



Illinois Valley Public Action to Deliver Shelter IV PADS

Newsletter / Fourth Quarter 2022



And the doors opened The work started well before the August 15, 2022 start of the season with some of our many make-ready summer projects that included:

- ♥ Staff from both shelters attending six different types of trainings - CPR/First Aid, Narcan, Mental Health First Aid, Active Shooter, SOAR and Case Manager Training.
- ♥ Ottawa playroom received a festive face lift to include orange and slime green colored 90's cartoon scenes. Thank you to our staff and a Streator local youth group.
- ♥ Giving some much-needed love and attention to our shelter van.
- ♥ Attending to our washer/dryer repairs/replacement needs.
- ♥ Reaching out for replacement stoves as we recover from last year's 41,072 meals serve.

Photo and caption provided by Shaw Local – Tom Collins – 8/16/2022 article - Lots of mouths to feed at the PADS shelter this year? Peru PADS Program Director, Brenda Salas-Cisco, seen here sorting at the Peru shelter, worry last year's record 371 clients could be broken this season. Inflation and skyrocketing rents have blown up the phones at the shelters. (photos-Scott Anderson - sanderson@shawmedia.com)



Life after PADS for one of our Army veterans

Roy, a 67-year old veteran showed up at the Ottawa shelter on September 4th. Roy and the Ottawa PADS staff got right to work. In less than thirty days, among other things, he was able to obtain a social security card, driver's license, sign up for benefits, attended classes and acquired new life skills, and saved up funds to purchase a car. Most importantly, on September 27th less than 30 days later, Roy signed the lease to his very own apartment.

Roy was quite busy moving a box truck of furniture for his new home that was provided by Lily PADS Too.

Welcome home Roy and thank you for your service.

Kids kindness put in action!

Wanting to help, Payton Etscheid and Raegan Rodriguez took it upon themselves to set up a lemonade stand, where they sold lemonade and their homemade bracelets to benefit our **Ottawa PADS**. After working hard and raising some funds, they decided to use the money to throw a pizza party for our shelter guests.



"She [Raegan] was a little fearful of coming to the shelter to serve dinner at first, but she said that she felt so good about herself afterwards since she got to see firsthand how she was able to make a difference." shared Raegan's mother.

Payton and Raegan have helped today and offered us all hope for tomorrow through their kind deed. Check out the pictures of these amazing entrepreneurs and along with a sampling of their homemade bracelets.



Pictures and above stories provided by: [Marissa Trumper](#)

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.**



The **UAW Region 4** has been a giving and consistent friend of IV PADS. We have again been blessed to be a beneficiary of their golf outing. Much work and support from their members go into the raising of funds.

“UAW members pledge to support each other, they do not mean just fellow UAW members. The sense of brotherhood and sisterhood is not only about working conditions, fair wages and benefits for UAW members — it’s about supporting the whole community, ensuring healthy lives and doing our part as a family of people creating rewarding lives in this country and



Sunrise Rotary called Carol Alcorn, our executive director, to ask her for an IV PADS donation wish list. After much consideration, the Rotary provided the funds for a new stove, locking filing cabinets for safe medical storage, and a computer for client training skills.



Thank you **Heartland Bank** for stopping by our Peru shelter as you showed your support of the community.



Thank you **Elks Oglesby Lodge 2360**. They quickly responded to our need for a new washer.



After learning of the unsafe condition of the Ottawa shelter’s oven, the Ottawa Knights of Columbus immediately took up a collection and raised funds to have a new oven delivered right to our shelter. Thank you for providing a much-needed new oven as we serve three meals a day for our shelter clients.

Community gives and we are THANKFUL ... IV PADS has an account with Handy Foods in Ottawa which we use for emergency food and supplies. Amazingly, we have not had to pay on that account in the past two years in spite of numerous purchases. **Our account has been continually and anonymously funded.** All purchases have been paid ... and we are sitting comfortably with over \$700 of credit on this account.

THESE ARE JUST SOME OF THE STORIES OF OUR GENEROUS DONORS. Please check out our social media pages as we get a chance to recognize and thank the many friends of Illinois Valley PADS. We are truly thankful and blessed to be in such a kind and generous community. Thank you to all the friends of IV PADS.

Lily PADS – come to shop ... volunteer ... donate

Lily Pads Resale Boutique

4471 Progress Boulevard – Peru

Lily Pads Too Resale Boutique

411 E. Stevenson Road – Ottawa

Have you shopped our Lily PADS lately? Our two boutiques offer a shopping experience at greatly reduced prices. 100% of proceeds benefit IV PADS. Our stores provide approximately 65% of the funding for our budget each year.

All net profits stay local and go directly into our shelters to assist with overhead costs, or donations are given directly to the homeless clients we serve.

Check out some of our treasures – from household goods, to gently used clothing and shoes, books, and collectibles. Items that you'll find nowhere else and it's all in one place. Enjoy a new shopping experience time and time again, as so many additional items are regularly donated and added to our stores.



SHOP ... VOLUNTEER ... DONATE
Lily PADS

Shopping online? Continue to have your shopping dollars impact your community.

amazonsmile
You shop. Amazon gives.

AmazonSmile is a simple way for you to support IV PADS every time you shop, at no cost to you. AmazonSmile donates 0.5% of your eligible purchases. To shop at AmazonSmile, simply go to smile.amazon.com or activate AmazonSmile as you make your purchases on your Amazon Shopping app.

Designate IV PADS as your charity and let your shopping dollars provide shelter, food, and support right in our own community.

VOLUNTEERS

THANK YOU to our volunteers! IV PADS volunteers help us increase the quality of services we provide to our clients at our two shelters or by assisting with the many tasks needed for the operations of our two stores.



We're looking for volunteers. IV PADS heavily relies on volunteers to assist us in our mission to provide for the homeless. **Can we count on you?** Please check out our website www.ivpads to learn more about volunteer opportunities.



Plans for the Ottawa new shelter continues. We will provide details on the land acquisition, fundraising, and construction for a new Ottawa building. This is a building which is desperately needed for serving our ever-increasing shelter clients in our community.

Presenting last season's statistics

The homeless population is on the rise in the Illinois Valley. At the start of the 2022-2023 season (August 15, 2022 – July 31, 2023), we have already seen an astounding increase in shelter client needs. Regretfully, these numbers are on target to significantly increase.

- Last year we saw record high numbers. IV PADS served **371** individuals of which **56** were children and **25** family units. Shelter nights ... **13,926**. Meals served ... **41,072**.
- As we are more than **"just a bed"** – there were money management, job seekers, computer 101, and reflection classes that were attended **288** times.
- Staff worked on life skills to help clients achieve self-sufficiency a total of **6,313** times. That's a lot of life skills learned!
- Transportation of clients to medical, job interviews or legal appointments happened **403** times.
- Clothing was provided **1,069** times and medical treatment was provided 417 times.
- There were **145** jobs obtained and **65** permanent housing realized.

Contact us



Illinois Valley PADS

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Check out our website to learn more about our mission, to donate, and to volunteer - www.ivpads.