Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide permanent supportive housing and a safe and healthy community, fostering dignity, respect, and personal stability, and to advocate ending homelessness for women.
Dear Friends:

Every day as I arrive at the Downtown Women’s Center and walk through the Day Center doors, I am inspired by our community’s passion and tenacity. Seeing women overcoming barriers and engaging with our staff and volunteers, I feel fortunate to be part of an organization that is working each and every day to end homelessness for women.

Thanks to you, last year was full of exciting steps forward. From expansion of our programs to our advocacy successes at City Hall, your support, passion, and generosity made our work possible.

In 2016, we connected with more than 3,000 women across our programs — including our Day Center, permanent housing, Women’s Health Center, and education and employment programs. We took a pivotal step in our advocacy work through the launch of a new Advocates Program, which puts the experiences of our residents and participants front and center. Working with women in our community, our advocacy efforts are creating real change as local and state officials recognize and address women’s unique service needs.

Moving forward, DWC’s board of directors and staff remain deeply committed to ending homelessness and ensuring women’s voices are heard each step of the way. We greatly appreciate your support, and we are excited to stand with you for the empowerment of women in the year ahead.

Anne Miskey
CEO, Downtown Women’s Center
Programs

DAY CENTER
Open seven days per week and serving approximately 200 women a day, DWC’s Day Center provides a safe space for women in the community. Women who come through our doors have access to three nutritious, home-cooked meals; clean bathrooms and showers; changes of clothes; and a safe place to rest. In our Day Center, women can participate in one-on-one case management services to help link them to housing, health care, legal aid, transportation, education, and job training services, as well as work placements and other resources.

HEALTH & WELLNESS
Women experiencing homelessness often face healthcare needs that are largely unmet by existing healthcare systems. Through DWC’s Women’s Health Center – the only woman-specific clinic in Skid Row – we provide primary care, STD and HIV testing, TB and cancer screenings, vaccinations, mammograms, and more. Through our Trauma Recovery Center, we offer psychiatric services as well as individual and group therapy. DWC also offers ongoing weekly education activities that empower women to change their lives in ways that help prevent chronic health problems.
“I found a place that treated me with compassion and provided the services I needed to get my life back. I received medical treatment for my mental illness and addiction. I went to therapy to work through the trauma I’d experienced. Today, I live in permanent housing, and I still make regular appointments with my therapist and case manager. Supportive services are what keep someone housed.”

– DENISE SMITH
PERMANENT SUPPORTIVE HOUSING
Using the Housing First model, DWC provides 119 units of permanent supportive housing through two residences in the Skid Row area. Each woman has access to the individualized support she needs to thrive in housing and end her struggle with homelessness. In addition, our residents have opportunities to lead peer support groups and engage in regular social activities, fostering a strong sense of community.

COMMUNITY-BASED HOUSING
Through partnerships with the Los Angeles County Department of Health Services, Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority, California Governor’s Office of Emergency Services, and private foundations, DWC also provides housing and supportive services in local communities. These services are available for female veterans and their families, women with severe physical and mental health concerns, and survivors of domestic violence. Our case managers work individually with women to connect them with housing and resources throughout Los Angeles County.
“I have my own key and my own door. For the first time in years, I have privacy, and I feel safe. Now that I have that, I want to make sure other people have it, too.”

– FRANCINE ANDRADE
EDUCATION & JOB READINESS

Through our job-readiness program, women learn skills that not only lead to income, but also to an increase in self-worth and overall well-being. We offer courses in résumé building, financial literacy, computer use, and more. We also provide a 12-week job-training program called SET to Work, and we place women in jobs through partnerships throughout Los Angeles County.

Through support from the LA:RISE program, a partnership with the Department of Labor, we also provide paid transitional employment through MADE by DWC, our social enterprise venture. MADE has two locations in Skid Row: MADE by DWC Cafe & Gift Boutique, and our MADE by DWC Resale Boutique. In 2016, women employed in our social enterprise made and sold products including candles, soaps, ornaments, gift cards, and jewelry. Items from our product line were also sold through business partners including Raven & Lily, Bloomingdale’s, Whole Foods Downtown, and others.
“I appreciate everything about DWC: being here with people I care about, knowing that there are lots of resources here, the hard work that goes into making the Center run every day. I’m glad that a place like this exists for LGBT people to come to.”

