



2020-2021 ANNUAL REPORT

HELPING THE HOMELESS

find a way



A HOLISTIC APPROACH TO REDUCING HOMELESSNESS

When a safe, secure place to call home is available to everyone, **our communities thrive.**



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We walk with people in crisis

In 2020, COVID-19 disrupted the world—landing right in the middle of the fiscal year and creating a definitive before and after. Despite the many changes the pandemic has delivered, it has also revealed so much that is good about our community and organization: our adaptability, resilience, and readiness to meet the needs of any individual or family experiencing homelessness throughout Lake County—even in the most trying of circumstances.

I am proud to say that I observed all of these traits at PADS Lake County as President of the Board of Directors.

Thanks to friends and partners like you, the momentum of the PADS Lake County mission hasn't wavered. **You are the foundation upon which everything stands and have advanced the care of and assistance for those experiencing homelessness in Lake County.**

More than ever before, your partnership provided greater care to more individuals and families facing homelessness and home insecurity. The life-changing work you make possible is detailed in this annual report. You'll see how, together, we've walked with people in crisis, connecting them to resources and aid that moves them into secure housing, greater health, and a brighter future.

Thank you for the care you've extended to our neighbors through PADS Lake County during this challenging year. We look forward to sharing the continued impact your faithful support and giving is making in the year to come.



JASON GUNTHER

PADS Lake County Board of Directors President

A woman with short, curly brown hair, wearing a white t-shirt and blue jeans, is kneeling on a wooden floor. She is holding a white bowl and a white cup, and she is looking down at them. A young child with curly brown hair, wearing a grey t-shirt and blue jeans, is standing next to her, also looking down at the items. They are in a room with several cardboard boxes scattered around. One box in the foreground contains a green plant. The room has large windows in the background, and the walls are white with a brick-like pattern. The overall atmosphere is bright and positive.

PADS LAKE COUNTY is a community-based organization that provides trauma-informed support, resources, and shelter to individuals and families experiencing a housing crisis.

Because of generous friends and partners like you, individuals and families in Lake County are reaching their full potential through our comprehensive approach to reducing homelessness. You are helping our neighbors create sturdy foundations in stable homes so they can build brighter futures for themselves and our community as a whole.

Thank you for making a difference in so many lives!

YOUR 2020-2021 IMPACT

A Brighter Future, Starting Today

Home insecurity didn't halt during the pandemic, and additional health guidelines and regulations added to the challenge. In fact, this year we saw a 185% increase in the need for emergency shelter. So when much of the world was sheltering in place, many of your neighbors had no place to turn except PADS Lake County. Together, we served on the frontlines, with unwavering support for those who needed a safe, secure place to call home. Your continued support provided a network of steady care for Lake County residents despite COVID's disruption. Here's how your gifts have made a difference this past year.

Homeless Healthcare Access Program



90+

clients vaccinated

127

signed up for health insurance or connected to PCP

14,817

pieces of PPE distributed

FINDING HOME

865 individuals & families found safe, stable housing

294 children now have a place to call home



1,560 served

78,000 nights of shelter

116
served through Outreach

521
served through Prevention & Diversion

621
individuals received shelter

75
families received shelter

SERVING OUR NEIGHBORS SINCE 1972

1972

PADS founded as a 24-hour crisis hotline.



1992

Day Resource Center opened.

1998

Permanent Supportive Housing program launched.

2015

PADS moved to our location in Waukegan.

2020

Services pivot to meet changing needs due to COVID-19.

1982

Daytime shelter and supportive services offered.

1987

First emergency overnight shelter program at Wesley Free Methodist Church



2016

Prevention & Diversion program launches to keep people in their homes.

Our Comprehensive Approach

Individuals and families are empowered to reach their full potential through your support of our comprehensive approach to reducing homelessness. As clients find sturdy foundations in stable homes, they can build brighter futures for themselves and our community.

