

Donica Martinez



Donica Martinez is a powerful voice for change, shaped by struggle and fueled by hope. Born in California and now rooted in Nevada, for the past 23 years—including seven years of homelessness. Her turning point came when the Shine A Light Foundation saw her, believed in her, and offered her a path forward through their supportive program. That act of compassion lit a spark that would become her life's mission. Through Shine A Light, Donica connected with Nevada Homeless Alliance (NHA) as a Peer Vaccine Ambassador, which opened doors to her involvement as a Person with Lived Experience (PLE). NHA not only opened countless doors of opportunity for her, but also provided guidance, support, and compassion for her personal and professional growth. She began to speak up, advocate, and lead—In 2023, PLE and PLE-OH merged and became The Lived X Consultants, now The Lived X Team. Her passion and leadership continued to grow. Today, Donica is the Co-PLE Coordinator for The Lived X Team (contracted with NHA), Community Liaison and Outreach Specialist at Crossroads of Southern Nevada, Case Manager for Shine A Light Foundation, where she runs the W.I.N.G.S. Women's Program, and Manages two sober living properties for Divine Intervention. She sits on the Southern Nevada Homelessness Continuum of Care (SNH CoC) Board and the HMIS Steering Committee lending her voice to system-level change. Donica defines her mission as giving voice to the voiceless, restoring dignity, and empowering others to reclaim their lives through empathy, compassion, and holistic care.