

Finding Stability: A Housing Guide for Women in Sacramento 2026

A step-by-step resource connecting women experiencing homelessness to emergency shelter, transitional support, and permanent housing across Sacramento County.



The First Step



Start with One Call

Immediate help begins by dialing **2-1-1** — Sacramento's primary portal for all shelter, housing, and emergency support services.

- ☐ **Press 8** to be connected directly with housing assistance and emergency resource coordinators.

Available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week — multilingual support is offered.

Your Assessment Journey

A trained CAS Assessor will guide you through the **Housing Conversation Tool (HCT)** to evaluate your needs and match you to the right housing pathway.

Eligibility Determination

The HCT identifies whether you qualify for emergency, transitional, or permanent housing programs.

Keep It Current

Update your assessment annually — or immediately when your situation changes — to maintain accurate prioritization.

No Wrong Door

Any participating provider can connect you to the assessment process. You don't need to start at a specific agency.

Understanding Your Housing Options

Emergency Shelters

Immediate, temporary safety for women who are currently unsheltered. The first stop in the housing journey.

Rapid Rehousing

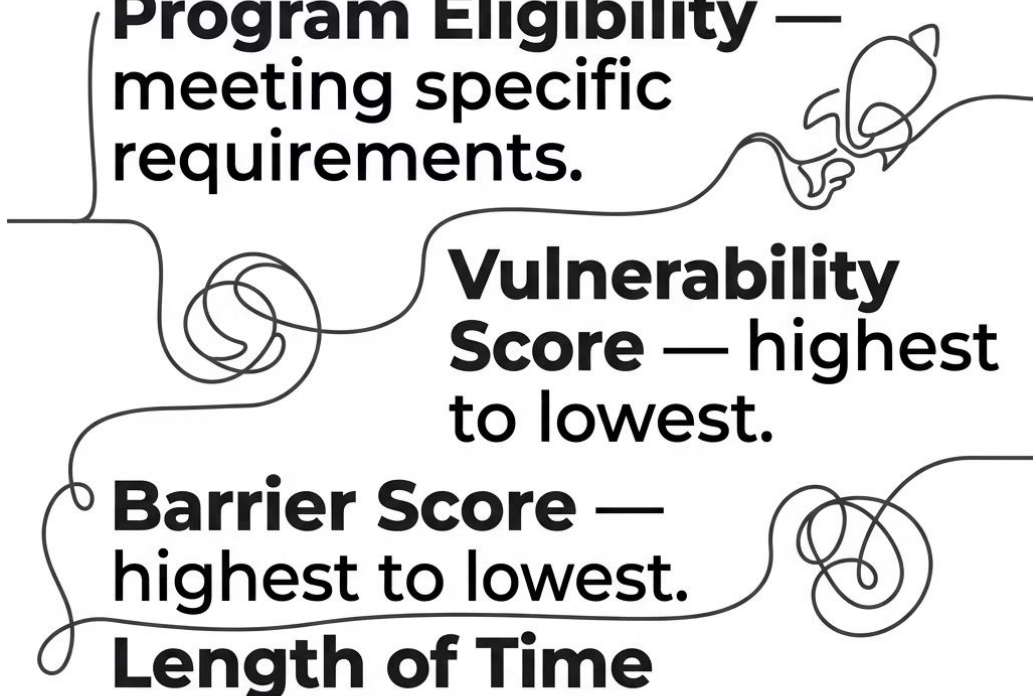
Short-to-medium-term rental assistance lasting **4–24 months**, helping you transition into stable housing quickly.

Permanent Supportive Housing

Long-term housing paired with **ongoing supportive services** for those with higher barriers or chronic homelessness.



The Path to Prioritization



Program Eligibility —
meeting specific
requirements.

**Vulnerability
Score** — highest
to lowest.

Barrier Score —
highest to lowest.

**Length of Time
Homeless** — oo used as
tie-breaker.

How the Queue Works

When housing openings become available, the system matches them to individuals based on four prioritization criteria — ensuring the most vulnerable are served first.

- Program-specific eligibility requirements
- Vulnerability score (highest priority first)
- Barrier score as secondary ranking
- Length of time homeless as final tie-breaker

Getting Document Ready

Why Documents Matter

A complete **HMIS profile** is required before any housing referral can be processed. SSF staff will verify your readiness — having documents in order speeds up the entire process significantly.

 Missing even one document can delay your referral. Start gathering these as soon as possible.



Valid Photo ID

State ID, driver's license, or passport



Social Security Card

Original card or official replacement letter



Homeless Certification

Verification confirming current housing status

The Referral Process

When a housing opening matches your profile, you will receive an **interest inquiry**. Your response time matters — openings are time-sensitive and move quickly.