PREVENTION & DIVERSION

Filling Gaps for Greater Stability

Life can be especially difficult for some members of our community. Tight finances, health troubles, medical bills, and job difficulties place our neighbors in danger of losing their home. With your support, our Prevention & Diversion programming bridges the gaps to prevent homelessness before it happens. It could be working with a landlord to create a payment plan, finding short-term shelter with family or friends, or even connecting them to emergency financial resources. By helping people avoid the shelter system, it's easier for them to find their way back to full housing stability.



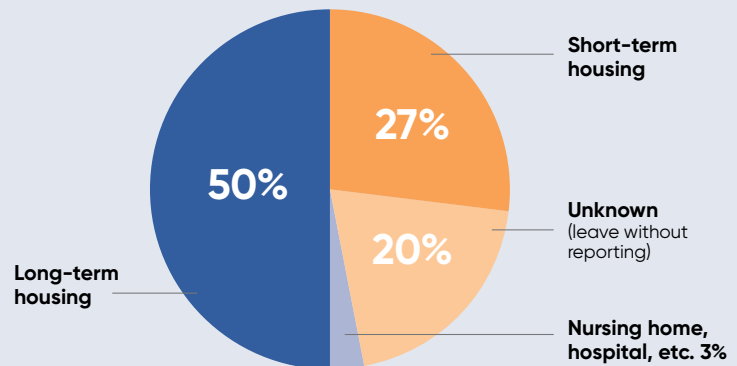
DAY RESOURCE CENTER

Holistic Support, Every Day

No one should go through a crisis alone. Our Day Resource Center provides support to neighbors who are experiencing homelessness or a housing crisis. This point of entry is where they can have their most basic needs met to get out of homelessness and into housing, taking confident steps toward a better tomorrow.

CLIENT EXITS TO HOUSING

A key measure of your impact is the number of clients finding safe, stable housing upon exiting our shelter system. Your support has provided even more secure housing for your neighbors this year as compared to last year. Exits to housing grew 3% over last year's exits to long-term housing—and that's even more impressive considering the ways COVID-19 affected our programming!



Annie steps into

BETTER HEALTH & A NEW HOME

Annie* enjoys going to church, taking long walks, and visiting local parks. But she has faced serious troubles, starting with some serious health complications that made it increasingly difficult for Annie to work. Her financial situation grew worse without steady income, and then she had a property dispute with her landlord.

That's how Annie found herself facing homelessness. But Annie is hardly alone: the CDC reports that "homelessness is closely connected to declines in physical and mental health; homeless persons experience high rates of health problems." All this often leads to unexpected medical bills, difficulty working, and otherwise destabilizing health, security, and well-being.

Your gifts through PADS Lake County made it possible for Annie to take steps forward, starting with our Homeless Healthcare Access Program to improve her health.

From there, Annie successfully worked with one of our case managers to create and execute a housing plan. **We're thrilled to share that Annie successfully moved into independent housing and is currently enjoying decorating her new space with antiques and flea market finds!** Annie says, "I learned a lot about appreciating all the goodness PADS has to offer in their program. It is important to know there's a shelter. PADS is willing to help you out with anything you need help with, which was really nice."

Thank you for making a difference for Annie and others like her! Your support is changing lives throughout Lake County.

With the support of her neighbors—that's you!—homelessness wasn't the end of Annie's story.



*Name changed to protect client confidentiality



OUTREACH

Meeting Neighbors Wherever They Are

Living on the street is its own kind of paralysis. It's hard to know where to go or who to turn to. So we take our services to our clients, wherever they may be: in a tent in the woods, warming up in the library, or seeking shelter in an abandoned building. Your gifts allow us to build relationships and trust with them so they can access the life-saving services they need to move out of homelessness and back into housing.

SUPPORTIVE HOUSING

Securing Homes to Halt Chronic Homelessness

Each person is a miracle and deserves to be treated with great care and dignity. That's why our model focuses on meeting basic needs first, before addressing the causes of homelessness. With your support, 25 individuals have a place to sleep, meals, and a sense of security through our Housing Support program. By working with a case manager, they are becoming more confident in their ability to live independently as they receive holistic care for physical, mental, and emotional needs.

