



601 West Liberty
Wheaton, Illinois 60187
www.dupagepads.org

DuPagePads
The Solution to End Homelessness.

Dear Chair Conroy and the DuPage County Board:

DuPagePads is grateful to you for considering our proposal to provide life-saving protection from extreme weather and temperatures for persons who are unsheltered in our county. Our total grant request is \$342,090.

Our goal is to have a 24/7 option to once again provide emergency winter shelter through hotel room rentals for persons who are completely unsheltered and waiting for interim housing, as well as extended hours at our access center to provide a warm place for unsheltered persons to sit while they wait to apply for shelter.

For Hotel-Based Emergency Winter Shelter, hotel rooms would be available to clients 24/7 after entry, with applications to entry done through DuPagePads' Access Center in Wheaton. Our anticipated capacity at any one time is 50 to 60 rooms, assuming first users to be persons in DuPagePads Street Outreach Program who are waiting for a bed to open at the Interim Housing Center. Referral Sources would include DuPage County 211, DuPage County Continuum Care partner agencies, local police department, local hospitals, local libraries.

Along with a hotel room, clients in this program would receive weekly grocery bags through food purchased from Loaves and Fished by DuPagePads, as well as connection to social services, with more intense case management after movement to the IHC.

We anticipate partial support already secured from the state of Illinois and a private grant designated only for family rooms. Expenses include additional beds of emergency shelter through hotel rooms, staffing costs, and food costs.

For extending our access hours: To provide a resource for entities to refer persons who are unsheltered to at all hours and after day warming centers close for the evening, such as 211, law enforcement, libraries, and other access points for shelter, DuPagePads proposes to increase its hours of operation to keep its Access Center lobby open overnight during winter months so that unsheltered persons have a place to sit that is not an emergency room or police lobby while waiting for access to shelter.

Capacity is for up to 10 individuals, at which point those individuals would be screened for entry for other, more permanent services in the morning after their arrival.



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Operations will be simple but effective in preserving life: Extended hours for DuPagePads' already-existing Access Center, which overnight would provide a lobby space staffed by one DuPagePads' staff member at a time, one volunteer and one security guard. Food, water, coffee and tea, as well as coats and gloves, and a place to shower and use the bathroom in the morning, will be available to persons who are dropped off during non-office hours so that no one goes hungry or has no safety from life-threatening weather.

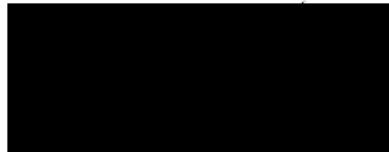
Expenses include staff, security and a light food budget during winter months. Based on last year's winter emergency shelter model, we estimate this could be a safe drop-off point for 150-200 individuals.

Our goal remains to ensure that, despite shelter and affordable housing shortages across our state, everyone will have a safe place to be during life-threatening weather conditions.

Last winter, thanks to the generosity of the DuPage County Board and DuPage Foundation, Pads was able to move about 70 people into hotel rooms before a polar vortex hit, and the County Board saved 155 lives in total during the winter months because of their support.

I am so grateful to you and our entire county board for your support in the past and present, during a time when it is so desperately needed.

Best,



April Redzic, President & CEO