



WEINGART CENTER ASSOCIATION

Where Transformation Happens

Weingart Center and Local Business: *Working together for a healthy, prosperous Los Angeles*

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About the Weingart Center

Our Mission is to empower and transform lives by delivering innovative solutions to combat poverty and break the cycle of homelessness.

Our Vision is a commitment to a world where everyone has and can maintain a high-quality and productive life.

Our Approach: We seek to carry out our mission and realize our vision by meeting people where they are, and giving them the tools, resources, and support they need to get to where they want to be.... off the streets, in school or work, back with family, in control of their life.



It Starts With Me!

To break the cycle of homelessness, we need a healthy community that supports productive, independent living. This requires more than just social service agencies... it requires businesses, residents, officials, and other stakeholders to come together to make Downtown Los Angeles whole.

We all want an end to homelessness. We want to see people off the streets. Alone, we feel helpless to effect change, but together, we are unstoppable.

What is Transitional Housing?
When you say the words “Homeless shelter,” most people envision a room full of cots, people sitting on the edge consuming a hot bowl of something, with their belongings piled nearby in luggage, bags, carts, strollers, wheelchairs... whatever they can find. They have a warm place to sleep tonight, but the morning brings with it closing time, and more uncertainty as they pack themselves off with everything they own for another day of survival on the streets of Los Angeles.

That is Emergency Housing. The Weingart Center offers something different: not a cot, but an assigned bed, night after night; a locker or closet to store belongings while out; a dedicated Café, serving three hot meals daily and providing sack meals for those offsite for school and work; and, most importantly, on-site integrated services... case managers, job developers, substance abuse counselors, and licensed therapists.

Case Managers are the initial point of contact, coordinating services for their participants. Job Developers teach interview skills, help participants create narrative resumes that highlight their skills, and secure agreements with employers to provide job listings. Our Clinical Services staff provides ongoing substance abuse treatment and therapeutic services for those who need them, and secure referrals for psychiatric treatment and prescription medication when required.

What can my business do?

Large or small, new or established, in any sector or market, your business can play a decisive role in ending homelessness. Here are some ideas:

- **Mutual Promotion:** Retail and restaurant businesses can place a Take One box promoting our periodic events, campaigns, or raffles. In return, we list your business as our supporter on our website, Facebook page, and in relevant materials. Contact: Tammy Metzger tammym@weingart.org
- **Donating Goods or Services:**
 - Donations to Participants:** In-kind donations lower costs and increase efficiency. We have ongoing needs for fresh food, professional clothing, and hygiene supplies. We also would like to improve our participants' well-being with donated electronics (such as televisions, video game systems, and desktop computers for common areas); periodic maintenance supplies (paint, flooring, trim); and other improvements. Think we can use it? Just ask!
 - Silent Auctions:** You may also wish to donate to a silent auction that accompanies one of our events (three or four times per year). Silent Auction donations can bring you new business and promote you to a whole new market, while also raising funds that are used for direct program expenses. Hotel stays, restaurant meals, sports tickets and memorabilia, art pieces, gift baskets, and electronics are popular auction items. Don't worry that what you've got is too small to get bids... we can bundle it with other donations into a fabulous package guaranteed to be noticed!
Contact: Tammy Metzger tammym@weingart.org
- **Mini-Events:** Perfect for restaurants, clubs, and bars, a mini-event is a great way to raise money for the Weingart Center while promoting your business. Some places pick a certain dish or drink that they donate proceeds from; others donate a set percentage of their total receipts. Whether for a day, a week, or a month, we will join you in promoting the event to our fullest capability, and will provide materials to tell your patrons more about how their purchase is helping to end homelessness.
Contact: Tammy Metzger tammym@weingart.org
- **Employee Giving:** Some employers want to provide their staff with opportunities to give, but don't want to see their efforts dwarfed by joining an enormous effort like the United Way. Consider adopting the Weingart Center as your Employee Giving charity. Our It Starts With Me! employee giving program among our own staff has raised over \$4,000 in one-time gifts and ongoing payroll deductions in its first year; join us in supporting a cause you know you can feel good about.
Contact: Monica Waggoner monicaw@weingart.org
- **Job Listings:** You'd be surprised at the skills and experience our participants can bring to your organization. Consider listing job openings with us and interviewing referred participants for positions. You can be assured that we're adding pre-screened, stable individuals to your applicant pool, and you have an opportunity to give someone else a new chance in life.
Contact: Monica Waggoner monicaw@weingart.org
- **Cash Donations:** Gifts and Grants are always welcome. We promote our supporters through several channels. As a 501(c)(3) non-profit, your donations are tax-deductible to the fullest extent of the law. If you are a subsidiary of a larger corporation, you may be able to sponsor an application to your parent company's charitable giving program.
Contact: Monica Waggoner monicaw@weingart.org
- **Your Idea Here!** These are suggestions for ways that businesses have supported us in the past. We are always open to innovative partnerships... let us know!
Contact: Deborah Villar dvillar@weingart.org

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Transforming the Lives of Homeless Men and Women for over 25 Years!

www.weingart.org

501(c)3 organization