



**AWAKENING
RECOVERY**

SAVING LIVES, 12 STEPS AT A TIME™



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Dear Awakening Recovery Family:

2023 is shaping up to be a banner year for Awakening Recovery thanks to your continued generous support of our mission. Over the last 6 months our organization has accomplished a great deal to prepare for the addition of a Women's House. This addition expands our mission to include women in Los Angeles who so desperately need a non-profit long-term recovery solution without financial barriers to access, as we have done for the last 7 years at our men's recovery home. To that end, we have gone to great lengths to further develop our organizational infrastructure so that we could competently and responsibly be ready to hit the ground running. I just turned 35 years sober at the end of February, and I was sharing with the Women's House staff that the best gift I could possibly have is seeing the Women's House become a reality.

Women's House

Mission accomplished! As of February 1, we have officially opened our new Women's House and have already filled the house to 50% occupancy.

Through the support of generous donors, including the Daly Family, Lynda and Stewart Resnick through their foundation, Women in Recovery, Inc., The Semel Charitable Foundation, The Ahmanson Foundation, and the JIB Fund, among others, Awakening Recovery raised over \$2 million, which went towards the development, purchase, and launch of the new Women's House.

Thank you for helping make this possible!





Welcome Aida Richey

Aida Richey joins the Awakening Recovery leadership team as the Senior House Manager for the Women's House. Aida comes to Awakening originally from Louisiana, with over 8 years of sobriety, having gotten sober in Los Angeles at a women's recovery home and then becoming its manager. During that time she went back to school to pursue her undergraduate education in behavioral health. Aida is a fantastic addition to Awakening's leadership team and is the perfect person to mentor our women in the recovery home from her own lived experience, as we build connection and community in the Los Angeles women's recovery community.

Opening Celebration

On January 28th we celebrated the opening of the Women's House with our community. Thank you for all that joined us for this special occasion!



Left to Right: Board President & Co-Founder Robert Daly Jr., Jody Weinberg, Board Secretary Ken Mariash, Jr., Development Chair, Jonathon Aubry, Kelly Wu, Austin Gibbons, and Executive Director & Co-Founder David Van Der Velde



Photos: Gloria El-Achkar

We spoke with **The Argonaut** recently about our new Women's House, [click here to read their article!](#)

On behalf of the Awakening Recovery Board of Directors, thank you for your continued support of our mission and work.

In Gratitude,

David van der Velde

Executive Director

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