– ABIGAIL MALECKI
“By advocating and being educated, I get to implement everything I learned. I get to stand in front of people and be very confident and passionate about my beliefs, and share my story. For the most part, by sharing my story with other people and advocating, I have been able to heal from my own trauma, my own pain.”

– AMIYOKO SHABAZZ

Advocates Program

We believe the most effective way to advocate for change is to ensure the voices and lived experiences of DWC residents and participants are at the forefront of our work. With this in mind, we launched our first Advocates Program in 2016. The training series helps women who have experienced homelessness to become successful advocates. Examples of trainings include: Sharing your Story, Engaging in Lobby Visits, How Government Works, and more. Every woman who enrolled in the program has the opportunity to participate in community events, including 2016 Lobby Day in Sacramento and Los Angeles Mayor Eric Garcetti’s 2016-2017 budget-signing ceremony. They were featured in 15 news stories, delivered six public comments at Los Angeles City and County government meetings, and attended 11 meetings with elected officials and their staff. All five became stronger advocates for themselves, DWC, and other women, fighting for social justice and helping to ensure women are never excluded from efforts to end homelessness.
In 2016, DWC continued to expand the programs and services that help women to regain stability and break the cycle of homelessness. The numbers demonstrate our impact over the last year and will serve as a benchmark to surpass in 2017!

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Category</th>
<th>Number</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Women's Health Center visits</td>
<td>1,078</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Meals served</td>
<td>103,854</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Job placements</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>One-on-one case management sessions</td>
<td>10,827</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing retention rate in Community-Based Housing</td>
<td>98%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women obtained permanent housing, a 146% increase from 2015</td>
<td>207</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Housing retention rate at our Los Angeles and San Pedro Street locations</td>
<td>94%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women participated in health education activities</td>
<td>877</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women received mental health services</td>
<td>262</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Women accessed vocational education and job readiness services</td>
<td>979</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Veterans housed</td>
<td>44</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
2016 Needs Assessment

Every three years since 2001, the Downtown Women’s Action Coalition (DWAC), a coalition of community members working to improve conditions for homeless and low-income women in downtown Los Angeles, has conducted the Downtown Women’s Needs Assessment. The needs assessment is a community-based research project assessing the needs, characteristics, and conditions facing homeless and extremely low-income women living in downtown Los Angeles. Our 2016 needs assessment report features data from 371 surveys as well as longitudinal analysis of past surveys, and is divided into five main sections: Demographics, Housing, Healthcare, Violence Against Women, and Community Resources.

The report culminates with DWAC’s Action Agenda for effectively addressing the needs of women experiencing homelessness. Some of the primary recommendations are ensuring that permanent supportive housing developments are appropriate to the needs of women, and requiring that government-funded service providers participate in trauma-informed care training. In 2017, we will work with our community to implement recommendations outlined in the report, as we continue our efforts to end women’s homelessness for good.

To read the full report, visit DowntownWomensCenter.com/NeedsAssessment.
How You Can Help

ADVOCATE
From the beginning, 2016 was a significant year for homelessness policy in Los Angeles. Both the City and County of Los Angeles each released comprehensive plans to address homelessness, and we were thrilled to see the unique service needs of women called out in the City’s plan. In 2017, we will be building on last year’s important groundwork by advocating for more services, housing, and research on women. As our local, state, and federal governments continue steps to end homelessness, it remains important that the voices of women be heard and — together with supporters like you — we are ensuring that happens. Look for updates on our website and social media pages!

CELEBRATE
In 2016, our 19th annual Dinner With a Cause honored political activist Marylouise Oates and City National Bank. Thanks to phenomenal support from our sponsors, donors, host committee members, volunteers, and guests, we raised more than $1.3 million to support our programs and services — a new Dinner With a Cause record! In particular, we would like to recognize Event Chairs, Shellie Herman and Elise Klein. Mark your calendars for this year’s event on October 13, 2017!

For information about how you can support this year’s gala, please contact KatrinaV@DowntownWomensCenter.org or visit DowntownWomensCenter.org/Dinner.

DONATE
Our network of generous supporters makes the work we do each day possible. Your financial contributions ensure we can continue to provide a safe, supportive environment for women in Los Angeles. Donating regularly will provide critical assistance to women on their journey to stability.

