

# ACW

ACW

NEWSLETTER

January  
2026

## Celebrating Ms. Dottie ❤️

In December, we gathered to celebrate the retirement of Ms. Dottie, ACW's beloved Head Cook for the past eight years. Her meals were more than nourishment, they were expressions of love, care, and community that brought comfort to so many women during their recovery journey.

We already miss her, and especially her unforgettable dishes: BBQ chicken with pork and beans and coleslaw, shrimp fried rice with broccoli, BBQ pulled pork sandwiches with cabbage slaw and chips, beef enchiladas with rice and pinto beans, meat lasagna and salad, cilantro chicken with potatoes and broccoli, roast with collard greens from our garden and rice, salmon with potatoes and asparagus, pesto basil shrimp with spaghetti noodles and garlic bread, creamy mushroom tri-tip steak with rice and roasted Brussels sprouts... and so much more.

Beyond the meals, Ms. Dottie's amazing energy inspired many women to pursue culinary paths of their own. Seeing her passion and excellence in the kitchen sparked confidence and new dreams.

The celebration theme was *orange and deliciousness*, her favorite color and the signature ingredient of her dishes. Her kitchen was always filled with warmth, flavor, and incredible aromas that made ACW feel like home.

As she begins this well-deserved next chapter, we celebrate her legacy, her heart, and the joy she brought to ACW each day.

Thank you, Ms. Dottie, for feeding both body and spirit.

You will always be part of the ACW family. ❤️

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## EXCELLENCE IN CARE. CARF ASAM Certification Renewed

We are proud to share that ACW's ASAM Level 3.1 and 3.5 certifications have been officially renewed through 2029!

This renewal reflects ACW's ongoing commitment to providing high-quality, evidence-based residential treatment services for women in recovery.

Maintaining these standards ensures that women in our programs continue to receive structured, clinically sound, and compassionate care at every stage of their recovery journey.



All ACW programs, Residential, Outpatient, and Enhanced Care Management, are CARF-accredited, and our Residential program is also ASAM-certified.

## ECM Team Rocking It Statewide 🌟

Our Enhanced Care Management (ECM) team was recognized not once, but twice, in statewide Department of Health Care Services news releases.

The release highlighted ACW's impact:

“In Los Angeles County, the Alcoholism Center for Women supported 275 individuals between January 2023 and June 2025 through ECM, including one client who overcame homelessness and substance use disorder to become a certified cosmetologist with stable housing and employment.”

This recognition is a testament to the dedication and tireless work of Program Director Danielle Knickerbocker, Lead Care Managers Jocelyn Jimenez, Wendell Westbrooke, Carla Gomez, and Katie Ready, with clinical support from LPHA Kristin Canedo.

We are incredibly proud of our ECM team and the lives they help transform every day.

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Danielle Knickerbocker

Wendell Westbrook

Carla Gomez

Katie Ready

Jocelyn Jimenez

ECM Program Director

Lead Care Manager

Lead Care Manager

Lead Care Manager

Lead Care Manager

**Go ECM — Leading the Way!**

## A Day of Relaxation at Miracle House 🎨

This month, the women at Miracle House enjoyed a beautiful spa day filled with laughter, connection, and well-deserved self-care.

Practicing self-care is an important part of recovery - learning to slow down, care for your body, and embrace peace.

It was awesome, relaxing, and fun.

We are grateful for every opportunity to create spaces where the women we serve feel valued, refreshed, and supported.



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## Sweet Success: ACW Garden Update

Our ACW garden continues to thrive, and the strawberries are looking super cute, delicious, and nutritious!

Beyond fresh produce, the garden represents growth, patience, and healing. More plants are sprouting, flourishing, and reminding us that with care and nurturing, beautiful things grow. 😊

Stay tuned for more garden updates as our harvest continues!



## In Loving Memory: Pamela Snowden 🌸

We honor Pamela Snowden, who played a meaningful role in ACW's journey.

Pam served on ACW's Board of Directors from 2007–2012 and as Board Chair for two of those years. She believed deeply in our mission and strengthened ACW's foundation by inviting trusted colleagues to serve and by connecting the organization to resources that continue to benefit us today.

Pam brought humor, integrity, and a deep care for our clients. Her legacy remains part of ACW's foundation, and her contributions continue to shape our work.

She will be missed.

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Photo 1:  
Pam and Board Member Cheryl Dematteis.

Photo 2:  
ACW Board of Directors, 2009 — Joann Hofmann, Pam, Dr. Shereen Beverly, Janet Blum, and Jeannette Bronson.

Photo 3:  
Pam (left), Dr. Shereen Beverly (center), and Joann Hofmann (right) at the 2009 ACW Board Retreat.

## Can We Count on You to Help Build This Next Chapter? 🧱

Progress continues on the Carriage House restoration, and each milestone brings us closer to expanding safe spaces and services for women in recovery.

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A “sister foundation” is a reinforced foundation built alongside an older structure - not to erase the past, but to strengthen it and ensure stability for the future.

This mirrors ACW’s work. We honor the women and leaders who came before us while building the strong support systems needed for women to continue standing and thriving.

Your support moves us forward.

Help us keep building - one brick at a time

The work has  
**Begun**

Join Us



**MOVE US FORWARD**  
**ACW**



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# Carolyn's Resources

RESOURCES

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## SUPPORT OUR MISSION

♥ Help Rebuild Hope ♥

What if just **\$5 a month** could help change a woman's life *and* rebuild a space for healing?