1

Opening Identified

A match is found in the community housing pool

2

Interest Inquiry Sent

You are contacted through your provider — respond promptly

3

Referral Submitted

Your active participation confirms and advances the placement



Referrals are reservations — not guarantees. Stay in close, regular contact with your provider.



Specialized Support for Survivors



The Survivor Coordinated Access System (SCAS)

SCAS provides a **safe, confidential pathway** specifically designed for women fleeing domestic violence, sexual assault, or human trafficking.

Access is provided exclusively through **Victim Service Providers**, who are trained to prioritize your privacy, safety, and trauma-informed care at every step.

Survivor-Specific Resources

These trusted partners offer around-the-clock crisis support, trauma-informed advocacy, and secure housing pathways for survivors in Sacramento.



My Sister's House

916-428-3271

24-hour support for Asian and Pacific Islander survivors of domestic violence and trafficking. Culturally specific services available.



WEAVE

916-920-2952

24-hour crisis line for domestic violence and trafficking survivors. Offers shelter, legal advocacy, and confidential housing support.

Leveraging Community Advocacy



Work with an Assessor

CAS Assessors and Victim Service Providers can track your full history and ensure your record reflects your actual needs and timeline.



Request a Support Plan

Ask specifically about **Individual Support Plans** — personalized roadmaps built around your goals, barriers, and unique circumstances.



Empowerment Through Data

The 2026 landscape for Sacramento's housing system shows real, measurable progress — and the momentum is building.



Shelter Capacity

2026 investments are actively expanding emergency shelter beds across Sacramento County.



Permanent Placements

More individuals are successfully transitioning into permanent housing every single month.

1st

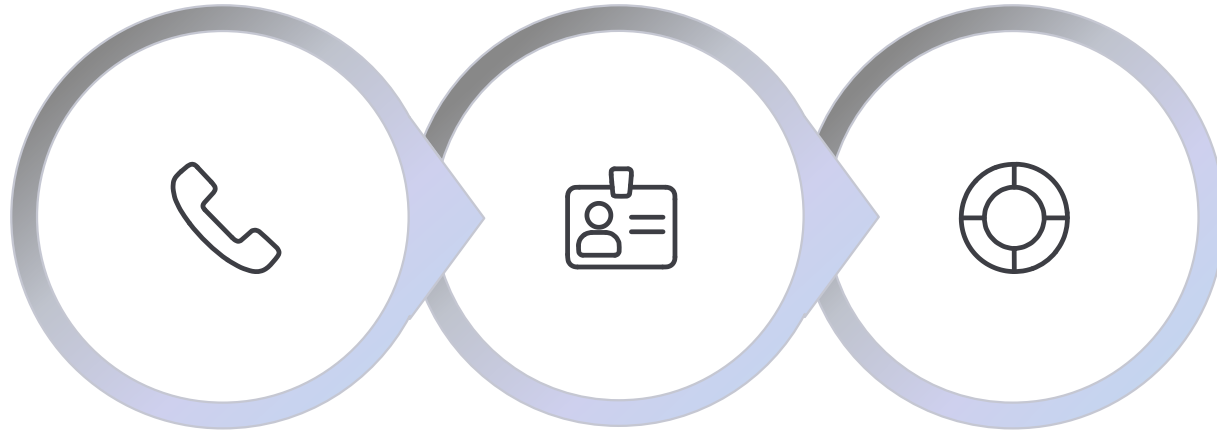
Vulnerable First

The system is designed to prioritize those with the greatest need — stay persistent and stay engaged.



TAKE ACTION TODAY

Your Next Three Steps



Call 2-1-1

Gather ID

Contact
Shelter

📄 **You are not alone.** Sacramento's network of providers, assessors, and advocates is here to guide you every step of the way. Help is a phone call away.

Additional Resources & Organizations

Beyond the primary pathways, these organizations offer additional support across Sacramento County.

Sacramento County DHA

(916) 875-3782

Provides CalWORKs, General Assistance, Medi-Cal, CalFresh, and housing support. Walk-ins welcome at multiple county offices.

Volunteers of America (VOA)

(916) 442-3691

Emergency shelter, transitional housing, and supportive services for women and families experiencing homelessness.

Salvation Army Sacramento

(916) 442-0331

Emergency shelter, food assistance, and case management for individuals and families in crisis.

Loaves & Fishes

(916) 446-0874

Daily meals, shelter referrals, and social services including the Maryhouse women's resource center.

Sacramento Steps Forward

(916) 498-1000

Lead agency managing Sacramento's Coordinated Access System (CAS) and HMIS. Connects individuals to housing resources countywide.

Francis House

(916) 443-2646

Drop-in day center offering showers, laundry, mail services, and case management for people experiencing homelessness.