EMERGENCY OVERNIGHT SHELTER

Always a Warm Welcome

The northern Illinois winter is especially harsh for those experiencing homelessness. The overnight shelters you make possible ensure that everyone has a safe, warm place to sleep every night from October through April. Clients escape the cold in one site each night, usually at a local house of worship, where they enjoy camaraderie and receive dinner, breakfast, and a sack lunch. Beginning March 2020, as COVID spread, our shelter sites expanded into area hotels. Clients receive individual overnight accommodations to keep people healthy and safe.

Whether clients were sheltered at local houses of worship or hotels, they always found a safe, warm place to sleep and received basic needs assistance and supportive services. **Your caring support this year has met the astounding 185% increase in need for emergency shelter.**

Meet Judith

One of the most defining principles of our mission here at PADS Lake County is the care community members have for one another. We are a group of neighbors caring for and learning from our fellow neighbors. This mutual, reciprocal relationship becomes personal through our volunteer network. Volunteers invest their time and skills in a wide variety of ways, supporting clients physically, emotionally, and socially.

One unique offering is from volunteer Judith Joy, a mindset coach who led a workshop series for clients at PADS Lake County. "I help people feel better than they do now, explains Judith. "The better you feel, the more ease you'll have in your life. I've found that when we focus on what doesn't work or isn't working for us, the more things don't work. But looking for what does work, and focusing on that, helps us to make positive, lasting changes."

Workshop participants have been eager to learn how to adopt new perspectives and approaches to life. As Judith shared this framework from her own experiences, it created an open atmosphere where everyone could share and learn from each other. These connections produced true community for all.

Volunteer Your Skills and Expertise

If you are interested in contributing your unique skills and expertise, our volunteer opportunities will soon be back in motion. COVID-19 guidelines are currently limiting our volunteer interactions, but we would love to hear how you'd like to get involved! Judith has this encouragement: "It is worth it—everyone is so incredibly nice, both clients and staff. Those served at PADS are really eager to move forward." We're grateful for volunteers like Judith who make our community a great place to be!



"But looking for what does work, and focusing on that, helps us to make positive, lasting changes."

JUDITH JOY, Mindset Coach, PADS Volunteer

Caring for Our Neighbors, Together

There are countless friends, partners, and supporters who make it possible to reduce homelessness in our community. We are grateful for your partnership! Every gift you've given—whether time, money, or advocacy—**has touched the life of a neighbor.**

In addition, there are many public entities—corporations, foundations, schools, scouting troops, houses of worship, and more—that come alongside this mission. Thank you for choosing to care for our community through PADS Lake County.

Civic Organizations & Houses of Worship

Chicagoland Bowling Proprietors Association
Christ Church Lake Forest
Community Christian Church of Lincolnshire
Community Protestant Church of Mundelein
Congregation of Shalom
Crosslife Church
DAR: Ansel Brainer Cook Chapter
Elite Women's Health
Ezra Elementary School Staff
Federated Church of Wauconda
First Church of Christ, Scientist of Libertyville
First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest
First Presbyterian Church of Libertyville
First Presbyterian Church of Waukegan
First United Methodist Church of Waukegan
Frassati Catholic Academy
God's Gracious Gifts Fund
Grace Community Bible Church

Grace Lutheran Church
Highland Park Presbyterian Church
Holy Cross Church of Deerfield
Ivanhoe Congregational Church UCC
Jewish Federation of Metropolitan Chicago
Junior League of Evanston – North Shore
Knights of Columbus – Council 3674
Lake County Regional Office of Education
Lake Forest High School
Libertyville Covenant Church
Light and Grace Baptist Church
Makom Solel Lakeside
Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church of Wauconda
Nature Walk Montessori School, Forest Room
North Shore Unitarian Church of Deerfield
North Suburban Mennonite Church of Libertyville
NorthBridge Church
Peace Lutheran Church
Prairie Circle UU Congregation

