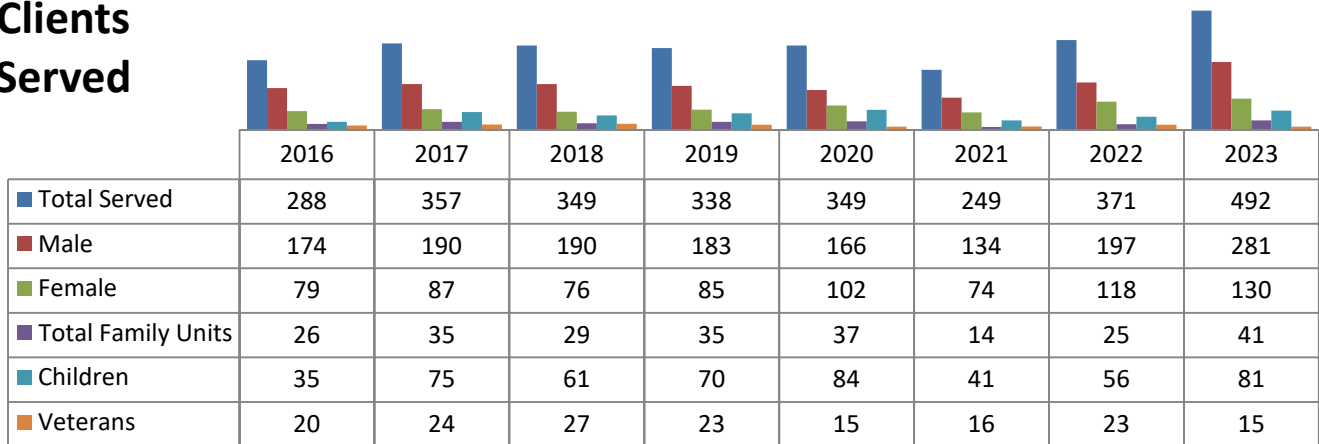
Dispelling stereotypes about homelessness requires recognizing the individuality and varied circumstances of those experiencing it. Here are some key points to consider:

- **Diverse Causes:** Homelessness can result from a myriad of factors, including economic challenges, job loss, mental health issues, family breakdown, domestic violence, and more. Each person's journey into homelessness is unique.
- **Not a Choice:** Contrary to the stereotype that suggests homelessness is a lifestyle choice, many individuals find themselves in this situation due to a series of unfortunate events or systemic issues. It is rarely a matter of personal preference.
- **Invisible Homelessness:** Not all homelessness is visible on the streets. Many individuals experiencing homelessness may find temporary shelter in cars, couch surf, or stay in overcrowded and inadequate housing. This "invisible" homelessness is a significant and often overlooked aspect.
- **Diverse Demographics:** Homelessness affects people of all ages, genders, and backgrounds. It is not limited to a specific demographic, and anyone can be vulnerable to homelessness given certain circumstances.
- **Working Homeless:** A significant portion of those experiencing homelessness may have jobs but still struggle to afford stable housing due to factors such as low wages, high living costs, or part-time employment.
- **Children and Families:** Homelessness affects families, including children. It disrupts not only individual lives but the family unit, contributing to a cycle that can be challenging to break.
- **Temporary Circumstances:** For some, homelessness is a temporary state brought on by a crisis, and individuals may successfully transition out of it with the right support and resources.
- **Stigmatization and Mental Health:** Homelessness itself can lead to mental health challenges, and the stigma associated with being homeless can further exacerbate these issues, creating a cycle that is difficult to escape.

Dispelling stereotypes requires a shift in perspective, increased awareness, and a commitment to understanding the complex factors that contribute to homelessness. It's essential to approach the issue with empathy and recognition of the humanity of those experiencing homelessness. Addressing the root causes and providing support and resources can help break the cycle and create lasting solutions.

