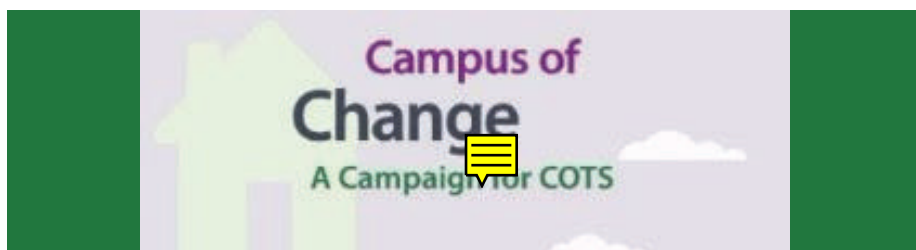




# Campus of Change

## Fall 2016

*Ending homelessness in the Fox Valley*



Our Campus of Change Campaign is in full swing! Thank you for your help in transforming our buildings into “home” for our 130+ residents served every year. Residents are hard at work in building dignity and gaining pride as they participate in being part of their own solution through building renovation. These improvements allow us to focus time and energy on the physical, mental and emotional health of the people who live at COTS.

With the busy hands of our residents, the following took place: On September 9, 2016, the COTS Veterans’ and Young Adult’s building was filled with the sounds of hammering, the swish of paint brushes, and the hum of drills as volunteers from The Home Depot worked feverishly to overhaul the building.



*Pictured: Before and after shots of a room updated by The Home Depot*

40 volunteers from around the region came to COTS as part of The Home Depot’s annual Celebration of Service, which included donating \$21,000 of product from The Home Depot to complete the projects in the building.

In August, Volunteers from Water-Right worked feverishly in our duplex for Single Mothers with Young Children. They painted our upper duplex to welcome our next family joining COTS.

In September, volunteers from Xerox Corporation helped paint our Women’s facility. Both groups supported our Campus of Change Campaign financially as well.

### Campus of Change Needs

- NEW Twin Sheet Sets
- NEW Pillows
- NEW Bathroom Towel Sets (bath towel, hand towel & washcloth)
- NEW twin comforters (solid colors)
- Meal for approximately 20 individuals (for details call 920-734-3609 ext. 404)
- Room sponsors (see page 2 for more details)

Complete wish list can be found at [appletoncots.org](http://appletoncots.org).

*All donations can be dropped off at our main office: 819 S. West Avenue, Appleton, WI, 54915. Drop Off Hours: Monday-Friday, 8:30am - 4:30pm.*

*Call 920-734-3609 (ext. 404) to make other arrangements.*



## Directory

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Patti Jorgensen, Vice President  
Dan Lightfuss, Treasurer  
Greg Gill, Jr., Secretary  
Patty DeGoey  
Emily Hartfield  
Andy Schmidt  
Chris Serra  
Joe Wilz

### Executive Director

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### Committee Members

Patty DeGoey  
Emily Hartfield  
Patti Jorgensen  
Ryan Peterson  
Andy Schmidt  
Chris Serra  
Jessica Vander Zanden  
Joe Wilz

## Contact Information

(920) 734-3609  
P. O. Box 1645  
Appleton, WI 54912  
[www.appletoncots.org](http://www.appletoncots.org)



[facebook.com/COTSInc](https://facebook.com/COTSInc)

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As a privately funded organization, we rely on our generous community to support our work. Thank you to all the individuals, corporations, and foundations who support our campaign, including:

- U.S. Venture/Schmidt Family Foundation
- J. J. Keller Foundation
- The Home Depot Foundation
- Bassett Mechanical

and the following funds within the Community Foundation for the Fox Valley Region:

- Fox Cities Stadium Charitable Fund
- Capital Credit Union Charitable Giving Fund
- Water-Right Charitable Fund

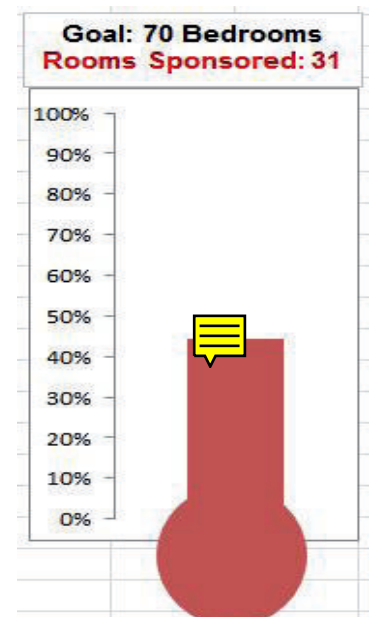
To support our Campus of Change Campaign, visit our website.