Presbyterian Women of the First Presbyterian Church of Lake Forest
Saddlebrook Roadrunner RV Club
Shiloh Baptist Church of Waukegan – PADS Ministry
Spirit of Life Pentecostal
St. Andrew Lutheran Church of Mundelein
St. James Lutheran Church of Lake Forest
St. Joseph Catholic Church
St. Mark Lutheran Church of Lindenhurst
Teen & Single Mother Resource Center, Inc.
The Alliance for Human Services
The Church of the Holy Spirit
The Village Presbyterian Church
The Women of St. Mark's Lutheran Church
Twin City Zone Church
United Methodist Church Memorial
United Methodist Church of Libertyville
United Protestant Church
Village Church of Gurnee

Shelter Sites

Chain of Lakes Community Bible Church – Lake Villa
Christian Assembly of God – Zion
First Presbyterian Church – Deerfield
First Presbyterian Church – Libertyville
Messiah Evangelical Lutheran Church – Wauconda
North Point Church – Winthrop Harbor
Shepherd of the Lakes Lutheran Church – Grayslake
Shiloh Baptist Church – Waukegan
St. Mark Lutheran Church – Lindenhurst
St. Mary of Vernon – Indian Creek
St. Mary's | Fremont Center – Mundelein
The Chapel – Libertyville
United Methodist Church – Libertyville
United Protestant Church – Grayslake
Wildwood Presbyterian Church – Grayslake

Governments/ Townships

City of North Chicago
 City of Waukegan
 Cuba Township
 Ela Township
 FEMA
 Lake County
 Libertyville Township
 Moraine Township
 State of Illinois
 U.S. Department of Housing
 & Urban Development
 Village of Vernon Hills
 Warren Township
 Wauconda Township
 Zion Township

Foundations

Adam Don Foundation
 Alvin H. Baum Family Fund
 Blowitz-Ridgeway
 Foundation
 Bridewell-Henning
 Foundation
 Circle of Service Foundation
 Dart Foundation
 David & Lauren Gorter
 Foundation
 Enjoy a Better Life
 Foundation, NFP
 Essendant Charitable
 Foundation
 Gorter Family Foundation
 Healthcare Foundation
 of Highland Park
 Healthcare Foundation
 of Northern Lake County
 Helen Brach Foundation
 Help Them to Hope, Inc.
 John and Kathleen
 Schreiber Foundation
 John Marshall Family
 Foundation
 Karen & John Crotty
 Foundation
 Lake County Community
 Foundation
 Lisitza Family Charitable
 Foundation
 Mark and Maureen Miller
 Family Foundation
 Mary Lou Downs Foundation
 MESA Foundation

National Christian
 Foundation Chicago
 Network for Good
 Olivia Bea Ross Foundation
 Peter and Thalia Anest
 Family Foundation
 Pledgeling Foundation
 Polen Family Foundation
 Robert U. and Roberta
 Goldman Family Foundation
 Simon Family Foundation
 Sirius Fund
 Snow Foundation
 United Way of Greater
 Milwaukee & Waukesha
 County
 United Way of Greater St.
 Louis
 United Way of Lake County
 United Way of Metro Chicago
 Webb Foundation
 William R. and Mary Anne
 Litgen Family Foundation

Corporate Sponsors

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 Cedar Roofing Company
 ComEd, an Exelon Company
 Consumers Cooperative
 Association
 Edward Jones
 Exelon Foundation
 Greenswag & Associates P.C.
 Grotefeld Hoffmann
 Homes by Joe Monie
 Insperty
 ITW – Illinois Tool Works
 Foundation
 Jim Kelly Nationwide Agency
 Kreuser & Seiler
 Law Office of Melissa C. Wach
 Love Real Estate LLC
 Ludlow Manufacturing Inc.
 McMaster-Carr Supply
 Company