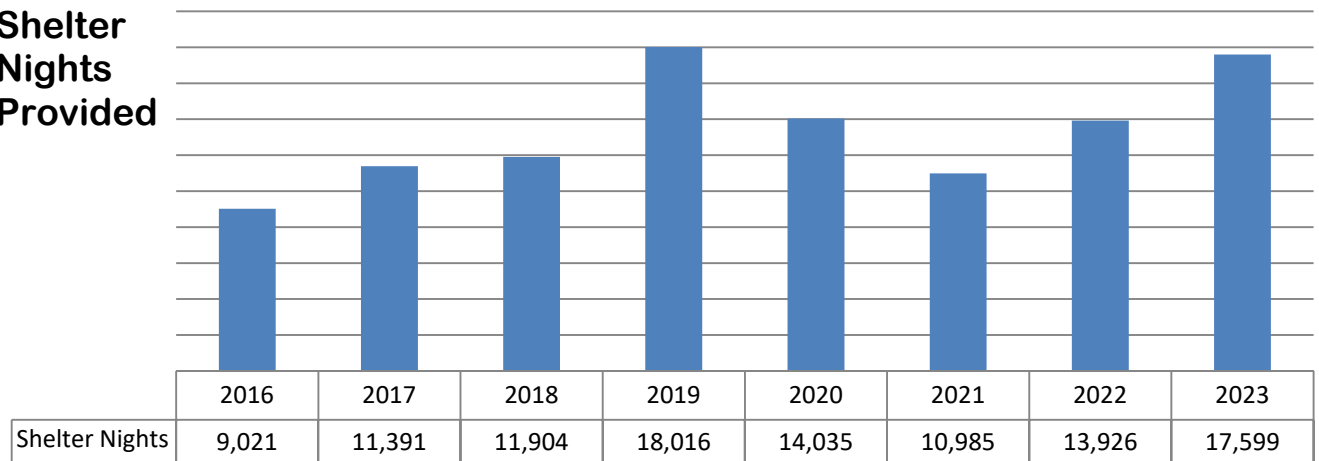
Providing Safe SHELTER - How IV PADS has served

Clients Served



The demand shows no signs of abating. In 2023, we witnessed a remarkable 38% surge in the overall number of individuals assisted, with 81 of them being children, marking children with a 45% increase from the preceding year.

Shelter Nights Provided



Our shelter nights provided saw a 26% increase.

"A homeless shelter is not a last resort; it's a first step towards reclaiming dignity, self-worth, and the promise of a better tomorrow."

Providing FOOD – How IV PADS has served

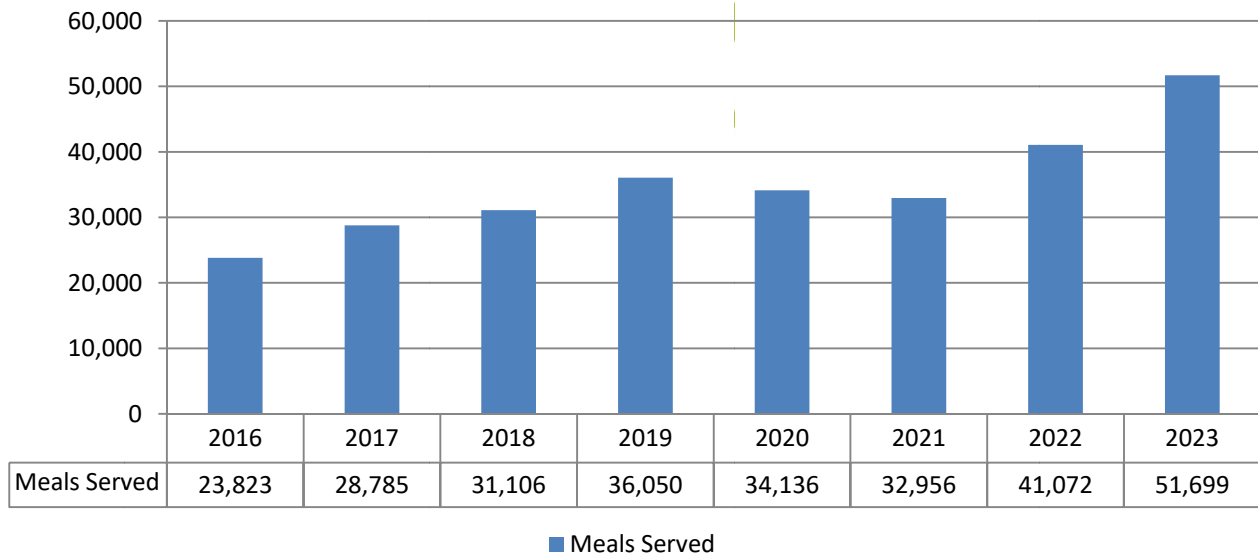
We provide three meals a day for our shelter clients. **During our last season**, we served an amazing 51,699 meals at our two shelters – Ottawa and Peru.