By joining our **\$5 Club**, you're not just supporting substance use recovery — you're also helping us restore our historic **Carriage House**, which will create more beds and

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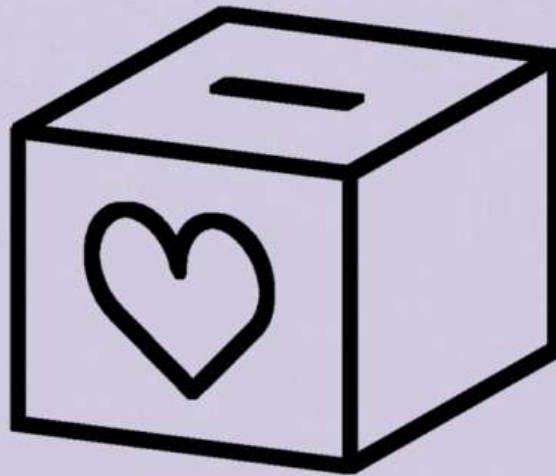
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That's less than your favorite latte — but it makes a lasting difference in someone's journey.

🌟 **Be part of something bigger.**

Healing happens one step — and one generous heart — at a time.



*donate today*

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# SUPPORT ACW IN STYLE ✨

Show your love for recovery and empowerment by rocking our exclusive ACW merch! Every purchase helps support our programs and the women we serve.

👕 \$20 for all sizes | \$25 for 2XL

Hurry—these won't last long! Contact ACW to grab yours while we've got 'em!

💖 See two of our amazing models in the video below!



[View Out Models](#)

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## Love Notes for Recovery 💖

In February, we're inviting our community to help us build something meaningful — a virtual Wall of Love in support of the women at Miracle House. Throughout the month, we'll be collecting words of encouragement from our supporters and sharing them as part of a digital wall that celebrates strength, hope, and restoration.

How to participate ✨

Reply to this email or comment on our upcoming post with one word or short message of encouragement for women in recovery.

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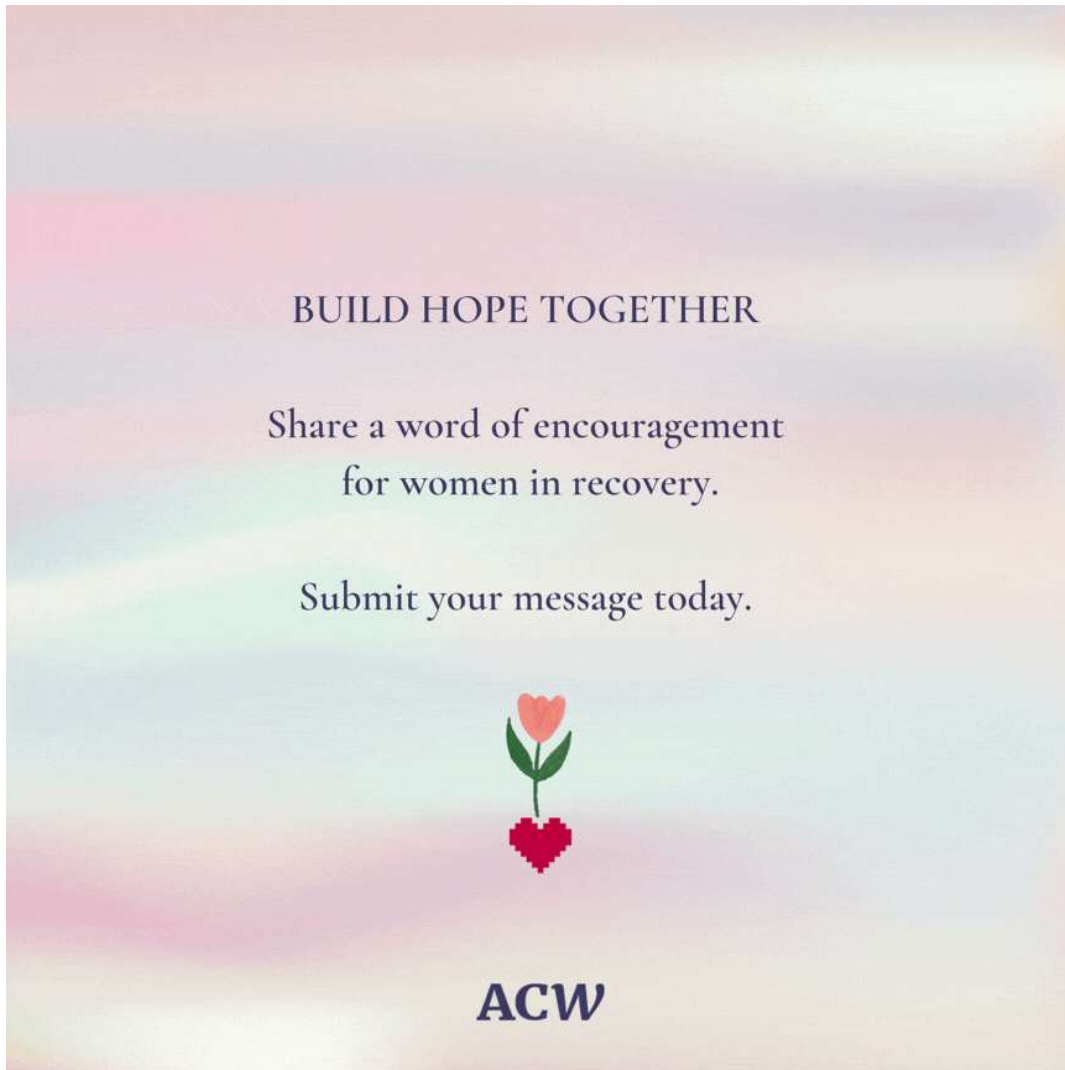
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- Courage
- Keep going
- You are not alone
- Healing is possible
- 

We'll feature messages throughout February and share the completed Wall of Love at the end of the month.

Because sometimes, one word can remind someone they matter.



[Add Your Encouragement](#)

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# We look forward to connecting with you.



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