PO Box 2744
Petaluma CA 94953

And homeless near a
thousand homes I stood,
And near a thousand tables
pined and wanted food.

- William Wordsworth

One Night, Infinite Possibilities.

Get ready for a night that lasts long after it ends, creating real impact our community. This is more than a fundraiser. It is an experience where generosity, joy, and purpose come together.

Hops for Homes

7 MAY
Thursday

6 - 9
pm pm

Brewsters
229 Water Street North
Downtown Petaluma

For tickets, registration, and information visit cots.org or scan the QR code.

SPRING NEWS 2026

Building Community Through Values, Action, and Partnership | Healing and Hope at COTS' Kids First Family Shelter The Power of a Place to Call Home | Save the Date | By the Numbers

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A Note From Chris

Dear COTS Supporters and Friends,

Many families in Sonoma County face housing instability. COTS' Kids First Family Shelter (KFFS) provides a safe, supportive haven for families with children as they work toward permanent housing.

More than just a roof overhead, KFFS offers stability, compassion, and comprehensive services. Dedicated Care Managers provide wraparound support including case management, employment assistance, housing advocacy, and counseling. Our licensed clinician offers emotional and behavioral support to both parents and children, helping families heal while building a path forward.

Housing insecurity can deeply impact children, disrupting education, emotional well-being, and their sense of safety. At KFFS, we believe every child deserves a stable home environment where they can thrive. Through compassionate care and individualized support, families gain the tools they need to regain independence and self-sufficiency.

The need for family shelter continues to outpace available resources. Limited funding constrains staffing capacity, resulting in fewer families served and long wait times for those seeking help.

In 2026, COTS aims to increase staffing and expand capacity at KFFS to serve eight additional families by year's end. With your support, we can strengthen this vital program and ensure more children and parents find safety, stability, and hope.

Together, we can create a community where every family has a place to call home.

Warm regards,

Chris Cabral

Building Community Through Values, Action, and Partnership

For many years, W. Bradley Electric, LLC (WBE) has been a trusted partner of COTS, grounded in the belief that businesses play an active role in strengthening the communities they serve.

Philanthropy has long been part of WBE's culture. What began as informal, neighbor-to-neighbor support has evolved into a structured Giving Committee made up of employees across the company who help guide charitable investments. Their "people first" mindset shapes both workplace culture and community partnerships, with employees weighing in annually on the causes that matter most to them. This shared approach ensures that giving is thoughtful, collaborative, and rooted in authentic connection.

COTS has remained a legacy partner throughout that evolution. What started years ago with helping source turkeys for a holiday meal grew into a lasting relationship built on trust, shared values, and measurable impact. This fall, several WBE employees volunteered in the COTS kitchen for the first time, gaining a deeper, hands-on understanding of the work happening each day.

Photo provided by WBE

> ***"Being there in person, alongside staff and volunteers, really connects you to the work," one committee member shared. "It's great to donate financially, but being hands-on makes the impact feel real."***

In addition to financial support, WBE encourages volunteerism, donation matching, and internal promotion of nonprofit partners. Their ongoing commitment reflects how local businesses can lead with intention, strengthen community ties, and help create lasting stability and opportunity for families in need.

Healing and Hope at COTS' Kids First Family Shelter

At COTS' Kids First Family Shelter, families are finding more than a safe place to sleep. They are finding care, connection, and tools for healing through the addition of an onsite therapist, Tia Phillips, LMFT, COTS' Child & Family Clinician. This role reflects a growing understanding that housing stability alone is not enough. Families experiencing homelessness often face trauma, uncertainty, and intense stress, and having mental health support embedded directly in the shelter is already changing lives.

Families at the Kids First Family Shelter are already experiencing the powerful impact of an onsite therapist, as the new therapy and wellness space has become a source of comfort, safety, and hope for children and parents alike.

Parents share how meaningful it is to have a place to talk, process trauma, and feel supported during difficult moments, while children describe the space as cozy, welcoming, and even "like a house."