## Transform a LIFE and a Bedroom!

Our initiative called “Designers of Hope” transforms the living quarters of one of our residents (as pictured below). We provide a clean and safe environment to inspire their journey.

Sponsorships are \$1,000. **For less than \$3 a day you can help one of our residents move out of homelessness** to become a participating and contributing member of our community!

Contact Lindsey at [ldalton@appletoncots.org](mailto:ldalton@appletoncots.org) or 920-734-3609 ext. 404.



A room at our women's facility following the “Designers of Hope” transformation.

# Resident Furthers Her Life While Giving Back

"I heard there was a lot of help here," states Eleanor of her decision to apply to COTS. Eleanor knew about COTS as a resident of Appleton, but didn't apply until it was time for her release from prison. She grew up in a small family, and her siblings are out of state, so she didn't have a social support network to fall back on. Instead, she turned to COTS.

**"It's great that [COTS] exists. I don't know if I would be as successful as I am today without this help."**

Eleanor moved into COTS in March 2016 and hit the ground running. She quickly found a job and learned about ways to further her education. While she has two Associates degrees, she lacks the computer skills to be competitive.

Eleanor states that Kelly Kohl, Education Advocate at Fox Valley Technical College, "is the whole reason I'm in school." Kelly comes to the COTS Men's and Women's campuses each



week to help connect our residents with educational resources at FVTC. Eleanor is the first member of her family to go to college, and now she encourages her nieces and nephews to do the same. And when they ask her how to balance work and school, she simply shows them her schedule so they know they can do it, too.

In addition to work and school, Eleanor enjoys giving back by volunteering at Riverview Gardens. Her goal is to finish school and move into a full-time career as an administrative assistant. "I'm saving as much money as I can," she grins.

"I'm doing everything I can to be self-sufficient. I appreciate the helping hand and I'm doing everything I can do move on. I'm looking forward to getting my own place and giving this bed to someone else who needs it!"

## Resident Committee

### Being a Part of Their Own Solution

This May, COTS implemented Resident Committee, a monthly meeting aimed at coming up with solutions to challenges facing the COTS community. The committee is made up of two residents from each COTS building—Women's, Men's, and Young Adult's/Veteran's.

The committee has come up with ideas for many challenges COTS' residents face as a community, ranging from reducing energy use to planning the menu for monthly community dinners. The committee also regularly discusses the living skills that they would find the most useful.

Resident Committee is a great way to put resident ideas into action. "It's been productive," states one of the Resident Committee members. "Goals have been accomplished." One of their goals was reducing their energy use on our two campuses. In October, COTS' residents celebrated achieving their energy reduction goal with a cookout.

**"I'm going to try to be impactful each day that I live to the people around me."**  
- committee member







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## Onsite Clinic Provides Access to Coverage and Care

*Thanks to our collaboration with Partnership Community Health Center, a number of individuals at COTS, as well as other area organizations, including Ryan Community and Fox Valley Warming Shelter, have benefitted from the services provided at our new onsite clinic.*

**“Excellent care. I am treated as a person and not a chart.” - clinic patient**



*These numbers were gathered between May 5, 2016 (when the clinic first opened) and October 20, 2016.*

## Give Hope This Holiday Season

- \$5 Walmart Gift Cards
- NEW Winter Gloves/Hats/Scarves
- NEW Men's and Women's Socks
- NEW Men's & Women's Long Underwear
- Large Christmas Gift Bags
- Travel Mugs for Coffee
- Journals
- Playing Cards
- Baseball Caps
- Puzzle Books
- Candy



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