

The Weingart Center Association (WCA) transforms lives to break the cycle of homelessness and poverty. WCA provides comprehensive human services to Los Angeles men, women, families, veterans, parolees, HIV+ and other at-risk individuals, giving them hope and an opportunity to lead productive lives off the streets. WCA is celebrating its 25th anniversary as a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization.

Residential Programs

Our transitional residential programs go beyond the emergency shelter approach by providing housing for up to two years along with comprehensive wrap-around services including case management and other treatment services. Case management includes: orientation, individualized needs assessment, client plan development and tracking, coordination of services, advocacy, referrals, group meetings, and other related services. All programs require participants to save at least 75% of their income.

WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT AND EDUCATION

EMERGE provides housing, education, workforce development and job placement assistance to help homeless individuals enhance their earning potential and successfully re-enter the community. Operated with Los Angeles Homeless Services Authority (LAHSA). Contact: 213.689.2137 or 2130.

Women's Renaissance is an employment-focused transitional housing program that helps homeless women reach their goals through case management services, resources, referrals and job placement assistance. Contact: 213.689.2125 or 2130.

Project Paycheck provides employment assistance, intensive case management and recovery counseling to men and women with histories of chronic substance abuse who are in active recovery. Contact: 213.689.2118.

COMMUNITY RE-ENTRY

Open Door is a critical intervention project that works collectively with community partners (i.e., transitional housing projects, jails, etc.) to assist participants with permanent housing and employment placement/retention. Contact: 213.689.2145.

EPIC is a comprehensive program providing housing, education, vocational training and job placement to help people on parole successfully re-enter the community. Requires referral from parole officer. Contact: 213.689.2157.

VETERANS

Provides individualized supportive services and promotes progressive motivation and instruction to help find permanent housing, secure a stable income and address the unique challenges that veterans face, including, but not limited to mental illness, physical illness and substance abuse. Contact: 213.689.2121.

DETOX/SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT

Volunteers of America (VOA) Drug and Alcohol Recovery Programs provide alcohol and drug rehabilitation as well as short-term detox. Contact: 213.689.2179 or 2163.

MEDICAL AND MENTAL HEALTH

Recuperative Care is a short-term program that helps homeless individuals who have been discharged to the streets by area hospitals recovering from serious illness or injury. Operated with the JWCH Institute and staffed by RNs. Contact: 213.689.2131 or 2132.

Specialized Shelter Bed Program provides temporary shelter beds for mentally ill individuals referred and case managed by Downtown Mental Health Department. Contact: 213.689.2103.

HIV and AIDS Programs provide housing and individualized case management, counseling services, benefits acquisition and referrals to outside resources to individuals who are HIV+. Collaboratively operated between WCA and the JWCH Institute, these are the only residential programs for HIV+ individuals in Downtown Los Angeles. For the HATS, HELP, and HOPWA programs, contact: 213.689.2191.

STREETS OR SERVICES (SOS)

Provides short-term emergency housing with services for individuals given citations for sleeping on the streets. Upon successful completion of program, the offense is dismissed, and participants receive a referral for a six-month transitional program. Contact: 213.689.2145.

SHORT-TERM HOUSING

Provides short-term housing for men and women applying for General Relief. This DPSS Voucher program is operated through a contractual partnership with the Los Angeles Department of Social Services. Contact: 213.689.2103.

WCA Quick Facts

The Weingart Center Association:

- Serves and assists over 6,000 individuals annually through our programs, services and our walk-in Access Center
- Provides housing for 600 homeless men and women daily
- Has five facilities in one block, plus a walk-in access center, totaling over 170,000 sq. ft.
- Was established in 1983
- Uses 85% of all funds raised for creating, implementing and operating participant services and programs
- Partners with organizations such as: Veteran's Administration, JWCH Institute, Inner City Law Center, CA Department of Corrections, LAUSD, and the Department of Social Services
- Serves 225,000 healthy meals annually
- Has 71% male participants and 29% female participants

Non-Residential Programs

WEINGART ACCESS CENTER

This walk-in center provides information and referral services, case advocacy, and a wide range of other social services to homeless individuals, families and people at risk of becoming homeless in downtown Los Angeles. Provides bus tokens to people with scheduled appointments, HIV and STD testing, veteran services and referrals, housing legal aid, mail services, and more. The Access Center also provides:

Community Voice Mail (CVM) provides free, 24-hour voice-mail service to people without phones. CVM acts as the lead agency to provide voice mailboxes to Los Angeles area social service agencies and directly to individuals.

Contact the Access Center at: 213.833.5020.

AMERICORPS

Reaches out to individuals and families in the Skid Row area of Los Angeles and provides them with specialized services, such as distribution of hygiene kits, clinical information, program referrals and service referrals. Also recruits volunteers to serve in community agencies. Contact: 213.689.2282.

General Relief Opportunities for Work (GROW)

Individuals filing for General Relief benefits are mandated to take part in GROW—a short-term, intensive job preparedness and employment search program that helps its participants obtain permanent employment and become self-sufficient. Operated in partnership by WCA, Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE), and The Department of Public Social Services (DPSS). Contact GROW at 213.689.2235.

THE ON-SITE MEDICAL CLINIC

Acts as a primary health care clinic for homeless and indigent residents of Los Angeles' Skid Row. Operated by the JWCH Institute and the LA County Department of Health Services. Contact: 213.622.2639.

WEINGART CLINICAL SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Our Clinical Services Department provides WCA participants with mental health services such as individual and group therapy sessions, focusing on issues such as trauma, domestic violence and substance abuse. Also offers a 16-week intensive outpatient drug treatment program, based on the Matrix-model, which allows individuals to maintain employment while working on their sobriety.

The Clinical Department has an established Intern Training program for MSW, MFT and chemical dependency counseling students at UCLA, USC, and Cal State Long Beach and Los Angeles. The Clinical Department also provides:

SAMHSA – Targeted Capacity Expansion Program for Substance Abuse Treatment and HIV/AIDS Services

Increases access to HIV testing and substance abuse treatment for high risk populations living on Skid Row, principally African-American and Latino homeless persons. Decreases the risk of contracting HIV/AIDS and other STDs, provides a stable support system for those found to have HIV/AIDS, and addresses substance abuse and mental health needs. Operated in partnership with the JWCH Institute.

Project Fatherhood Helps bring fathers together with their children by addressing issues related to absenteeism, substance abuse, violence and trauma in supportive group sessions for fathers, as well as separate groups for their children and the children's significant others, facilitating a smooth family reunification.

Contact the Clinical Department at: 213.689.2250.

On-Site Supportive Services

Case Management — Former residential participants receive long term case management including on-going support for 6 to 12-months, working one-on-one in goal-setting, attainment and referrals.

Employment Services — Skills and education assessment, pre-employment planning, job preparatory training, training referrals, labor market information, basic skills instruction, job search and placement, transportation vouchers, post-placement support.

Medical and Mental Health Treatment — Primary health care and mental health services such as individual and group psychotherapy, crisis intervention, and psychological assessment for WCA program participants.

Substance Abuse Recovery — Recovery services, relapse prevention, substance abuse testing, recovery meetings and individual counseling.

Life Skills Classes — Groups and classes on topics such as anger management, parenting, family relations, money management, appropriate decision-making, and self-esteem.

Education — Remedial education, literacy training, one-on-one tutoring, GED preparation, and vocational education.

Weingart Boutique — Provides clothing, including professional attire for job interviews, and personal care products for participants.

Permanent Housing Assistance — Assists participants in finding, obtaining and maintaining permanent housing.

Weingart Café — Annually provides over 225,000 healthy meals to WCA residents & other community programs.