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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Sweet Secrets Chocolate & Wheaton North High School Provide Meals for PADS**

**CAROL STREAM, IL - October 2016** – Sweet Secrets Chocolate, together with Wheaton North High School students who focus on community service, and DuPage PADS, have engaged in a project to assemble and distribute meals to area homeless shelters. Students raise money, purchase needed items, and prepare meals at Sweet Secret’s manufacturing facility. Once the meals are prepared, officials from DuPage PADS transport the meals to area homeless shelters. “We are blessed with a beautiful facility for making meals. It is amazing to watch our kitchen be transformed into a center for community action,” said Dede Barnicle, “This program brings joy and life to so many”

The first session of this ongoing effort resulted in delicious breakfast meals of egg and sausage casserole for guests of area shelters. Students must also take into account the nutritional value of each meal, as oftentimes, meals offered at the shelters are the only meal their guests might have for the day. “We are looking forward to continuing this project into next year, and expanding to serve other groups as well,” said Barnicle.

DuPagePads is committed to ending homelessness in DuPage County through housing coupled with support services and employment. The staff at DuPagePads help clients become self-sufficient and find them a home. Case managers teach clients to believe in themselves through learned skills. DuPagePads help each individual know they are valued – even when they think they are not. Providing more than simply a pad and a meal; but a chance at self-sufficiency and pride.

## **About Sweet Secrets Chocolate**

Sweet Secrets Chocolate is an a boutique chocolate manufacturing company based in the Chicago area, specializing in chocolate covered pretzels, chocolate bark, chocolate pretzel pizzas and a growing list of unique chocolate offerings. Founded by two friends with a passion for chocolate and an eye for detail, their specialty products are artfully made by hand. Each finished to perfection using the finest ingredients and packaged with care. Sweet Secrets Chocolate creates unique, delicious and fun chocolate specialties that are sure to bring lots of smiles.

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