



Winter Nights Family Shelter in Contra Costa County provides homeless families with children (capacity = 30 people) a clean, safe, and warm shelter with bedding at night and a daytime services center.

Faith congregations provide space, meals, and volunteers on a two-week rotating basis. Professional staff supervise the shelter at all times.

For a list of participating congregations, please visit our website - [cccwinternights.org](http://cccwinternights.org)



**DONATE TODAY!**

**To Donate Money:**

Send a check or money order to:

The Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County  
1543 Sunnyvale Ave • Walnut Creek, CA 94597

Write "Winter Nights Shelter" in the memo line  
or go to: [cccwinternights.org/contribute](http://cccwinternights.org/contribute).

*The Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County is a nonprofit organization. Your donation is entirely tax deductible. Tax ID #: 94-1693225*

**Volunteer Time:**

The Winter Nights program is built on volunteer energy. If your congregation isn't already part of Winter Nights, have someone contact us at [info@cccwinternights.org](mailto:info@cccwinternights.org).

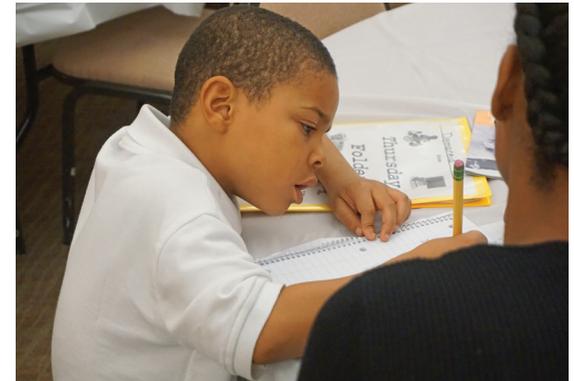
“The Emergency Food and Shelter Program invests in the Interfaith Council’s Winter Nights Program because it plays a critical role in caring for homeless families during the wettest and coldest months of the year. There are not enough family shelter beds in the county and our small investment leverages an incredible amount of donated staff, space and food from the participating faith based groups. The volunteers personally invest in ending the housing crisis for each family that they serve. It is heroic work!”

— Laura Escobar, Director, Safety Net Programs  
Emergency Food and Shelter National Board Program

**Contact Us:**

Winter Nights Family Shelter  
1543 Sunnyvale Ave. • Walnut Creek, CA 94597  
925-933-6030 • [info@cccwinternights.org](mailto:info@cccwinternights.org)  
[cccwinternights.org](http://cccwinternights.org)

**Winter Nights Family Shelter**



**CLEAN, SAFE & WARM SHELTER FOR FAMILIES  
HOSTED AT 18 FAITH CONGREGATIONS**



# MISSION

To protect homeless families from winter weather by providing shelter in a clean, safe, and warm environment and to help them break the homeless cycle by assisting them toward self-sufficiency and into stable housing.

## ABOUT:

The Winter Nights Family Shelter is a project of the Social Justice Alliance of the Interfaith Council of Contra Costa County.

The shelter opens in October, closes in early June and serves up to 30 persons at any given time. The shelter site moves every two weeks throughout the winter, between hosting faith communities from the 107 member congregations that belong to the Interfaith Council. Congregations throughout central and east Contra Costa provide space, meals, and volunteers.

## WINTER NIGHTS GOALS:



- Provide shelter and food to homeless families in Contra Costa County throughout the winter



- Help homeless families find sustainable housing



- Keep children in the school from which they went homeless



- Help homeless children achieve at grade level, and encourage reading habits



- Keep families together during the stressful period of homelessness

# SERVICES

## SHELTER:

- A warm, safe place to sleep for homeless families from October to June
- Indoor tents for family privacy with sleeping pads, sleeping bags, pillows and linens
- Daytime “Oasis” (service center at St. Vincent de Paul Society of Contra Costa County) for the parents to job search, access services, seek low-income housing, and shower.

## MEALS:

- Breakfast and dinner served by host volunteers
- Brown bag lunch fixings every day

## SERVICES:

- Transportation to school each day for the children
- Case management by Program Manager
- Bus and BART tickets for adults to get to work
- Tutoring and mentoring by volunteers from over 50 congregations
- Opportunities to expunge records in the Homeless Court
- Hope Conference, United Way SparkPoint and other programs provide assistance to the families as they await longer-term housing with Shelter, Inc. and other housing providers.

## ADMINISTRATION:

- Program monitoring and quality assurance
- Professional staff on duty whenever guests are at the shelter
- Data for the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS)

# CLIENTS



“This place gave me a place to heal, physically and mentally. The volunteers always have a smile. It cheered me up.”

“Overall it’s been a humbling, life-changing experience, and I have a whole new family, including the staff who have become our friends, too.”

“I am so happy to be here. I was so scared.”

“Get into a program like Winter Nights! It gives you a chance to breathe.”

“The rules have helped to stabilize my life and give us a schedule and stability. I feel much more confident that I can take care of my daughter now.”

“This (Winter Nights) is the hand that holds you up so you can take care of what you need to.”