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COALITION ON TEMPORARY SHELTER (COTS) RECEIVES SKILLMAN GRANT TO SUPPORT HOMELESS SHELTER

Detroit, MI- May 27, 2008- The Coalition on Temporary Shelter (COTS) has received a one hundred and eighty thousand dollar (\$180,000) grant from the Skillman Foundation to support the general operations of their multi-site emergency homeless shelter that serves Detroit's families and children.

The Skillman grant will also provide funding for, Bright Beginnings, COTS newest program addition providing developmentally appropriate child care services to 15 homeless infants and toddlers. This program also benefits the parents of infants and toddlers residing in the Emergency Shelter Program by ensuring that their children are safe and cared for while they engage in rehabilitation type activities, and by providing parenting skill development classes, parent coaching, and support.

"We greatly value the support of the Skillman Foundation," remarks Lynn Wilhelm, COTS Chief Development Officer. Without their continuing support, COTS would find it very difficult to provide the level of care that we give to Detroit's homeless," she continued.

COTS provides housing for those in crisis who need a respite and place to reorganize their life situation. There are a total of 140 beds at the emergency shelter for men, women and children. COTS also strives to provide homeless people with quality affordable housing. Besides the emergency shelter, COTS' facilities include Buersmeyer Manor, Peggy's Place, and an apartment complex on W. Grand Boulevard in Detroit. These facilities, plus over 130 single family homes in the city of Detroit, are available to our clients where we provide the necessary tools and skills needed to attain stability in their lives.

Founded in 1982, the Coalition On Temporary Shelter (COTS) is a private, nonprofit organization. COTS exists to alleviate homelessness by providing an array of services that enable people to achieve self-sufficiency and obtain quality affordable housing. COTS also exists to advocate for long-term solutions to the problems of homelessness.

Created in 1960, The Skillman Foundation is a private philanthropy whose chief aim is to help develop good schools and good neighborhoods for children. Though grants are made throughout Southeast Michigan, most grants are directed at six Detroit neighborhoods – Southwest Detroit (Vernor and Chadsey/Condon), Brightmoor, Osborn, Central and Cody/Rouge – and toward innovative and successful schools throughout the city of Detroit.

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