



DOWNTOWN **WOMEN'S** CENTER

Downtown Women's Center's Statement on the Passage of SB 914 HELP Act

Landmark Homelessness Legislation Provides Help to Most Vulnerable Populations

The Downtown Women's Center (DWC) applauds Governor Gavin Newsom for signing landmark legislation that will provide much-needed support to our city's most vulnerable homeless populations including domestic violence survivors, unaccompanied women, and transgendered individuals.

DWC is a proud co-sponsor of Senator Susan Rubio's Homeless Equity for Left Behind Populations (HELP) Act, which will require cities, counties, and continuums of care that receive state funding to address homelessness to provide services critical resources to our most vulnerable populations. The bill also requires the California Interagency Council on Homelessness to set and measure progress towards goals to prevent and end homelessness for these vulnerable populations.

For more than 40 years, DWC has been the only organization in Los Angeles focused exclusively on serving, housing, and empowering women experiencing homelessness. As one of the most critical issues facing California, homelessness disproportionately impacts women. The passage of the HELP Act is an important step in ensuring that women and vulnerable populations aren't left behind as the state works to end homelessness.

"Here at DWC, our mission is to house every woman in Los Angeles, but we need more housing and resources to make this possible," said Amy Turk, CEO of Downtown Women's Center.

"DWC is grateful to Governor Newsom and Senator Rubio for their commitment to ensuring that women and vulnerable individuals can access the services they need to build a foundation for their future."