

[Back to Website](#)



Winter Nights

A St. Ignatius of Antioch outreach effort for over two decades.

Rotating Emergency Family Shelter

Winter Nights Family Shelter, Inc. strengthens families by keeping them together at a difficult time. The generosity of local congregations and community groups coupled with case management services, provide a place to begin to recover from the stress of homelessness and plan for a better future.

The shelter rotates among East and Central Contra Costa County faith communities and is generally opened from October to June each year.

For over 20 years, our parish has supported the emergency family shelter by partnering with other churches to provide meals, supplies and volunteers.



Winter Nights Provides:

Family Shelter: A secure, supportive environment for parents and children. Hosted by local faith communities.

Meals: Breakfast, lunch, and dinner.

Transportation: To take children to school and parents to work.

Tutoring: Provided to children during their time at the shelter.

Activities for Children: These include birthday parties, arts & crafts, and trips to museums & parks.

Employment Support: Help is provided to update resumes and support job searches.

Case Management: Guidance and support so families can address the challenges to obtaining and sustaining housing.

Parking Lot Program: A safe place for families, individuals & couples living in their cars.

A Day Center: Available to Shelter and Parking Lot Program clients. Showers, restrooms, and case management services are available. A Continued Success Program A follow up team ensures that families have access to resources to stay housed.



As with many other aspects of life, the COVID-19 pandemic changed the way Winter Nights operated. Volunteers and home cooked meals were no longer a part of the effort. The number of participating faith communities was severely restricted.

However, for the 2021-2022 season, the county is permitting the shelter to resume normal operations. Volunteers and meals prepared in health department certified kitchens will be back.

Watch the parish bulletin for volunteer opportunities as we are planning partner with a faith community in central county in late Fall or early next year.