



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

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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DWC Statement in Response to the 2024 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count

Los Angeles, CA – Today's Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count findings provide additional evidence that a coordinated response to the region's homeless crisis is working. **We know progress is possible because together homeless service providers rehoused 27,951 people in a single year – a record for LA County's homeless response system.** Sustaining this progress requires greater investment in affordable housing, which is the key to reducing homelessness.

Downtown Women's Center (DWC)'s investments in permanent supportive housing has contributed to the overall success. Since 2021, our [Every Woman Housed Initiative](#) has provided the full continuum of services to unhoused women who have experienced long-term homelessness and have been historically underserved by traditional housing programs. Wraparound supportive services include housing specialists to assist with housing retention, employment coordinators to support with job readiness, clinicians to provide trauma-informed and culturally responsive emotional support, and peer specialists with lived experience of homelessness and knowledge of community resources. To date, key achievements of the Every Woman Housed Initiative include:

- Reached 564 women through mobile access center outreach teams
- Served 102 women in interim housing
- Permanently housed 400 women

While we are encouraged by the housing placement results, we know that there are still 23,157 women currently experiencing homelessness in Los Angeles County and that this number has slightly increased since 2023.

"The 2024 Greater Los Angeles Homeless Count findings reflect what is possible when sub populations are prioritized and resourced accordingly, a result that we saw for veterans, youth, and the chronically homeless" said Amy Turk, CEO of Downtown Women's Center, It is time for our Los Angeles Continuum of Care to truly include women, who experienced a nearly 4% increase from 2023, as a subpopulation with unique experiences and needs."

Downtown Women's Center highlights these needs every three years. According to the [2022 Los Angeles County Women's Needs Assessment](#), authored by Urban Institute and Hub for Urban Initiatives researchers and funded by the Los Angeles County Homeless Initiative and DWC, more than 80% of women surveyed have experienced lengths of homelessness of over a year, with more



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than half of those individuals experiencing homelessness for longer than five years. Over 28% of women surveyed reported domestic or intimate partner violence as the reason they left permanent housing.

The increase in women's homelessness mirrors an uptick taking place nationally. According to the [2023 HUD Annual Homelessness Assessment Report \(AHAR\)](#) the number of women experiencing homelessness exceeds the number of subpopulations that do receive dedicated attention and resources, as there are nearly two times more unhoused women (250,009) in this country than there are unhoused youth (34,700) and veterans (35,574) combined.

We must prioritize women who remain exceedingly vulnerable to homelessness and housing insecurity. DWC views these trends as a critical call to action. [Take action with us today](#) by requesting a federal funding expansion for shelters and safe haven programs for women and children.

About Downtown Women's Center

Downtown Women's Center is the only organization in Los Angeles focused exclusively on serving and empowering women and gender diverse individuals experiencing homelessness. For over 45 years, DWC has been a leader in providing comprehensive services and supportive housing solutions to empower women to achieve stability and self-sufficiency.