This could not have been done without our hardworking staff and through the kind heart and generosity of the volunteers and meal sponsors.

Volunteers and meal sponsors are always needed and can provide meals by calling our shelters.



Meals Served



Showing a dramatic increase of 26% in the number of meals served.



Providing SERVICES – How IV PADS has served

We are more than just a bed. We serve with generosity and empower people to become self-sufficient and to personally acquire the tools needed to break the cycle of homelessness.

Among other serves, we provide:

- **Assessment:** Case management with individual service plans
- **Educational classes** such as seeking employment, preparing and maintaining a budget and parenting
- **Support groups** for help with managing mental health conditions
- **Rooms for family** units to stay together
- **Resources with other agencies** to secure housing
- **Life skills training** to teach clients self-sufficiency
- **Bible centered groups** to those interested

| | 2016 | 2017 | 2018 | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|---|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-------------------|
| Obtained employment | 45 | 93 | 84 | 177 | 60 | 114 | 145 | 194 |
| Obtained housing | 71 | 87 | 82 | 99 | 104 | 38 | 65 | 55 |
| | | | | | | | | Includes families |
| Class attendance | - | - | 2,799 | 6,498 | 9,347 | 7,129 | 6,313 | 7,710 |
| Time management, chores assignment, case management cooperation, completing personal goals, improving social skills, medical care accountability | | | | | | | | |
| Additional client assistance provided: | | | | | | | | |
| Provided clothing | 1,108 | 1,954 | 2,104 | 2,461 | 2,121 | 1,683 | 1,069 | 1,420 |
| Eyecare/glasses | 1 | 16 | 26 | 13 | 4 | 7 | 1 | 0 |
| Prescriptions | 116 | 138 | 76 | 92 | 83 | 336 | 72 | 286 |
| Dental care | 6 | 28 | 34 | 7 | 19 | 26 | 13 | 26 |
| State ID, birth certificate, driver's license | 30 | 96 | 39 | 59 | 56 | 79 | 73 | 223 |
| Transporting clients | 511 | 724 | 471 | 668 | 470 | 797 | 403 | 1,241 |
| Medical treatment | 122 | 24 | 134 | 125 | 81 | 339 | 417 | 785 |
| Train, bus transportation | 14 | 15 | 7 | 8 | 11 | 11 | 15 | 26 |
| SSI/SSDI obtained | 7 | 12 | - | 5 | 17 | 33 | 24 | 48 |
| Phones | 4 | 56 | 48 | 25 | 15 | 26 | 24 | 107 |
| Rehab | - | 11 | 11 | 1 | 8 | 1 | 2 | 3 |
| Mental health | - | - | - | 31 | 27 | 183 | 15 | 439 |

The demand for and utilization of homeless services have significantly risen across the board.

"In the face of homelessness, let us not only provide shelter but also nurture hope and restore dignity, recognizing the inherent worth of every individual."

CELEBRATING OUR STORIES



Together we provide hope



**Your Donation Creates Shelter, Restores Dignity.
Help us to continue to write success stories.**



These stories are a testament of strength and perseverance.

We are proud to be able to share these milestones.

Helen, a single mother of an 8 year old girl, was brought to our shelter after being discharged from a local hospital. She was a victim of domestic violence and had to quickly acquire a safe place to land in order to be reunited with her daughter. Helen spent her days mending her relationship with her daughter and working on applying for jobs, all while searching for potential housing options. After choosing to leave the shelter program a short time later to stay with a friend, Helen came back to the shelter a couple of weeks later with her aunt for a quick visit. Helen shared that we taught her the importance of making good decisions, not only for herself, but also for her daughter. She wanted to let us know that they were set up to stay with Helen's aunt until their apartment was ready through the Housing Authority of LaSalle County. Helen stated that if it wasn't for Ottawa PADS that she could have lost her daughter altogether. She stopped by to tell us thank you.

