HOMEWARD NYC

Empowering homeless young mothers, seniors & LGBTQIA young adults to live life forward

About Us

Homeward NYC (formerly West End Residences) began in 1989 with an intergenerational residence that is a transitional shelter for homeless mothers and their children and long-term, affordable housing for low-income and homeless seniors.

We recognized a growing need—like the young mothers we serve, LGBTQIA youth start adulthood having experienced physical and emotional abuse for their gender identity or sexual orientation.

In 2011, we adapted our trauma-centered care model to create a first of its kind LGBTQIA young adult supportive housing (affordable housing with support services) site in West Harlem. In 2015, we opened a Bronx site. Our Central Harlem site opened in 2023.

In 2020, we rebranded West End Residences and our True Colors Housing under the unifying name Homeward NYC.

At each housing site, we provide case management, counseling, group activities, and skills-building and empowerment programs.

Their future starts with a place to live. Our housing is a launch pad to deliver our comprehensive onsite services that heal traumas and promote housing stability.

Homeward NYC's individualized care and wraparound services empower homeless young mothers, seniors and LGBTQIA young adults to live life forward.

Young families overcoming homelessness and abuse

The homeless single mothers at our Upper West Side mixed-age residence are ages 18 to 24 with an average child age of 27 months—these moms are the youngest heads of household in the shelter system.

In addition to experiencing the traumas of homelessness, two-thirds are survivors of intimate partner or family violence.

With our transitional shelter housing, homeless mothers access health care, childcare, and housing benefits with their case manager. Mothers build parenting and independent living skills, set goals and achieve permanent housing for their families.

Older adults breaking cycles of abuse and poverty

Homeless and low-income seniors (many with age-related medical conditions worsened by poverty and abuse) have a safe, affordable home at our UWS site.

Our intergenerational housing model fosters an environment where families and seniors celebrate together. Seniors receive the care needed to remain healthy and independent as they age in place.

LGBTQIA young adults healing from traumas

LGBTQIA youth experience family rejection resulting in street homelessness. These homeless youth endure high levels of harassment and violence on the street, in shelter, and elsewhere. Many struggle with substance use and mental illness.

They enter the safety of our supportive housing ages 18 to 25. They access skills-building programs, behavioral health care, and affirming social services—and build community outside their family of origin. They are active participants in their own care, goal setting and achievement as they work towards more independent housing.

@HomewardNYC

Homeward NYC (dba of West End Residences HDFC, Inc.)
www.homeward.nyc