

April 3, 2020

From: Carol Simler, President & CEO, DuPagePads

To: DuPage County Sheriff, Police, Fire and Emergency Response Community

At DuPagePads, during this time of uncertainty we have been diligently working to fulfill our mission. We now have helped 144 people in securing a place to stay – keeping them safe from the spread of the virus.

- 38 single adults were diverted to be with family /friends or referred to treatment.
- 80 motel/hotel rooms are now occupied in the county accommodating 99 people (includes 5 parents with 10 children, and 84 single adults)

On March 21 we announced our Interim (overnight) Housing were closed. With guidance from the DuPage County Health Department, we developed alternative safe emergency housing for our clients who were without a support system to occupy 20 motel/hotel rooms. That number has quickly grown to providing 75 rooms this week. The recent news from Governor Pritzker to extend the order to stay at home - we now foresee the need for additional rooms increasing to 90 rooms

The DuPagePads Client Service Center in Wheaton has been adapted to serve as a call center for existing clients who are homeless to help direct services and ensure safe emergency housing, and a supply hub for donations and food distribution.

Our efforts to collaborate with other not for profits and faith communities across DuPage County to coordinate supplies and food items to address immediate needs and for a longer-term food chain has kept our clients fed and sheltered. We partnered with Northern Illinois Food to supplement needed food items, and the DuPage County Health Department provides vans and drivers to deliver food to the motel/hotels along with our staff.

Members of our staff continue to call all those in the motel/rooms every 48 hours to check on their health conditions, asking if they do have a fever, cough, shortness of breath, or in need of basic needs assistance. Our staff frequent the motel/hotels four times every day working with motel/hotel staff to assist in addressing client's needs.

In addition, our staff continue to ensure our 199 tenants in the 148 apartments we support are in good health, have enough food, and their basic needs are being met.

Our DuPagePads Street Outreach staff continue to check common areas in the county frequented by those who are unsheltered in our county. We need your help in identifying anyone who may still be homeless by calling our toll-free number: 866.682.3846 x2275.

These uncertain times makes it clear that each person's health is intertwined in our community.

Thank you to you as leaders as you work to ensure only the best safety measures are in place for all of our residents here in DuPage County! Donations of essential food and needed items listed on our website <a href="www.dupagepads.org">www.dupagepads.org</a> are being accepted at our Client Service Center at 703 W. Liberty in Wheaton between 8am-8pm daily.