Donate online at DowntownWomensCenter.org/Donate.

LEAD
We believe it takes leadership from all parts of the community to end homelessness. With this in mind, we launched the DWC Leadership Council in 2016 to provide opportunities for emerging leaders and professionals who want to make a difference in their community. The program’s numerous benefits include participating in trainings for further professional development, networking with other local leaders, and becoming an expert on an important social issue.

Become a member at DowntownWomensCenter.org/LeadershipCouncil.

VOLUNTEER
More than 5,100 volunteers dedicated their time, passion, and skills to working with us last year. Volunteers take on numerous important roles at DWC, and our staff and the women we serve love the opportunity to develop bonds with caring members of our community.

To get started, visit DowntownWomensCenter.org/Volunteer.

Follow us on Facebook, Twitter, & Instagram: @DWCWeb
**Financials**

We rely on your support to fulfill our mission, so we handle all resources provided to us with the utmost care and respect.

In recognition of this commitment, GuideStar has awarded us platinum status, and to further demonstrate our sound management and fiscal responsibility, we are happy to share our financial information.

**EXPENSES**

$9,146,748

- 80% Program
- 10% Management & General
- 10% Fundraising

**REVENUE**

$8,950,167

- 25% Government Grants
- 23% Foundations & Corporate Grants
- 13% Contributions
- 12% Special Event Income
- 11% In-Kind Support
- 9% Rental Income
- 4% Social Enterprise Income
- 1% Other
- 2% Investment Income

**NET ASSETS**

$17,489,376

- $7,681,133 Temporarily Restricted Net Assets
- $9,808,243 Unrestricted Net Assets

Operating Expenses include $838,117 in non-cash depreciation for DWC’s three buildings.

Complete 2016 Audited Financial Statements and tax documents will be available at DowntownWomensCenter.org as of June 2017.
Thank you to our generous community of supporters. You make our work possible.

2016 INDIVIDUAL & FAMILY SUPPORTERS

$100,000 +
Bettina and Otis Chandler
Rosemary L. Ruiz
Robert M. Strum

$50,000 +
Shelli Herman & Stewart Gleishman
James A. Johnson
Thomas A. Vicki Rollins
Hope Wanchese

$25,000 +
Claudia Bright
Gordon and Sarah Brown
Rachel Capoccia
Beth Rudin DeWoby
Eileen Goodis and Eric Strom
Billie Greer
Joe Half isen
Mark Hutchinson
Heather Kirby
Brenda Levin & David Abel
Adam Lissagor and Rosana Albanino
Sandra Mosas
Ewel Racine
Sterling and Melanie Ruby
Karen Share
Bonnie Sun
Kathy and Michael Thompson
Joanne Witty and Eugene Keilin

$10,000 +
Carmen Bailey
Marcelo Barducci
Robert and June Berliner
Bobby Blake
Michael and Brannon Kathen Borik
Barbara Brewer
Linda Bukowski
Cozen Connor
Susan and Jeffrey Cristol
Nina DeCoster
Alisa Do
Roger Duh
Andrew Goldfarb
Michael and Mary Ellen Fernhoff
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Kim and Mark Fischer
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Gail Goldberger
Mary Harris
Barbara Herman
Caroline Horrigan and Quinn O'Toole
Marlyn and Stephen Howard
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Ed Kennedy
Howard Sherman and Greg Houston
Nancy Steffen-Ruh
Louis Suwan
Sarah and Isaac Tucker
Cassandra Williams
Suzanne Wilson
Donella Wilson and Peter Barnett
Susan Zolla

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Kimberly Albeeams
Joanna Adler
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Barbara Einstein
Jean Gold Friedman
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Lynn Hall and L. Michael Russell
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Spocki Kitzoll
John Kollus
Wendy Lee
Amy Marciau and Kim Tibbetts
Steve McDevitt and Cynthia Alkone
Rita Meschuk
Jamisold Mink
Caroli and Jerry Muchin
Terri Murray
Michael Palmer
Mark Olsen
Rafe and Karen Perry
Heather and Herb Rim
Jeni and Marshall Sfaron
Lisa Seber