Michael L Klestinski and
 Associates
 North Shore Trust & Savings
 NorthShore University
 Health System
 Northside Community Bank
 Charitable Foundation
 Oil-Dri Corporation
 of America
 Orange Media Group,
 Incorporated
 Pfanstiehl, Inc.
 Pfizer, Inc.
 Quality Computer
 Professionals Inc.
 Record-A-Hit Inc.
 Salesforce.com, Inc.
 Seale 76 Inc.
 Takeda Pharmaceuticals
 USA, Inc.
 Texas Instruments
 Foundation
 Vizient
 W.W. Grainger, Inc.
 Wells Fargo Clearing
 Services, LLC
 William Frick & Company
 Wines for Humanity
 Wm. W. Meyer & Sons, Inc.
 Xerillion Corporation





Here's how you are helping individuals and families reach their full potential through our comprehensive approach to reducing homelessness.

The gifts you gave this year have made a measurable difference in the lives of your neighbors. Because of the care you provided, homelessness has not had the last say for the clients served at PADS Lake County.

The pandemic continued on but your support for those in need never wavered. Your financial donations provided a steady network of care in truly troubling situations so that our neighbors could find housing stability and hope for a brighter future. We are grateful for your partnership in this work that serves our neighbors and community in such a tangible way.

YOUR SUPPORT FUELS THIS MISSION FROM DAY TO DAY.

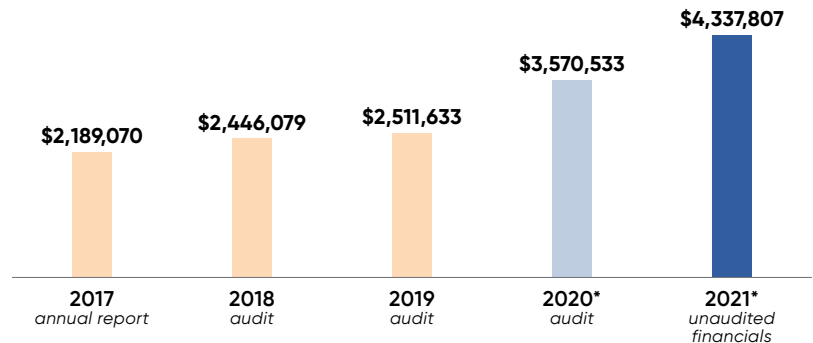
The following revenue charts overview our organization's financial health and vitality made possible by your generosity, even with the added challenges we've faced in a pandemic year.

To learn more about this past year's financials, view our Form 990 at padslakecounty.org.

Our Growth

Over the past five years, generous partners of PADS Lake County have spurred on significant growth to provide a safe, secure place for more people experiencing homelessness.

Annual Revenue by Year

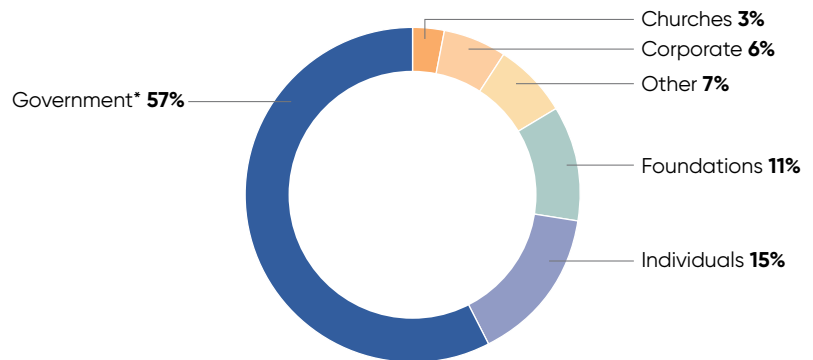


*FY20 and FY21 increases due primarily to government revenues used in COVID-related interventions

Total Funding

Generous partners gave one-time gifts and multi-year commitments to ensure a safe, secure place for more people experiencing homelessness. Here's a snapshot of our income:

