



Cheron's example for her daughter, Nina, is "to never give up on your future."

97 formerly homeless women secured jobs in 2012.

Each day, staff and volunteers were inspired by the potential of Women's Empowerment students and graduates striving to change their lives and create a more promising tomorrow for their children.

2012 was a year we felt compelled to respond to the skyrocketing number of newly homeless families and to increase our specialized training programs tailored to meet employers' needs.

Surrounded by the hope inside our doors—and the hopelessness outside of them—we seized a bold opportunity. Women's Empowerment moved – just 3 blocks away – to a professional building with expanded areas for education and training as well as beautiful spaces for the children to learn and play.

None of this would have been possible without **you**.

OUR MISSION is to educate and empower women, who are homeless, with the skills and confidence necessary to get a job, create a healthy lifestyle, and regain a home for themselves and their children.

A Home of Her Own



The view from Kimberly's new apartment

When Kimberly was laid off from her job of three years, she became homeless for the first time. She was confused and scared.

Once she joined Women's Empowerment, she started to change. "In class, they showed me that with determination and diligence, I can still do whatever I want to do—and be whoever I want to be."

After graduating from Women's Empowerment, she put her new job-readiness skills to work and secured a job as a supervisor at a large call center.

Now, with the benefit of a steady paycheck, she is proud to rent her own apartment. "It's unbelievable renting my own apartment. It is so beautiful!" In fact, to ensure she will never be homeless again, she has paid her rent in full for the next 3 months. "I've completely changed my attitude. Now, I walk through every open door of opportunity."

103 women and their children regained and maintained a safe and stable home in 2012.

A Brand New Smile

While at Women's Empowerment, Cristi was excited to start school at American River College. Now, she's about to graduate with a degree in Accounting and a 3.75 GPA. But one thing was still missing—since being diagnosed as a child with a rare illness, she had lost many of her teeth. She was embarrassed to smile or laugh and knew this would be a barrier to employment.

Thanks to our partnership with Sacramento District Dental Society, Cristi was paired with a local dentist who provided her full dentures and the gift of her smile. Now, a confident Cristi says, "I feel great! I feel normal. I'm always smiling and laughing."



Cristi outside of her home

Since graduating from our program, she has quit smoking and, after a recent visit to the doctor, reported "I am so healthy!"

122 women graduated from Women's Empowerment in 2012 and are thriving.

Children's Wellbeing

In 2012, **155** homeless children received enriching services through our on-site childcare program. Healthy meals and educational games helped kids handle the stress of homelessness and reach developmental milestones.

Bubbles, circle time and finger painting brought big smiles and lots of joy.



Getting My Confidence Back



Cheron and Tanis at work

Cheron was living in a homeless shelter with her infant daughter, Nina, when she started Women's Empowerment's eight-week job-readiness program. She had been homeless for more than a year and was determined to find a home and secure a job.

"The classes on resume writing, interviewing skills and computer literacy were really helpful. I had been so discouraged because I hadn't had a job in four years, but those classes helped me get my confidence back."

After graduating from the program in December 2012, she successfully achieved the goals she set for herself back on day one: she regained permanent housing for herself and Nina and is now working full time as a receptionist for NuStar Energy.

NuStar Energy has been an engaged community partner since 2010, when HR Director Tanis Nelson became a mentor. Since then, she has mentored women every year, and NuStar Energy has become a generous Gala sponsor. Now as an employment partner, Tanis says, "At NuStar, our focus is giving back to the community. We've invested a lot of time in Women's Empowerment so when it came time for us to hire again, I thought: what a better way to close that circle than to hire a Women's Empowerment graduate? I was very impressed with Cheron's calm and professional demeanor."

In 2012, **97** women secured jobs and **131** women engaged in paid and unpaid training throughout our community.

Our New Home Provides Hope for the Future

Women's Empowerment is proud to announce our move to a fabulous new facility at 1590 North A Street—just three blocks away from our former location.

Our new, 10,435 square-foot home has a larger classroom and giant backyard for children to run and play. It also provides space for diversified job training programs that specifically meet the needs of community employers. These new opportunities allow for even *more* women to secure stable employment and to truly break the cycle of homelessness.

We continue to stand firm in our solution to end homelessness—for good—through employment.

Dedicated Volunteers and Amazing Donors

In 2012, over **700** dedicated volunteers from the community invested more than **10,000 hours** of their time to teach, mentor, plan special events, distribute turkeys, stuff stockings and so much more. Donations from individuals made up more than **47%** of all contributions. We continue to neither solicit, nor receive, government funding.

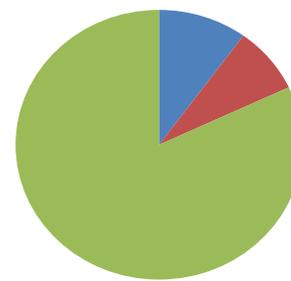
Women's Empowerment only exists because of the time and resources generously donated by supporters like you. We cannot thank you enough!

Financial Stability

Our audited financial statements show very low general administrative and fundraising expenses at 18 percent, with nearly 82 percent of our expenses dedicated to program services. This is well below the national industry average of 25 percent overhead.

We hold at least three months of operating reserves at all times, providing the agency with invaluable fiscal stability and financial health.

How is my dollar spent?



- Operations & Administration (10%)
- Fundraising (8%)
- Program Services (82%)

*based on 2011 Form 990

Financial Overview 2012

Income (based on accrual)		Expenses	
Grants	\$170,518.50	Operations & Administration	\$58,323.17
Grants Released from Restriction	\$146,099.50	Fundraising	\$46,658.55
Individual Gifts	\$133,814.30	Program Services	\$478,250.03
Community & Family Foundations	\$27,258.20		
United Way	\$21,879.28		
Special Events	\$150,597.87		
Earned Revenue & Investments:	\$9,262.51		
TOTAL INCOME	\$659,430.16	TOTAL EXPENSES	\$583,231.75

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