Steve first checked into our shelter in March of 2023, after signing out of a local nursing home facility. He landed in the nursing home facility three years prior when he suffered from a massive heart attack. Steve wanted to work on some of his personal goals, including finding a job, building up his physical strength, and celebrating holidays in his own home again. Signing up for social security benefits, obtaining a new state ID, and applying for health insurance and food assistance were his first goals that he accomplished. After working to set up ongoing healthcare appointments, getting his prescriptions filled and regulated, and gaining back some of his physical strength, Steve started focusing on finding a job. He successfully landed a job at the local McDonalds within 45 days of registering at Ottawa PADS. Steve walked himself to work each day, and he picked up extra shifts whenever they were available. Steve remained committed to his job as he worked with the local housing authority, and he camped outside during the summer months when the shelter was not open for overnight services. Steve was blessed with the opportunity to sign his lease to his new home last month. On move in day, when we delivered his household furnishings to him from Lily PADS Too, Steve was busy decorating his new apartment with his Halloween decor that he saved over the years. He told us on that day that Ottawa PADS saved his life and we got him home just in time to celebrate his favorite holiday.

Meet Tim one of our favorite loyal hard workers. He entered the shelter having a job but not generating enough funds for his own place. Tim was committed to his job and walked to work daily. He had a goal. It was important for him to learn how to handle his finances and to never be without a safety net again. Tim attended our money management classes and worked with staff to allow him to save enough money to get his own apartment.

A new mother Mary came to us battling sobriety. Through working with the staff at the Peru shelter, Mary found a job, has been living alcohol free, and in November her and her daughter will move to their own home. Together they will be celebrating their first Christmas in their own place.

We were excited to get a visit from Joanie, one of our resent guests. Joanie had originally come to our shelter escaping an abusive situation. While at PADS she found a job where she was quickly promoted to supervisor. Joanie has since successfully moved on. She has not forgotten the kindness that she experienced at PADS. We have just seen Joanie as she stopped by the shelter eager to show us her new car. Thank you Joanie for sharing this wonderful new chapter in your life.

While all the stories are true, some names and identifying details have been changed to protect the privacy of the people involved.

IV PADS and Our Community

Sharing in just a very few of our “feel-good” stories provided by generous donors and our community. We are thankful for each and every donation that makes our mission possible.

Together ... we provide shelter, food, and services to the homeless.
Together... we provide HOPE.

Meet Isabella, Marissa Trumper, Ottawa Shelter Director’s daughter. Isabella turned two! They started a family tradition of serving dinner on her birthday. COVID-19 had other plans for this year. It didn’t stop them from shopping together and assembling some ham and cheese sliders, corn casserole, and fruit for the clients to enjoy. The day they delivered the food, Marissa had a chance to get this rainbow picture as they were shopping for the birthday dinner which added a great memory to a heartfelt tradition.



ONYX (Ottawa Network of Young Executives) contacted our shelter to ask a need. They supplied us with toilet paper supplies which is an item that’s always in demand. ONYX continues their giving as they started running small 50/50 raffles at each of their monthly meetings and that they then chose an organization to be the recipient of half of their raised pot. Thank you friends!

Perfectly Flawed paid us a special visit on National Overdose Awareness Day this year. One of their Peer Support Specialists gave a brief overview of their services while sharing part of her testimony. Afterwards, they stuck around and spoke with interested clients one on one. Their message and mission are powerful, and we were impressed by the number of shelter guests who were impacted by their quick presentation.



IV PADS and Our Community



IV PADS is so thankful for the partnership that OSF has provided. The OSF King Care-A-Van is a mobile medical clinic where our clients in need can meet with a physician or a nurse practitioner. General health check-ups, prescription assistance, future medical need referrals, and chronic illness management are just a few of the different services that are provided on a regular basis at our shelters.

Our clients struggle to follow through with their ongoing healthcare needs. When the doctor makes a special visit to our locations, no one can fall through the cracks. We appreciate the heart and dedication of OSF. Thank you for showing your homeless friends, families, and neighbors their self-worth.




