



LONDON FOR ALL

A ROADMAP TO END POVERTY



Homelessness Prevention & Housing

4.12 Continue to support the evolution of emergency shelters to improve diversion, rapid housing, and specialization

Housing Stability for All: The Housing Stability Action Plan for the City of London

The Housing Stability Action Plan 2019-2024 (Plan) defines the current environment and future needs of London and area. The Plan sets the new direction for the collective work of the community to address housing stability.

The approach will become coordinated over the next five years. The result: one housing stability system working together to meet the needs of individuals and families.

The City of London (City) has a leadership role in developing a sustainable and integrated housing stability system, but it cannot do this work alone. This Plan calls on all services, sectors, governments, and residents to address the rapidly changing and complex housing stability needs of individuals and families.

This Plan (see attached) will guide the City's work from 2019-2024, noting that many of the activities that are initiated will extend beyond this time frame.

London's Emergency Shelters Progress Report: 2011-2016

London's Emergency Shelters Progress Report: 2011-2016 (see attached) examines the use of London's emergency shelters between 2011 and 2016. The analysis of billing data over this six-year period provided an opportunity to consider trends in emergency shelter use in London. The results helped inform the development of solutions to address, reduce, and prevent homelessness in London.

Rotholme Shelter Diversion Initiative

Lawson Health Research Institute, Western University, City of London, and Mission Services of London, Ontario, partnered on the Prevention of Homelessness Among

Families (PHAF) project to assess the effectiveness of a shelter diversion pilot-program at Rotholme Women's and Family Shelter (Mission Services).

The results of the study illustrate that a low percentage of families ended up in shelter when accessing the program, and as many as 90 per cent of the families were known to still be housed 18-months later.

The project was supported by \$134,000 in funding delivered through the Government of Ontario's Local Poverty Reduction Fund (LPRF). The grant, funded by the Government of Ontario and administered by its agency, the Ontario Trillium Foundation, is helping groups disproportionately affected by poverty get into housing, develop skills and find employment in London, Ontario.

Rotholme's shelter diversion program aims to divert family homelessness by working with families to maintain stable housing prior to eviction. Families at risk of homelessness who contact the shelter before leaving their home are immediately connected with a housing crisis worker. Together, parents and the crisis worker explore alternate housing arrangements, services, and supports.

In November 2019, the London Community Foundation announced a \$250,000 Community Vitality Grant to Mission Services in support of Rotholme Women's & Family Shelter's Prevention of Homelessness Among Families (PHAF) Program.

Point-in-Time Homeless Count

There have been four enumeration events held in the City of London. During the most recent enumeration event, which occurred in 2018, 73 community volunteers and 20 team leaders from homeless serving agencies surveyed 406 individuals and families experiencing homelessness in 15 locations in London.