$2,500 +
Carmen Bailey
Marcelo Barducci
Robert and June Berliner
Bobby Blake
Michael and Brannon Kathleen Borik
Barbara Brewer
Linda Bukowski
Cozen Connor
Susan and Jeffrey Cristol
Nina DeCoster
Alisa Do
Roger Duh
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Gail Goldberger
Mary Harris
Barbara Herman
Caroline Horrigan and Quinn O’Toole
Marlyn and Stephen Howard
Nick and Lindsey Hutchinson
Dorothy and Joseph Hyams
Ed Kennedy
Robert Wood Johnson Foundation
Los Angeles Board of Supervisors,
Los Angeles Board of Supervisors,
CRT Settlement Fund
The Rose Hills Foundation
Ralph M. Parsons Foundation
Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority
Los Angeles County Department
Los Angeles County Department
Conrad N. Hilton Foundation
California Victims Compensation Board
$100,000 +
S.L. Gimbel Foundation Advised Fund
$500,000 +
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2016 FOUNDATIONS &
Yee-Yoong Yong
Sharon and Don Wright
Cathryn Wilson
Second District, Mark Ridley-Thomas
First District, Hilda Solis
of Mental Health
of Health Services
Inland Southern California
at the Community Foundation –
nia Governor's Office
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hope & grace fund, a project of New V
George Hoag Family Foundation
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Anonymous
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DaVita HealthCare Partners
David Bohnett Foundation
CVS Health
Confidence Foundation
City of Los Angeles
Bravo Foundation
Anthem Blue Cross Foundation
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Dulta HealthCare Partners
Discover A Star Foundation
Grandpoint Bank
Hon. Jon S. Corine Foundation
J.B. and Emily Van Nuys Charities
Jacobi & Valene Langefolth Foundation
Jeanne Phillips and Walter Harris representing
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Jerry L. & Terri Kohl Family Foundation
John Baldessari Family Foundation
Juliet Entertainment.com Inc.
Los Angeles County Arts Commission
Los Angeles Trail Lawyers’ Charities
Mami Foundation
Munger, Tolles & O’Lion LLP
Pfeiffer Foundation
Rotary Club of Los Angeles
T.J. Companies, Inc.
Union Bank Foundation
Union Pacific Foundation
United Way of Greater Los Angeles
Watson Land Company
XX Fund of the Liberty Hill Foundation
$5,000 +
Aalon & Bird, LLP
Ammion Foundation
Angelell Foundation
Berkeley Community Impact Fund
Bloomingham’s
Broadfoot Properties Management, LLC
Buffelwood, Inc.
California Wellness Foundation
Charles Schwab
City of Hope
David Gelfin Foundation
Dohring Foundation
East West Bank Foundation
Edison International
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LA. Care Health Plan
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Leffrossen Family Foundation
Lori S. V. Smith Foundation
Lora and Harold Price Foundation
Lucille E. Simon Foundation
Mengful Foundation
Nefesse
Network for Good
North Hollywood Woman’s Club
Norwalk Community Corporation
Pacific Crossroads Church
Paypal & Pigny
Richard E. and Harriet F. Gold
Charitable Foundation
Rooded and Rising
Sony Pictures Entertainment
Southern California Gas Company
Thomson-Reuters
Towers Watson
UGA Kaiser Permanente Foundation
for Health Equity
United Sciences International
USC Suzanne Dworak-Peck School of Social Work
Wall Disney Company
Waregnet Foundation
Women in eDiscover - LA Chapter
Wylla Foundation
Young Jo & Good Row Clothing
$1,000 +
1st Century Bank
Actuarial Benefits Corp.
American Martyrs Catholic Church
Amosda Music
Arches & Falaki Foundation
Beverly Hills/Greater Los Angeles
Association of Realtors
California Resources Corporation
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Cemick Consulting
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David and Sheila Gold Foundation
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Dolita Farrah & Family Foundation
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Fiduciary Charitable Gift Fund
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Kellwood Foundation
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KLM Foundation
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Los Angeles Breakfast Club
Los Angeles Mission
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Pergo Foundation
Rahaminov Diamonds
James Ch有的 Charitable Foundation
Rain Family Foundation
River Foundation
Seattle Foundation
Shannon Foundation
Sidney Stern Memorial Trust
Southland Foundation
Sonnoplat International, Alhambra,
al
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corrections. Please send any errors or
information to Info@DowntownWomen’sCenter.org.
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