PADS staff showing up at the **Pistol Shrimp** game. Enjoying a great game at the park and raising funds through a bake sale and 50/50 tickets. Thank you **Pistol Shrimp** for the opportunity!



Thank you to Myla and Miles for raising funds through their summer lemonade stand. We appreciate all your hard work as you make a difference in your neighbor's lives.



Thank you to  **JamesHardie**™ for thinking of our kids!

The PADS-Peru shelter has a swing set! Thank you to James Hardie for the donation. With the help of two of our volunteers, the swing set was assembled and being put to great use.

This kindness will bring joy and playtime to the children, providing a much-needed break from their daily challenges.

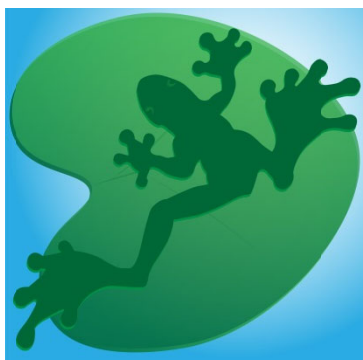
Stay tuned for the additional touches planned for the swing set area as we plan for the comfort and safety of the children.

IV PADS - Financial Overview

| | 2023 | 2022 | 2021 |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| Support and Revenue: | | | |
| Contributions | \$ 526,201 | \$ 464,895 | \$ 481,333 |
| Lily PADS | 1,296,812 | 1,156,839 | 1,093,642 |
| Grants | 436,784 | 107,936 | 101,854 |
| Recycling | 56,449 | 50,736 | 21,280 |
| Other | 1,500 | 15,158 | 10,250 |
| | <u>2,317,796</u> | <u>1,795,564</u> | <u>1,708,359</u> |
| Functional Expenses: | | | |
| Program services | 1,714,311 | 1,439,689 | 1,355,385 |
| Admin/management | 81,283 | 70,876 | 73,622 |
| Fundraising | 42,256 | 32,061 | 28,816 |
| | <u>1,837,850</u> | <u>1,542,626</u> | <u>1,457,823</u> |
| Current Assets: | | | |
| Unrestricted cash / equivalents | 1,643,279 | 1,189,823 | 977,469 |
| Restricted cash / equivalents | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| Inventory | 85,000 | 85,000 | 85,000 |
| Prepaid expenses | 7,245 | 6,353 | 9,705 |
| | <u>2,075,647</u> | <u>2,093,591</u> | <u>2,161,292</u> |
| Property and Equipment: | | | |
| Capital assets (land, buildings, equipment) | <u>2,075,647</u> | <u>2,093,591</u> | <u>2,161,292</u> |
| Liabilities: | | | |
| Current liabilities | 1,472 | 40,213 | 38,099 |
| Note payable | 262,910 | 327,126 | 427,884 |
| | <u>264,382</u> | <u>367,339</u> | <u>465,983</u> |
| Net Assets: | | | |
| Without donor restriction | 3,500,250 | 3,077,428 | 2,767,483 |
| With donor restriction | 0 | 0 | 0 |
| | <u>3,500,250</u> | <u>3,077,428</u> | <u>2,767,483</u> |
| Total Liabilities and Net Assets | | | |
| | <u>\$ 3,811,171</u> | <u>\$ 3,374,767</u> | <u>\$ 3,233,466</u> |

Current financial statements and the most recent IRS 990 form are available through mail request (info@ivpads.com) or by written request to Illinois Valley PADS, PO Box 1012, LaSalle, IL 61301

Our Resale Shops



Our resale boutiques (**Lily PADS-Peru** and **Lily PADS Too-Ottawa**) help to fund our mission. They supply a treasure chest of shopping opportunities with items like clothing, home décor, furniture, shoes, accessories, book, games, and so much more.

Sustainability, affordability, and creativity ... and the best thing about our resale boutiques are that **100% of the proceeds help to fund our IV PADS mission. SHOP ... VOLUNTEER ... DONATE**

These resale shops successfully provide approximately 65% of the funding for our budget each year.

