



Solutions Exist: Ending Homelessness for Women in Los Angeles

Downtown Women's Center



DOWNTOWN **WOMEN'S** CENTER
Every woman housed

Mission:

DWC is the only organization in Los Angeles focused exclusively on serving and empowering women experiencing homelessness and formerly homeless women.

Our mission is to end homelessness for women in greater Los Angeles through housing, wellness, employment, and advocacy. We envision a Los Angeles with every woman housed and on a path to personal stability.

Our values:

Safety



Respect



Stewardship



Social Justice



Community





DWC'S HISTORY IS

WOMEN'S HISTORY

DWC addresses the immediate and long-term needs of women overcoming poverty and homelessness through gender-based and trauma-informed services.

FOUNDED IN 1978, DWC WAS THE FIRST TO:

- Permanent supportive housing provider for women in the U.S.
- Critical Time Intervention provider in the Western U.S.
- Health clinic exclusively serving women in the Skid Row community
- Drop-in Day Center exclusively serving homeless women in the city of Los Angeles



1 IN 3

PEOPLE EXPERIENCING HOMELESSNESS IN THE UNITED STATES ARE WOMEN

- Greater experience of gender-based violence
- Women of color are disproportionately affected by homelessness
- LGBTQ women are more likely to have experienced sexual assault or sexual violence
- More likely to be older than the general population of women in Los Angeles
 - Pay gap, unpaid work, lack of wealth opportunities
- Accessing necessary medical services remains a challenge
- Housing continues to be the most critically needed resource yet also the most difficult to access

WOMEN'S HOMELESSNESS IN FIGURES:

222,970 Nation-wide
21,145 LA County
13,817 LA City



DOWNTOWN **WOMEN'S** CENTER

2019

LOS ANGELES CITY WOMEN'S NEEDS ASSESSMENT



EVERY WOMAN HOUSED

HOUSING

Permanent Supportive
Housing

Community-Based
Housing

Interim Housing

HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Day Center

Meals

Health Clinic

Community Health
Workers

EMPLOYMENT

Workforce
Development

MADE by DWC

ADVOCACY

DWC Advocates

Women's Needs
Assessments

Domestic Violence
Homeless Services
Coalition

98%

HOUSING RETENTION RATE

120K

MEALS SERVED

5,700

WOMEN SERVED



BUILDING A MOVEMENT FOR WOMEN



●
2013
ONE IN FOUR

●
2017
DOMESTIC VIOLENCE
HOMELESS SERVICES
COALITION

●
2020
LA COUNTY &
CITY MOTIONS

●
2021
EVERY WOMAN
HOUSED
INITIATIVE

●
2022
CA STATE
HELP ACT



HOW LA CITY CAN SUPPORT

- Distribute results of the upcoming Women's Needs Assessment to be released in July 2022
- Support for Permanent Housing Solutions
- Support for outreach and Access Centers for women
- Join the efforts of the Domestic Violence Homeless Services Coalition



DWC is expanding **250** additional housing units across Los Angeles by 2026!





DWC CAMPUS EXPANSION



GET INVOLVED

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Sign up for weekly individual volunteering or join us at a cooking club.

IN-KIND DONATIONS

Donate new or gently used clothing and household items or order items from our online wish-list.

HELP FROM HOME KITS

Help us build snack packs, toiletry kits, and clean home kits for our participants.

SHOP MADE BY DWC

Visit madebydwc.org to purchase items from our resale boutique, café, or home & gift department.

JOIN LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

Join committed DWC supporters in holding fundraisers, coordinating volunteer activities, and hosting advocacy events.

ENGAGE YOUR COMPANY

Consider DWC for your employee matching program or sponsor our annual gala.

SUPPORT AFFORDABLE HOUSING IN YOUR COMMUNITY

Advocate for affordable housing to friends, family, and your local elected officials.



THANK YOU!



Follow us! [@dwcweb](#)

ADVOCACY TOOLKIT

<http://bit.ly/DWCadvocacy>

DWC WOMEN'S NEEDS ASSESSMENT

<http://bit.ly/2019needsassessmentsummary>

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