San Francisco's Drug and Homelessness Crisis and Overdose Epidemic

- 20,000 IV drug users
- 2,859 Fatal overdoses since 2019
- 10 days Average time it takes to get into treatment
- 19,000 Experience homelessness each year
- 71% Of overdose fatalities happened at home
- Admissions to drug rehab declined from 10,273 to 6,440
San Francisco is experiencing a humanitarian crisis. We're here to deliver a solution.

Since 1883, The Salvation Army has been serving San Francisco's poor and homeless. A top provider of recovery services, the Army is bringing its expertise to give those struggling with addiction The Way Out.

During the pandemic, The Salvation Army served over a million meals to people living on the streets of San Francisco.
The Way Out is a recovery-focused homeless initiative designed to restore lives and inspire change through a Recovery System of Care. Services include treatment on demand, residential treatment, therapeutic communities, recovery focused transitional housing, life skills, career development, independent living and aftercare for life.

OUR VISION

We are transforming the lives of people struggling with addiction and homelessness by offering hope and a path to a better life.

Our goal is to increase our Recovery System of Care to 1,000 beds.
Recovery System of Care

The Way Out is a recovery focused homeless initiative designed to restore lives and inspire change through a Recovery System of Care.

1. **Stabilization & Withdrawal Management**
   - Drug Treatment on Demand at the Harbor Light Center Recovery Wellness Center
   - Recovery Support, Counseling, Social Service Linkages
   - Rapid Transition to Residential Treatment

2. **Residential Treatment**
   - Residential Treatment at Harbor Light or Adult Rehabilitation Center
   - Evidence-Based Curriculum & Trauma Informed Care
   - Individual & Group Therapy, Drug & Alcohol Counseling
   - Rapid Transition to Joseph McFee Center

3. **Recovery Focused Transitional Housing**
   - Recovery Focused Transitional Housing with onsite Supportive Services at the Joseph McFee Center
   - Onsite Supportive Services, Career Development, Life Skills, Family Reunification
   - Assistance with Permanent Housing Placement

4. **Extended Transitional Living**
   - Recovery Focused Independent Living at Railton Place
   - Working Toward Financial Independence & Permanent Housing
   - Engaged with the Recovery Community

5. **Alumni Support Network**
   - Peer Recovery Support
   - Outings and Activities
   - Emergency Access to The Way Out’s Recovery System of Care

**Other Components**
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Transitional Housing for Aged-Out Foster Youth and Veterans
- Family Shelter
- Senior Housing
- Food & Clothing Distribution
- Culinary Training Academy
HARBOR LIGHT CENTER

The Salvation Army’s Harbor Light Center (HLC) is often the first stop in the journey toward transformation. As a client-centered social model detox and residential drug treatment program, the HLC emphasizes therapeutic community values, accountability, recovery-based lifestyle, and adaptive coping strategies. Upon program completion, participants will possess a strong recovery foundation, paving the way for further progression to the Joseph McFee Center.

Stabilization & Withdrawal Management
- Immediate entry to Harbor Light Center Recovery Wellness Services via Treatment on Demand
- Recovery support and counseling
- Social service linkages
- Rapid Transition to Harbor Light Residential Treatment or Adult Rehabilitation Center

Residential Treatment
- 6 months of residential treatment
- Evidence based curriculum, groups, and classes
- Individual and group therapy
- Rapid transition to Joseph McFee Transformational Living Center

Why is Treatment on Demand Needed?
We believe residential treatment should be available to those who need it, the moment they need it most. Harbor Light is offering Treatment on Demand to any San Franciscan who is ready to begin a new life.

Fixing A Broken System: Bureaucracy Delays Treatment
The City requires an assessment and referral prior to intake. In the waiting period, treatment seekers often lose hope and return to the streets.

Our Solution: Treatment on Demand at Harbor Light
Harbor Light offers immediate intake 6 days a week with plans to expand to 7 days. Recovery begins the day they arrive. Assessments and services are initiated without delay.
The Joseph McFee Center is a pilot project expanding access to long term, recovery focused, transitional housing for San Franciscans exiting residential treatment. The program provides services for up to 24 months and cultivates a transformative community based on the principles of recovery, accountability, and service. It fosters lifelong change by promoting positive values and behaviors through peer interaction, instruction, and community service.

The Program
- 2 years of Transitional Housing
- Recovery Supportive Services
- Case Management & Life Skills
- Career Development
- Community Engagement & Family Reunification
- Savings Program
- Permanent Housing Assistance
- Target Population:
  - Individuals who have completed residential treatment.
  - Individuals who have completed treatment while in state or federal prison.

Key Goals
- Strengthen Continuum of Care
- Improve Long-Term Recovery Outcomes
- Foster Lifelong Success
- Financial Stability & Independent Living

About the Site
The pilot project is in San Francisco's Mission District and currently serves 36 participants with planned expansion to serve up to 96 in 2024. The future home for this program is 850 Harrison.
FUTURE PLANS
850 HARRISON

As part of The Way Out initiative, The Salvation Army is reimagining 850 Harrison Street into recovery focused transitional housing for people exiting substance use treatment. Dignity, recovery and community are central to the design. The new site will house up to 220 people transforming their lives from addiction.

About the Site
- 90,000 sq. ft
- Recovery centered design
- Onsite supportive services
- Workforce training center
- Green spaces, including rooftop deck
- Community meeting rooms

SAN FRANCISCO

THE WAY OUT
LIVE. WORK. LOVE.
Creating a Community for Change

“My life was once consumed by drugs, but thanks to the Salvation Army, I discovered a pathway to a brand new life. Today, I have a fulfilling career where I help justice involved young adults; my children are back in my life; & above all, I have found a sense of purpose & hope.”

-Daisy Pelayo
Former Participant

"The Salvation Army has been a leader in recovery & social services for generations. In the midst of San Francisco's drug & homeless crisis, it is imperative that we shift the narrative & recognize the urgent need for a long-overdue Recovery System of Care."

-Cregg Johnson
Positive Directions/Westside

"As a formerly incarcerated woman & community advocate, I support the Salvation Army's transformative efforts. To address addiction challenges, we must build a comprehensive Recovery System of Care & enhance treatment options."

-Donna Hilliard
Code Tenderloin

SAN FRANCISCO

THE WAY OUT

2023 Culinary Training Academy Graduates
Commitment to San Francisco

Program & Properties

Chinatown Corps: Neighborhood Youth & Senior Programs, Senior Housing
Ray and Joan Kroc Community Center: Neighborhood Youth & Senior Programs
Railton Place: Transitional and Permanent Housing
Silvercrest: Senior Residence
South of Market Corps: Senior Programs and Food Pantry *
Meals Kitchen: Future Program Site – Coming Soon *
Recovery Wellness Center: Social Detox *
Harbor Light: Residential Treatment *
Harbor House: Emergency Family Shelter
Mobile Outreach: Homeless Services
Pilot Program: Transformational Housing with onsite Supportive Services *
1156 Valencia: Hummingbird Behavioral Health Navigation Center *
Pinehurst ARC: Women’s Rehabilitation Program
Bayview Impact Center: Community Development & Resource Hub
All Nations Corps: Food Pantry

*Sites for potential repurposing
Together We Find Hope & Inspire Change

THE WAY OUT
LIVE. WORK. LOVE.
To learn more about or get involved with The Way Out please visit:

thewayoutsf.org

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