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Brighter Futures Gala

Providing Hope for Tomorrow

PADS Lake County is excited to share that we will be hosting our inaugural fundraising gala, “Brighter Futures ... Providing Hope for Tomorrow” on Saturday, **September 21, 2019 at the Highland Park Country Club!** The event will begin at 6:00 PM with a cocktail reception and silent auction, followed by dinner and entertainment.

Purchase tickets or become a sponsor at padslakecounty.org/brighter-futures.



Shopping online? Go to smile.amazon.com and select PADS Lake County as your charity. The AmazonSmile Foundation will then donate a portion of your eligible purchases to PADS!

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PADS LAKE COUNTY SUMMER NEWSLETTER



Supportive Housing



The Supportive Housing program was originally launched in 2006 following the "safe haven" model of housing. Developed in response to the rising gap in services for individuals with mental illness and the high barriers to housing with other programs, the Supportive Housing program follows a **Housing First** model, designed to get people into housing and out of homelessness as quickly and as appropriately as possible. This model allows for housing to act as platform from which they can improve their health, quality of life, mend personal relationships and more. This approach is guided by the belief that people need their basic human needs—like food and a place to live—to be met before getting a job, focusing on their sobriety, or budgeting properly.

Unlike shelters, the Supportive Housing program is permanent

scattered housing for individuals with mental and physical disabilities. It operates 24/7 and is staffed by clinical professionals that help to ensure that residents are healthy, safe, and on a path toward their own independent housing.

Flexibility and highly individualized treatment is at the foundation of the program, with the team focusing on the early stages of treatment: engagement, persuasion, and motivation building with the goal of moving clients to actively engage in traditional treatment and abstinence-oriented behaviors. By embracing a housing first philosophy, we're proud to offer our neighbors a sturdy foundation in stable housing from which they can build their possible lives and contribute to our community.

Housewarming Project

Moving into housing is an exciting time that offers hope for individuals and families who have been living in shelters or on the streets. However, many of our clients are moving into their new homes with very few personal possessions. To help ease the transition into stable housing, we work with volunteers to provide the household items that are crucial for our clients to make a fresh start and make their new units feel more like home.

By forming a team to provide a Housewarming Kit, you and your family, business, or community group can help our neighbors experiencing homelessness create a home that will provide the stability and comfort necessary to creating a brighter future for themselves so that they can be a part of our thriving community.

Email us at housewarming@padslakecounty.org to learn more!

A Note from our Executive Director

As many of you know, our regular Shelter Season ends on April 30th each year, and with the end of this season we consistently face some tough transitions. While our entire team works hard to relocate our clients to permanent housing solutions, unfortunately—due to a myriad of reasons—many end up back on the streets, in tents, in cars, and other places that lack the basic safety and dignity that all of our neighbors deserve.

Our **Outreach Program** and **Day Resource Center** staff are here all summer and work with our clients to locate safe shelter for the most vulnerable members of our community. Additionally, they work with individuals and families who have found shelter but continue to need assistance locating the resources necessary to ensuring that they are able to find permanent housing solutions and be successful in housing—these services range from signing-up for health insurance, job training programs, life skills groups, and more. Our Outreach Program continues to be successful in engaging our neighbors and community members into services. This small but mighty team has successfully moved individuals who had previously been living outside into permanent housing by building trust with clients and working in tandem with fellow service providers throughout Lake County.

Diversion techniques are also implemented across the entire agency all year—diversion is not just a program acting in isolation from our other services, it is a philosophy and integral part of the PADS mission. By embracing a diversion philosophy, all staff are trained to make every effort to keep people out of the shelter system and in safe housing options (staying with friends or family, advocating with landlords, etc.) while continuing to work with our team to secure more permanent solutions.

We need help from community members like you! If you see anyone out on the street, please call our Outreach team at (847) 616-5557. If you or someone you know is in danger of homelessness and would benefit from our Diversion program, you can find assistance at (847)616-2898. **Thank you** for continuing to partner with us as we work to create a community where homeliness is rare, brief, and non-recurring!

Sincerely,



Meghan

Lake County Reaches Functional Zero for Veteran Homelessness!



We were thrilled to celebrate Lake County ending veteran homelessness with the Lake County Coalition for the Homeless earlier this month!

By reaching Functional Zero, Lake County has created a local system that can house more veterans in a month than enter into homelessness. For us, this meant that we have less than 5 veterans actively experiencing homelessness, which is the average number of veterans the system can house in a month. In doing so, we have created an environment where homelessness is brief and permanently resolved when it occurs, and rare overall ...

We're proud to have been a part of this community-wide effort to create a system that works to ensure that homelessness is neither inevitable or inescapable, nor a way of life for the veterans experiencing it. **You can learn more from the Lake County Coalition at: bit.ly/LCCH_FunctionalZero**

Team Spotlight

Mellonese Adams
Prevention & Diversion Coordinator

My name is Mellonese Adams and I am the Prevention & Diversion Coordinator with PADS Lake County. I attended Lewis University with the intention of becoming an FBI agent, but the summer before my last semester, I completed an internship with Family Focus of Evanston as an Outreach Worker. There I discovered I had a passion for working with at-risk youth and young adults, which lead me to a 22-year career in the social service field.



What led me to PADS was my passion for effectively helping those in need; and being here has opened my heart to the ways we can all work together to end homelessness. I believe that appropriate intervention is the critical key for families and individuals on their path to becoming self-sufficient , healthy, and productive citizens for the long-term.

I am a mother of 3 young ladies that are making their paths in this thing called life. In my spare time I love encouraging others through motivational speaking, beautifying and organizing space, but most of all spending time with my extended family.

We are honored to have Mellonese on our team, and look forward to the great work she will continue to do with our clients.

Brighter Futures Gala
Providing Hope for Tomorrow

Thank you to our sponsors!















Creating Brighter Futures

Thank you to the generous sponsors of our Brighter Futures Gala!

Don't miss this evening celebrating the bright futures ahead for our neighbors experiencing homelessness. **Get your tickets or become a sponsor at padslakecounty.org/brighter-futures.**

Volunteers Make Our Work Possible

From packing lunches, to working our shelter sites, to participating in our Neighborhood Clean-ups, our volunteers are central to the work we do each and every day. Thank you to every person who has shared their time and talents with us!

