



2023 Housing and Homelessness Plan Annual Report

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Service Manager Requirement of Housing and Homelessness Plans

- ▶ Introduced through the *Housing Services Act, 2011* (HSA) and Ontario Regulation 367/11
- ▶ Requires Service Managers to develop Housing and Homelessness Plan that aligns with legislative interests.
 - ▶ Must be 10 years in length
 - ▶ Requires public consultation
 - ▶ Consultation with the public and requires approval from the Province
 - ▶ Every five years review and amend report
 - ▶ Report annually on progress by June 30 to province and public.

Housing and Homelessness Plans in Northumberland

Northumberland
Housing and Homelessness Plan
2014-2023

striving to meet community needs



Northumberland County
Housing and Homelessness Plan
2019 – 2029

Strategic Priorities of 2019 Plan

- ▶ Strategy 1: Increase Affordable Housing Options
- ▶ Strategy 2: Implement Coordinated Access for Housing and Support Services
- ▶ Strategy 3: Support Housing Stability
- ▶ Strategy 4: Increase Supportive Housing and Supports
- ▶ Strategy 5: Build a Diverse Housing Supply
- ▶ Strategy 6: Optimize the Existing Housing Stock

Progress made in 2023: Homelessness Services

- ▶ Building HIFIS (Homeless Individuals and Families Information System)
- ▶ Built for Zero – Canada
- ▶ Acquisition of 310 Division Street
- ▶ Increase in outreach staff by 2 FTE positions (a total of 3 County Outreach Caseworkers and 2 Mental Health Workers through NHH-CMH)

Homelessness System Response



Unsheltered

Staying in public or private spaces that are not meant for permanent living such as **tents, cars, parks**



Emergency Sheltered

Staying in overnight shelters – places for people to go when they have **nowhere else** to stay



Provisionally Accommodated

Staying in temporary accommodation with no option for permanence such as **couchsurfing, institutions, living in hotels**



At risk of homelessness

Currently housed, but **dangerously lacking security or stability**. Housing is nearing the end and there are **no other housing options available**.



Source: Gaetz, S.; Barr, C.; Friesen, A.; Harris, B.; Hill, C.; Kovacs-Burns, K.; Pauly, B.; Pearce, B.; Turner, A.; Marsolais, A. (2012) *Canadian Definition of Homelessness*. Toronto: Canadian Observatory on Homelessness Press.

Moving Forward: Homelessness Priorities

- ▶ Expanding the scope of outreach
- ▶ Operationalization of 310 Division Street
- ▶ HCRT (Homelessness Coordinated Response Team)
- ▶ Creating a Community Liaison Committee
- ▶ HIFIS

Progress made in 2023: Housing Services

- ▶ Acquired 123 King Street East, Colborne (~\$1,300,000), preserving 22 units of affordable housing in Cramahe.
- ▶ Completed Phase One of the Elgin Park redevelopment.
- ▶ In partnership with Community Services and Ontario Works, developed the Housing Stability Program (~\$500,000 annually) which provides a monthly rent subsidy, and is supporting ~ 80 individuals.
- ▶ Continued implementation of eviction prevention policies and processes for the NCHC.
- ▶ With COCHI/OPHI Year 4 funding (~\$460,000) identified community housing providers with similar capital repair needs.
- ▶ Continued support for Northumberland Renovates (\$200,000 annually).

Moving Forward: Housing Priorities

- ▶ Working with member municipalities and other sources to develop a land bank of shovel-ready and funding-ready projects.
- ▶ Supporting viability of the community housing sector as we transition to a new era of community housing (post end-of-mortgage/agreement).
- ▶ Continue pre-construction work at 473 Ontario Street with community partners.
- ▶ Investigate supportive housing opportunities with community partners.

Questions and comments

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