

HOUSING

Housing and overnight shelter are the hardest resources to access for women experiencing homelessness

- ▶ **Los Angeles' housing crisis is driving more women into homelessness than ever before.** Over a quarter (25.9%) of survey respondents become newly homeless within the last year.
- ▶ **The largest barrier to housing is the lack of affordable housing itself,** which 66% of respondents named as a problem. Another 41% of respondents identified a lack of case management as a major barrier.
- ▶ **Women also face barriers to accessing safe overnight shelter.** One-third of women reported having difficulty accessing restrooms at night, while 27% noted that shelter staff did not treat them with respect, 26% that the shelters were uncomfortable, and 23% that they felt unsafe in shelters.
- ▶ **The vast majority (80%) of women surveyed have lived on the streets at some point,** while 75% have lived on the streets within the last year.

Homelessness is not inevitable.

It is a societal problem that bears especially hard on women. We need committed community members like you to help us develop policies that will transform systems and change lives.



ADVOCACY ACTIONS

Visit the
**Downtown
Women's Center**
online to read
the full report.

- 01 DEVELOP** new permanent supportive housing units, with designated units for women with disabilities and women experiencing trauma and/or chronic homelessness.
- 02 SUPPORT** rapid rehousing and flexible funding for women exiting situations of intimate partner violence, and offer rental assistance for 6+ months.
- 03 PROVIDE** support to women who are separated from their children, reunifying with their children, and women who have lost their children.
- 04 ESTABLISH** local policy to ensure proportional allocation of resources, including interim and permanent housing resources.
- 05 INCREASE** local education and multilingual resources on tenants' rights and rent control measures, and provide publicly funded eviction prevention legal services in low-income communities.

The Downtown Women's Center is the only organization in Los Angeles focused exclusively on serving and empowering women experiencing homelessness and formerly homeless women.

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

www.DowntownWomensCenter.org

#EveryWomanHoused

