The mission of Women’s Empowerment is to educate and empower women who are homeless with the skills and confidence necessary to get a job, maintain a healthy lifestyle, and regain a home for themselves and their children.
Kenya’s Story

Kenya hit rock bottom when she and her then-five year old daughter, Alayzia, ended up in a family shelter.

“I never wanted my daughter to live in that kind of environment and I couldn’t believe it was happening.”

During this stressful time, she was able to keep Alayzia in school, even though it meant them taking an hour and a half bus ride each way. “Her education is my highest priority,” Kenya says. And Alayzia continued to stay on the honor roll.

Due to Kenya’s background, she was unable to find a job. While in the shelter, Kenya worked hard, every day, to change her path.

“My past choices would not determine my future and even though I was denied jobs over and over I never got discouraged. My daughter was relying on me.”

Her desire to change her life led her to enroll in Women’s Empowerment. “Every day I felt like I had achieved something,” she remembers. “From mock interviews and communication skills, to perfecting my ‘30 Second Me’ I felt prepared to go out and get a job.”

She was also supported by her volunteer career mentor, employment specialist and social worker. Our “Money Matters” financial literacy class helped Kenya learn how to budget and track her spending.

“On graduation day I was so happy that I had done something to better myself. And my daughter, who was in the audience, was so proud of me.”

Kenya’s goal was to become an electrician. Today she’s enrolled in a 5-year electrical apprenticeship program and with her new income and benefits, she and her daughter moved into their own apartment and bought a car.

It’s a hard job with lots of heavy lifting. “But at the end of the day, no matter how tired I am, I feel like I really earned my paycheck,” Kenya says. “And it’s amazing to pick up Alayzia at school, and see how happy she is to see me in my work clothes.”

Kenya wants to buy her first house in the next five years and make sure she saves enough money to send Alayzia to college.

“Without the support of donors and volunteers, women like myself wouldn’t have had the courage to take the next step and succeed. We need Women’s Empowerment.”

121 homeless children learned to trust and love, played outside, made life-long friends, learned they can accomplish anything, and recaptured their joy in 2015.
Your gifts are an investment in the success of homeless women and children in Sacramento. Here are the results:

- 476 homeless and formerly homeless women received life-changing services and support.
- 95 homeless women graduated from our job-readiness class, where they gained the skills and the confidence to re-enter the workforce.
- 100% of students reported they were taking steps to achieve their life goals...and all had regained their hope.
- 93% of students regained or maintained a safe and stable home.
- 83% of students secured a job, enrolled in school or started a training program.
- 2,290 Get A Job Kits were sold to customers across the country and 70% of trainees secured a job after completing the paid training.
- 600 volunteers gave over 10,000 hours mentoring, teaching, interviewing, rocking babies, raising money, planning events, running our Clothing Closet and much, much, much more.
- In-kind donors provided food, clothing, skills, office paper, diapers, computers, stockings and (again) much, much more.

Women’s Empowerment was featured on The Today Show!

On July 28, Women’s Empowerment was featured on NBC’s The Today Show as a national example of an innovative and effective solution to ending homelessness for women and their children.

It was a powerful piece that truly showed the dignity and courage of the women who walk through our doors every day. Thank you for watching, spreading the word and cheering us on!

See the clip here: http://www.today.com/video/hope-to-it-helping-homeless-women-start-over-492603459711
2015 was a record-breaking year thanks to your generosity.

We sustained our commitment to maintain at least three months of operating funds in reserves at all times.

Individual donations increased by 23% from last year—which means more people than ever chose to help homeless women and children in their community.

Your financial support grew our donations by 21% and our assets increased by $200,000. We re-invested our savings for long-term sustainability.

Through all of this, our administrative and fundraising costs remained low at 14%.

Without your support, none of this is possible.

Income (accrual)

| Grants/Family Foundations* | $493,900 |
| Individual Gifts           | $273,203 |
| United Way                 | $22,942  |
| Special Events             | $207,987 |
| Earned Revenue             | $6,176   |
| Get a Job Kit Income       | $27,353  |
| Other Income               | $1,390   |

**Total Income: $1,032,951**

Expenses

| Program Services       | $725,326 |
| Operations & Administration | $42,170  |
| Fundraising            | $75,907  |

**Total Expenses: $843,403**

*Some grants are for use in 2017 and 2018