



WINTER NIGHTS Family Shelter

The GOOD NEWS Letter Celebrating the Families, Volunteers, Donors and Staff of Winter Nights Family Shelter, Inc

AUGUST - 2024

What's up at Winter Nights these days?

The Shelter remained closed in August giving staff and volunteers some time off, but our Safe Parking sites in Pittsburg and Antioch were open and busy through all the heat. Continued Success alumni families were busy getting their kids ready for school. We were right there with them.

In this Good News letter, you can read more about how alumni families were supported and the impact Winter Nights had supporting families and individuals living in their cars.

The Family Shelter will open Sept 30th. This will be the Shelter's 21st season. It will run 36 weeks thanks to 17 congregations who will serve as host sites, and dozens of congregations and community groups who will serve with them.

From the Office: Winter Nights has a new Administrative Assistant, Reubie Dixon. Welcome Reubie and thanks for joining us with all your skills and enthusiasm. You've made a big contribution already.

We are working on updating our website. You may have noticed that it does not reflect the growth in all of our programs. Safe Parking, Continued Success and the Oasis Day Center will be added along with more impact & success stories from clients. The redesign should also, hopefully, make it easier for every visitor to navigate.

While we're at it: We would love your inputs. What would **you** like to see on the website? What information? What kind of stories. Photos? Videos? Email your thoughts to me at ann@cccwinternights.org.

Gratefully,
Ann Lawrence - your Good News writer/editor
ann@cccwinternights.org

News From the Board:

The Board of Directors of Winter Nights is looking for additional board members. We are specifically interested in individuals with non-profit experience, financial expertise, interest in donor development, and strategic planning experience.

If you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact Dan Swander, Board President at dan@cccwinternights.org or 925-899-3758 (m).

Family Shelter



A belated end of the season thanks Hosts and Cohosts

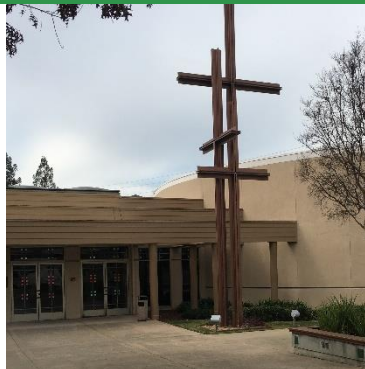
Our 20th Family Shelter season ended successfully on June 17. Belated thanks to St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church, and St. Matthew Lutheran Church, the two last sites, and to their cohost support groups.



St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church
Host Coordinator - Decky Thornton

Co Hosts:

- First Congregational Church of Martinez;
Laura Febus
- Lafayette Christian Church; Jan Warren
- First Presbyterian Church of Concord;
Maren Stanczak



St. Matthew Lutheran Church - Walnut Creek
Host Coordinator - Pastor Rustin
St Matthew's served without cohosts



Family Shelter Season #21 This Season's Schedule is Ready!

Thank you to the 17 Congregations who will be hosting Winter Nights Family Shelter this season. We will have 36 weeks of shelter, from September 30, 2024 to June 9, 2025.

We would also like to welcome everyone at St. Anna's Episcopal Church-Antioch to the team. This will be their first year hosting. Rev Jane says "We are super excited to participate in this year's Winter Nights schedule. We are small but mighty, with a big heart for justice and a passion for making a difference in our community."



Christ the King Catholic Church - Pleasant Hill
Concord United Methodist Church
Episcopal Church of the Resurrection - Pleasant Hill
Lafayette United Methodist Church
Lafayette-Orinda Presbyterian Church
Mt. Diablo Universal Unitarian Church - Walnut Creek
Orinda Community Church
San Ramon Valley United Methodist Church -Alamo
St. Andrew's Presbyterian Church - Pleasant Hill
St. Anna's Episcopal Church- Antioch
St. Anselm's Episcopal Church - Lafayette
St. John Vianney Catholic Church - Walnut Creek
St. Matthew's Lutheran Church - Walnut Creek
St. Paul's Episcopal Church- Walnut Creek
St. Stephen Catholic Church - Walnut Creek
St. Timothy's Episcopal Church -Danville
Walnut Creek United Methodist Church

The Safe Parking Program



Aug 22, 2024

The Safe Parking Program in Pittsburg

7 cars - 10 participants

Including a family of 4 with a 15-year-old who just started High School

The Safe Parking Program in Antioch

6 cars - 9 participants

Including one family: A mom and her 12-year-old

Cooling Rags and Personal Fans

It has been hot, hot, hot. Imagine living and sleeping in your car on these 95' days and sweltering nights. Our clients at both Safe Parking sites know. To try and make these families and individuals more comfortable, we provided stacks of cooling towels and personal fans. Hope it helped a bit.

