

## **2024 Arizona Housing Coalition Award Winner**

## Jeannette Garment

**Outstanding Achievement in Overcoming Homelessness** 

This outstanding achievement is a milestone to be celebrated and honored and we are so excited to recognize Jeannette Garment. Jeannette's journey has been marked by six years of grappling with homelessness, finding herself often seeking refuge in washes, abandoned homes, and makeshift camps. Her homelessness stemmed from her struggle with addiction, a battle she courageously fought. However, just as she was taking steps to address her addiction, she faced another blow – the sober living house she called home was closing unexpectedly.



For Jeannette, this news was more than just a setback; it felt like a crushing defeat. She had been diligently working to maintain her sobriety and turn her life around, and the sudden closure threatened to derail her progress. Aware of the risks of returning to homelessness and the potential for relapse, Jeannette made a decision fueled by hope and determination.

In April of 2022, at the suggestion of a friend, Jeannette sought refuge at the Wildcat Inn Shelter in Tucson, clinging to the hope of finding a safe haven to continue her journey toward reclaiming her life. From the moment she arrived, Jeannette threw herself into making the most of her newfound sanctuary. She engaged with the services offered on the property and embraced every opportunity for growth and healing. Despite the challenges she has faced, Jeannette's resilience shines through. Her story is a testament to the power of hope, perseverance, and the transformative impact of finding support and solace in the community.

Jeannette's journey at the shelter was defined by her unwavering kindness and eagerness to lend a hand wherever needed. She radiated positivity and became a beacon of hope for fellow shelter participants, inspiring them with her resilience and optimism. When the opportunity arose for a position at another City-operated shelter, Jeannette seized it with enthusiasm. In September 2022, she embarked on a temporary role at the No-tel Shelter, embracing the chance to make a difference in the lives of others.

In March 2023, Jeannette achieved a significant milestone – she secured her own apartment, a testament to her determination and progress. By May 2023, she had transitioned into a full-time role as a Housing Services Agent with the City of Tucson, embodying the spirit of perseverance and growth. On November 8, 2023, Jeannette will celebrate two years of sobriety, a remarkable achievement symbolizing her resilience and inner strength. She has also welcomed two senior cats into her life, finding joy and fulfillment as a proud cat mom.

Rediscovering a childhood passion, Jeannette has reignited her love for training and riding horses, finding solace and purpose in reconnecting with this pastime. Through it all, Jeannette remains a cherished member of the community, valued not only as an employee but also as a friend and mentor to those she encounters. Her journey is a testament to the power of hope, perseverance, and the transformative impact of embracing new opportunities with an open heart.