FY 2021 Financial Recap by Source

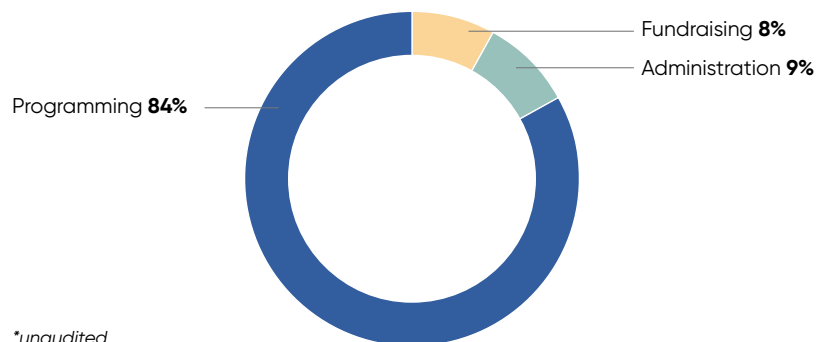


*FY20 and FY21 increases due primarily to government revenues used in COVID-related interventions

Highest Impact to Date

Last year's growth provided more services to people experiencing homelessness than ever before. Here's how your investment has made a life-changing impact:

FY 2021 Functional Expenses*



*unaudited



A brighter tomorrow

People keep talking about the need to change and adjust to the “new normal” of living life during a global pandemic. While it’s a rare person whose life hasn’t been affected in some way by COVID-19, it’s also true that many things in life haven’t changed. For example, our communities function best when everyone is cared for and looked after. That’s why our work hasn’t stopped, because even in a pandemic, we must continue providing support for our neighbors who are working to get out of homelessness and into housing.

While the world collectively looks ahead to a day when COVID-19 is eradicated, we are also motivated to see a brighter tomorrow for our neighbors who are struggling right now. They are supported through programming made possible by our partners, donors, staff, and volunteers.

Lake County is a more vibrant place to call home when everyone has secure housing and the opportunity to contribute to the betterment of our community. Our lives are interdependent, woven together in countless ways! It is the strength of our connection that makes it possible for us to work together to end homelessness as we know it.

Your investment in this work is making a difference in many lives, which then transforms our entire community. Thank you for partnering with PADS Lake County to make it possible!



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Meghan Powell-Filler".

MEGHAN POWELL-FILLER

PADS Lake County Executive Director

Let's keep supporting our neighbors as they
move out of homelessness and into secure housing,
for a brighter tomorrow.



"Alone we can do so little, together we can do so much."

Helen Keller

Our staff is full of passionate people who work tirelessly to fulfill our mission every day by providing the support and resources our neighbors need to get out of homelessness and into housing.

OUR LEADERS

Meghan Powell-Filler
Executive Director

Eric Foote
Deputy Executive Director

Melvin Ford
Outreach Program
Coordinator

Julia Kovacs
Shelter Operations
Manager

Reagan Piechowski
Housing & Outreach
Program Manager

Louis Richardson
Operations Manager

Nestor Sagun
Day Resource Program
Manager

Christen White
Intake Manager

OUR TEAM

Richard Anderson
Client Service Aide

Marcia Banks
Development Coordinator

Katherine Bergstrom
Shelter Supervisor

Tonnie Borner
Intake Specialist

Katrina Brantley
Client Service Aide

Edward Campbell
Client Service Aide

Melissa Czechowski
Healthcare Case Manager

Brandon Davis
Client Service Aide

Allyce Doorey
Clinical Outreach Specialist

Karina Galindo
Program Assistant

Malin Gembra
Prevention and Diversion
Specialist

James Graham
Client Service Aide

Damaris Hill
Executive Assistant

Gregory Hughes
Maintenance

Thomas Huiett
Client Service Aide

Nicole Hunt
Grant Manager

Charlotte Lawless
Accounting Specialist

Latasha McKelvy
Outreach & Engagement
Specialist

Diana Melchor
Diversion Specialist

Destiny Perez
Case Manager

Kristin Pitak
Client Service Aide

Alicya Rios
Housing Navigator

Samantha Tomaszewski
Community Case Manager

Charles Tyler
Client Service Aide

Demetria Wilkins
Community Case Manager

Dannell Young
Receptionist

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