Continued Success



♥ HOUSED!

We just heard that a mother and her two children, who left the Family Shelter unhousted at the end of the season, were successfully housed August 1st.

Bravo! Such Good News.

♥ A father was laid off and this alumni family of 7 fell behind on their rent. We have helped with rent & utility bills to support keeping them housed.

♥ We are working with St. Vincent de Paul to help another mother and her daughter with over-due rent.

♥ It's Back-to-School time. We were so happy to be able to give school supplies to 16 kids from alumni families. Good Luck with your studies.

Happy Birthday

♥ Three children celebrated their birthdays with special cakes and cupcakes made for them by Cake4Kids. They were so excited.

~Teri Lundvall - Continued Success



Wish List

If you, or your group, would like to donate items to Winter Nights here is a list of things we can really use:

Gift Cards-

Gas cards (\$25) help clients get to work, training or appointments,

Target cards (\$10) to give as Reading Rewards to kids who reach their goals,

Wal-Mart cards (\$25) for client needs like work clothes, diapers, school supplies.

Items-

Individual Serving Snacks for Safe Parking - (grab and go)

Twin-size fitted bottom sheets, pillowcases,

Lysol spray,

Lysol disinfecting wipes

For questions or assistance please call the office **925-414-3883**

Winter Nights in The Community



Mini-Pumpkins with Succulent Crowns - AGAIN!

We are about to start making succulent topped mini-pumpkins for Halloween and Thanksgiving as a mini-fundraiser for Winter Nights.

Last year we raised over \$2300 -
enough to support families in the Shelter for 3-4 days.

We are going to double our efforts this year and hope to make 200+ pumpkins this time. Our thanks, again, to Diablo Foods in Lafayette for their help supplying the pumpkins and Ann Lawrence and other succulent-obsessed gardeners for hundreds of succulent cuttings.

**Would you like one?
Are you a Community Group or Congregation
who would like to help Winter Nights by selling some?**

Email Teri in the Office at teri@cccwinternights.org
or Ann at ann@cccwinternights.org

Retail prices for these decorated pumpkins are \$30 or more.
We are asking for a donation of \$20-\$25 for each pumpkin.
100% of all donations will go to Winter Nights clients.





CONTRA COSTA SERVICES NETWORK

August 2024



CCNS is excited to announce that the following providers have joined the network: The Congress of Neutrals, Winter Nights Family Shelter, and La Concordia Wellness Center!

Contra Costa Services Network continues to actively seek community service providers to join the network and participate in bi-directional referrals helping support a closed-loop referral system for the community.

Winter Nights Family Shelter Inc.

Provides shelter for Contra Costa homeless families (men and women) WITH dependent children and two Safe Parking Program to individuals, couples and families living in their vehicles.

Services: Homeless Safe Parking Programs, Homeless Shelter

MORE
Help ▲ Families Home

This season it takes \$1622 per day to fund Winter Nights



My mom and I were frequently homeless when I was growing up because of financial insecurity and mental health struggles. It is truly a sacred thing to be able to show up for people at the most vulnerable and hardest times of their lives. I'm honored to support your work and thank you for all that you do! ~ Winter Nights donor to the 2023 Appeal

DONATE ONLINE

Thank You for Checking if your Employer has a Matching Fund.

Employee Donations have been received from employees of:

Abbott Laboratories, Chevron, Google, Levi Strauss, Lawrence Livermore Labs, Nike, Sherwin Williams, Target, Wells Fargo

**Whatever way you choose, for whatever amount,
YOU are helping us serve more families and individuals.**

Checks can be written to:

Winter Nights Family Shelter, Inc.

404 Gregory Lane #7

Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

For questions or assistance please call the office **925-414-3883**

Or email Winter Nights at the **CONTACT US** link below

CONTACT US





Celebrating our 20th year and those who made it possible
Winter Nights Shelters Families to Nurture Success

[Link to article in Alamo & Danville Today News](#)

➔ Forward

If you would like to share the Good News about Winter Nights with family, friends or colleagues, please forward it.

Past newsletters are available on our website

<https://cccwinternights.org/goodnews-archive/>



Our Contact Information

Winter Nights Family Shelter, Inc.

404 Gregory Lane #7

Pleasant Hill, CA 94523

925-414-3883

<http://www.cccwinternights.org>

[Unsubscribe](#) | [Manage email preferences](#)

Winter Nights Family Shelter, Inc
is a 501(c)(3) public benefit nonprofit.
Tax ID # 84-4775540

Donations are tax deductible to the extent allowed by law, and no goods or services are provided in exchange for a donation. Winter Nights respects and supports the privacy of all our clients.

Any photos of clients are used only with their express permission.