

home sweet home

Community-Based Housing Program

Our Community-Based Housing Program connects single unaccompanied women and women with children to permanent housing and supportive services throughout Los Angeles County. Case managers provide each woman with the individualized support she needs to regain personal stability.

WE OFFER:

- Rapid re-housing assistance to any woman in need of housing and particularly women escaping domestic violence, to connect them with safe, permanent housing as quickly as possible.
- Support for female-identifying veterans through housing vouchers, move-in assistance, trauma recovery resources, and help navigating the complex process of applying for veteran benefits.
- Case management for women living with severe mental or physical health conditions to develop long-term healthcare strategies.

The program operates through partnerships with the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, the Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, the Governor's Office of Emergency Services, and various private foundations.

OUR 2020 IMPACT amidst COVID-19

79 women housed

124 children housed

99% housing retention rate

4,307 sessions conducted

SUCCESS STORY

“I became homeless when I couldn’t afford my rent.

For me the experience of being homeless was scary, lonely, and confusing. I was harassed by men on the streets. I stayed awake at night because I was afraid of being assaulted or robbed, and I slept on the Metro trains during the day. I kept roaming the streets to see if I could find help or assistance.

My life changed when I was bussed to the Downtown Women’s Center from a women’s shelter. At DWC, there was food and clothing services, and showers. There was internet access so I could look up resources. I felt safe at DWC, I was with other women who were in the same situation.

In 2017, I moved into my own apartment in Highland Park. It felt like it was a dream. When I got the keys in my hand, it almost didn’t feel real. I have my own bed, bathroom, and kitchen—I can now buy and store healthy food. I have access to all my belongings, and I get assistance with my health appointments. I got re-certified as a pharmacy lab technician. I want to help people reach their health and fitness goals, including low-income people in my community and senior citizens. I feel that now I have a second chance to finish what I started.”

— ERICKA, A COMMUNITY-BASED HOUSING RESIDENT

PROGRAM SPOTLIGHT

In early 2020, our CBH team began developing a new Housing Navigation database to enhance coordination between DWC case managers, DWC participants, and local landlords. Featuring more than 70 landlords and property management companies across Los Angeles, the database allows us to better track housing units as they become available and work with property managers to fill them, while also collecting iterative feedback to ensure compatible matches between landlords and CBH participants. The new database has empowered our Housing Navigation team to be even more flexible and attentive to individual participants’ needs, especially those who are fleeing domestic violence, have experienced extreme trauma, or live with long-term physical or mental health conditions.



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