

# Los Angeles Alliance for Community Health and Aging

Wellness Programs Across the Lifespan:  
From Worksites to Schools to the Community

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DOWNTOWN **WOMEN'S** CENTER

Homelessness ends here.

# History of DWC

Founded in 1978, the Downtown Women's Center is the only organization in Los Angeles exclusively dedicated to addressing the needs of women overcoming poverty and homelessness in Skid Row.



# Operational & Staffing Structure

"DWC lets me practice social work  
the way I learned it in school..."

**JUST ONE  
HUMAN BEING  
HELPING ANOTHER."**



# Programs and Services Offered–2014 Impact

## Housing

- 95% retained housing
- 119 units of on-site Permanent Supportive Housing
- 70 women housed outside of DWC on-site housing (including 26 Veterans)

## Basic Needs

- 4000 received services
- 110,000 meals served

## Health and Well-Being

- 300 women seen in 1000 Women's Health Medical Appointments
- 180 women seen in 1100 individual and group mental health sessions
- 830 women participated in Wellness Workshops

## Opportunity

- 950 women participated in educational activities
- 44 placed into employment in 2014
- 90% retained employment



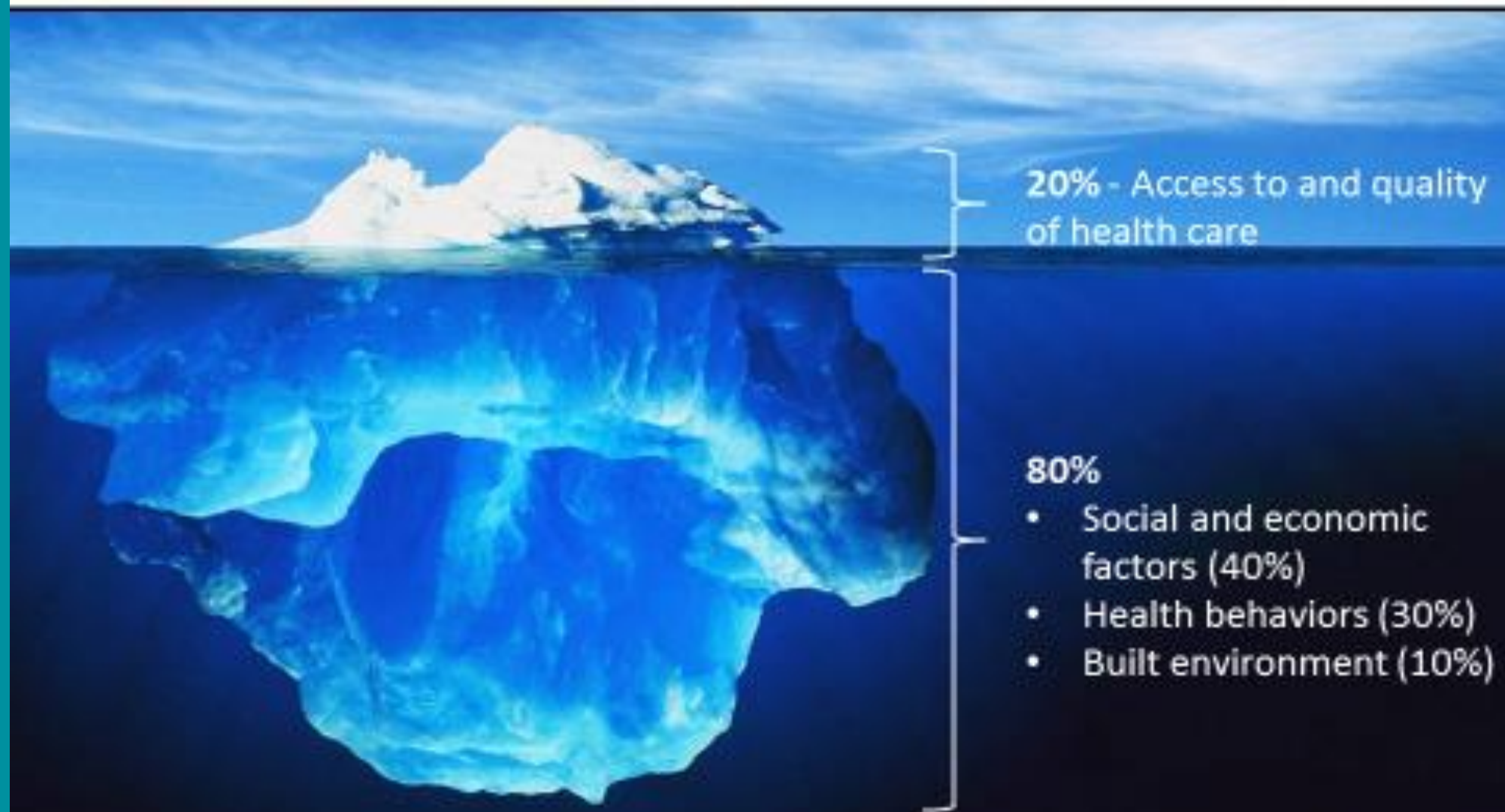
# Evidenced Based Practices



## Trauma-Informed Care

- Housing First into Permanent Supportive Housing
- Critical Time Intervention
- Harm Reduction
- Stages of Change & Motivational Interviewing
- Social Enterprise for employment for individuals with barriers

# Factors Impacting Health Outcomes



Adapted from <<http://www.countyhealthrankings.org/our-approach>>

# Advancing Healthcare and Housing Partnerships

- Affordable Care Act
- Importance of In-Home Supports (Health Homes, 1115 Medicaid Waiver)
- Los Angeles Department of Health Services—Housing for Health Model
- Addressing other Social Determinates:
  - Employment, Education, Social Network



# Looking Ahead



- Initiating new research
- Advancing local, statewide & national policy
- Best practices promotion