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Contact: tom martin

DMe PR

248-473-2012

tom@dianemartinenterprises.com

www.dianemartinenterprises.com

**Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick Endorses Omnibus Aid To Homeless
A Strong COTS Supporter**

Detroit, MI – March 6, 2009 – Detroit's Coalition On Temporary Shelter (COTS) is cheering Congresswoman Carolyn Cheeks Kilpatrick's support of critical funding issues related to the fight against homelessness. Kilpatrick has championed provisions of the FY2009 Omnibus Appropriations Act critical to the mission of COTS.

"The Appropriations Act completely aligns with the mission of COTS as well as the Detroit Ten Year Plan to End Homelessness," notes Cheryl P. Johnson, COTS CEO. "Even though we've worked year-round to secure these critical increases, communicating with Congress regarding their importance, the work's not finished," Johnson continued. "While some Senators will offer amendments to cut spending, COTS wants to make sure that assistance for our homeless remains and that the bill passes quickly."

Kilpatrick helped to secure the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Grants and Community Development Block Grants (CDBG), which allow COTS to continue to champion homeless families, homeless people with disabilities, expand prevention activities, and focus on permanent housing solutions.

Both the Housing Choice Voucher Program and the HOME Investment Partnership, allow COTS to provide more eligible low-income Michigan families with a method of obtaining affordable, housing. Increases to the Projects for Assistance in Transition from Homelessness (PATH) will allow COTS to fund the delivery of services to individuals with serious mental illnesses, as well as individuals with co-occurring substance abuse disorders, who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

The mission of COTS is to alleviate homelessness by providing shelter, meals and an array of services, which enable people to achieve economic self-sufficiency and decent affordable housing. COTS advocates for long-term solutions to the problem of homelessness and provides regional and statewide leadership in addressing the issue of homelessness by identifying the necessary policy changes for effective and sustainable solutions.

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