Lily Pads

Lily PADS Resale Boutique

4471 Progress Boulevard – **PERU**



| | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|-------------------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Donations | 66,774 | 50,039 | 49,233 | 57,559 | 52,218 |
| Customers | 58,120 | 45,264 | 44,955 | 47,647 | 56,979 |
| Items sold | 335,685 | 249,887 | 277,404 | 312,006 | 380,843 |
| Move out (furnishings) | 489 | 258 | 179 | 691 | 508 |
| No. of clients assisted | 83 | 94 | 58 | 135 | 54 |

Lily Pads Too

Lily PADS TOO Resale Boutique

411 N. 3059th Road – **OTTAWA**



| | 2019 | 2020 | 2021 | 2022 | 2023 |
|-------------------------|--------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Donations | 25,793 | 28,757 | 34,881 | 37,805 | 33,725 |
| Customers | 19,787 | 20,044 | 26,677 | 25,361 | 26,832 |
| Items sold | 99,794 | 107,688 | 216,910 | 137,181 | 159,300 |
| Move out (furnishings) | 1,216 | 1,315 | 563 | 689 | 214 |
| No. of clients assisted | 91 | 141 | 98 | 50 | 77 |

we need your help

Shelter needs continue to increase in our community. Our work helping those who are homeless is not finished. A designated contribution or commitment to **IV PADS** will make it possible to provide shelter, food, and services to people in need in our own community.

Together ... we can break the cycle of homelessness as we:

- **make a monetary donation.** Make a pledge and support Illinois Valley PADS - [DONATE](#) online ivpads.com or mail your donations to: **Illinois Valley PADS**, P.O. Box 1012, LaSalle, IL 61301
- **provide meals.** For individuals and groups to schedule and provide a meal at one of our shelter locations. Please call **PADS Peru** at 815-224-3047 or **PADS Ottawa**— 815-433-1292 for more information.
- **donate needed supplies to our shelters.** Check out our website for the [needed supplies list](#).
- **support and donate sellable, clean items of good quality** to our resale boutique shops. Check out our website for the [needs list](#).
- **call our offices.** See how you can **donate your car / unused gift cards**
- **shop Amazon Smile** to assign **IV PADS** as your designated charity.
- **donate in honor** of someone / in memory of someone
- **donate through planned financial gifts.** Contact **IV PADS** to learn more about these programs.
 - wills
 - bequests
 - life insurance
 - retirement plans
 - payroll deduction
 - employer gift match
 - donor advised funds
- **host an event or drive**
- **request a speaker / schedule a tour**

THANK YOU - VOLUNTEERS



THANK YOU to our volunteers!

Our **IV PADS** volunteers help us increase the quality of services we provide to our clients at our **two shelters** and at Lily PADS by assisting with the many tasks needed for the operations of our **two stores**.

Let us match your interest to the job at hand!

Contact us

Our administrative office and our two shelters:

Illinois Valley PADS

Administrative office and
mailing address:
PO Box 1012
LaSalle, IL 61301
info@ivpads.com

Peru PADS

Shelter – Peru Campus
1320 Menards Drive
Peru, IL 61354
815-224-3047
perupads@gmail.com

Ottawa PADS

Shelter – Ottawa Campus
1120 Canal Street
Ottawa, IL 61350
815-433-1292
ottawapads@gmail.com

Our two supporting resale shops:

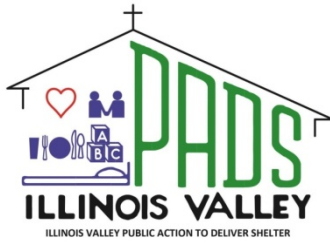
Lily Pads Resale Boutique

4471 Progress Boulevard
Peru, IL 61354
815-224-4970
lilypadsresaleboutique@yahoo.com

Lily Pads Too Resale Boutique

411 N. 3059th Road
Ottawa, IL 61350
815-313-5776
lilypadstooboutique@yahoo.com

For more information on IV PADS please check out our website: ivpads.org



Charitable Status

Illinois Valley Public Action to Deliver Shelter (IV PADS) is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit organization (#36-3778430) registered with the Internal Revenue Service/Department of the Treasury. Therefore, all donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent permitted by applicable law. All donors receive an acknowledgement for their tax records.