Tia's presence helps families feel calmer, more hopeful, and less alone, with many parents expressing deep trust and gratitude for the consistent care they receive. Together, this onsite therapy resource is fostering healing, strengthening resilience, and helping families feel truly at home as they work toward stability and housing.

Tia works closely with parents and children, offering therapy, coaching, and wellness support in real time. Being onsite five days a week allows her to respond to challenges as they arise, build trust organically, and provide a consistent, calming presence for families in transition. Parents have space to exhale, ask questions, and receive guidance without fear of judgment, while children benefit from a welcoming, cozy environment designed to help them feel safe, seen, and regulated.

This work extends beyond traditional therapy. Tia collaborates with shelter staff to ensure safety, identify emerging needs, and prevent families from slipping through the cracks. Group gatherings, wellness activities, and informal check-ins provide opportunities for peer support, education, and reflection.

Tia Phillips, LMFT, COTS' Child & Family Clinician

Most importantly, this support helps families envision a future beyond survival. By nurturing emotional well-being alongside housing services, Tia and COTS help parents feel more confident and children feel more hopeful. The presence of an onsite therapist reinforces that families deserve not only shelter, but dignity, care, and the resources needed to thrive now and in the years ahead.

The Power of a Place to Call Home

"I am grateful for the ways I feel supported by Wendy [COTS' Care Manager] and the shelter. I feel like I have a place to be in an extremely difficult time and KFFS is a safe place for me and my daughters. . . We are grateful to be here!"

"Wendy has been aweseome with helping sort out my life such as working to fix my credit report and introducing me to different housing options (permanent). I feel really good about myself, like I can accomplish the things I want to get to the next stage.

"One of the things that has been most helpful about staying at KFFS, is the ongoing supply of fresh produce and food. It's wonderful to know that I don't need to go to the grocery store as often. Also, the community type vibe is very helpful. It's nice to know others are here with me, so I don't feel so alone as I work on getting permanent housing. Having my own room for my son and I is very helpful so I can feel some sort of normalcy during this time."

Photos provided by COTS' clients

Save the Date!

Tickets Coming Soon!

Hops for Homes

May 7, 2026
6 pm - 9 pm
Brewsters

229 Water Street North
Downtown Petaluma

Can't make it to the event, but want to support COTS?

Set an example of philanthropy for our community and guests by sponsoring Hops for Homes!

To sponsor, email: ekrueger@cots.org.

HOPS FOR HOMES 2026

For the fourth year running, Hops for Homes returns to Brewsters Beer Garden in Petaluma, promising to be bigger, brighter, and more unforgettable than ever. This celebration brings the community together to raise vital support for COTS and our mission to help families and individuals secure safe, stable housing. Every ticket, donation, and moment shared at this event makes a real difference in the lives of those we serve.

The evening is packed with experiences you will not want to miss. Hear moving stories from a COTS client, enjoy the infectious energy of The Incubators live, and explore a curated auction featuring unique items. Indulge in delicious food and drinks, meet fellow supporters, and discover fun surprises throughout the night.

Whether you are reconnecting with old friends or making new ones, Hops for Homes is more than an event. It is a celebration of community, hope, and the power of coming together for a cause that matters.

Secure your tickets now on our website or by scanning the QR code below and be part of a night where every sip, cheer, and smile helps families find their way home.

By the Numbers

Kids First Family Shelter Statistics

for the 2024 - 2025 Fiscal Year

24 families
were sheltered at KFFS

96% of families
did not return to the streets

33 children
had their lives transformed

Overall Statistics

for the 2024 - 2025 Fiscal Year

208,391 meals
served to our community

85% of RC* clients
did not return to the streets

417 people
were successssfully housed

**Recuperative Care*

ways to give

- ONLINE, CASH, OR CHECK
- APPRECIATED SECURITIES & STOCKS
- LEAVE A LEGACY
- MATCHING GIFTS
- MONTHLY GIVING

To learn more about giving to COTS, visit cots.org/ways-to-give, or contact Erin Krueger, Director of Development, at development@cots.org or 707.789.6396.