

20
19

HOME TOGETHER
Windsor Essex Housing &
Homelessness Master Plan



ANNUAL REPORT



OUR COMMUNITY'S VISION

Windsor Essex is an inclusive community where everyone has a safe, affordable, accessible and quality home and everyone lives where they can actively participate.

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

The following guiding principles will direct our action, as community, in support of the plan:



Achieving our goals is a collective responsibility that will require cross-sectoral **collaborative action** to develop system-level solutions.



We will implement **evidence-based** solutions with a focus on efficiency, cost effectiveness and continuous improvement.



Our programs, services and supports will be **people-centred** and aimed at helping people obtain and retain housing.

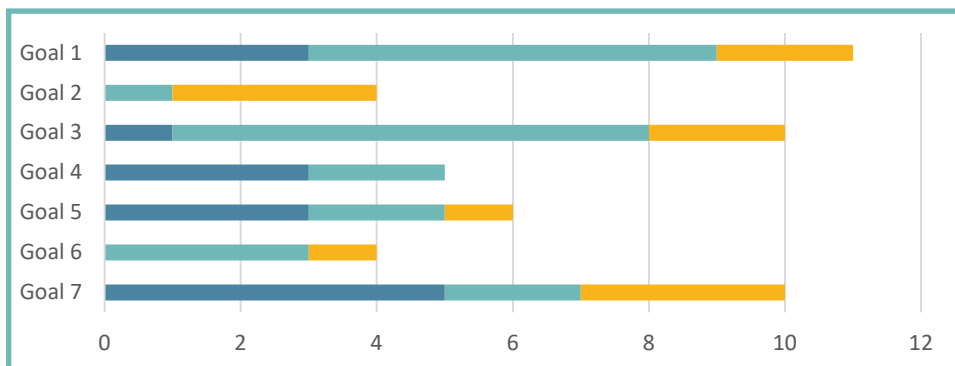


The Plan will be **responsive** to the National Housing Strategy, Ontario's Community Housing Renewal Strategy and any other future Provincial and Federal housing and homelessness strategies and initiatives.



Achieving the goals under the Plan will require **leveraging additional resources** from all level of government.

COMMUNITY PROGRESS ON THE STRATEGIES



In 2019, the City of Windsor's Housing Services Department undertook its legislated five year review of the Windsor Essex 10 year Housing & Homelessness Plan. The renewed plan titled "Home Together: Windsor Essex Housing & Homelessness Master Plan" was adopted by City and County Council in December 2019.

<https://www.citywindsor.ca/residents/housing/Housing-with-Supports-and-Homelessness-Prevention/Windsor-Essex-Housing-and-Homelessness-Plan-and-Related-Reports/Pages/default.aspx>

HOW ARE WE DOING?

The Annual Report highlights the accomplishments achieved in 2019 under the following 7 Goals.

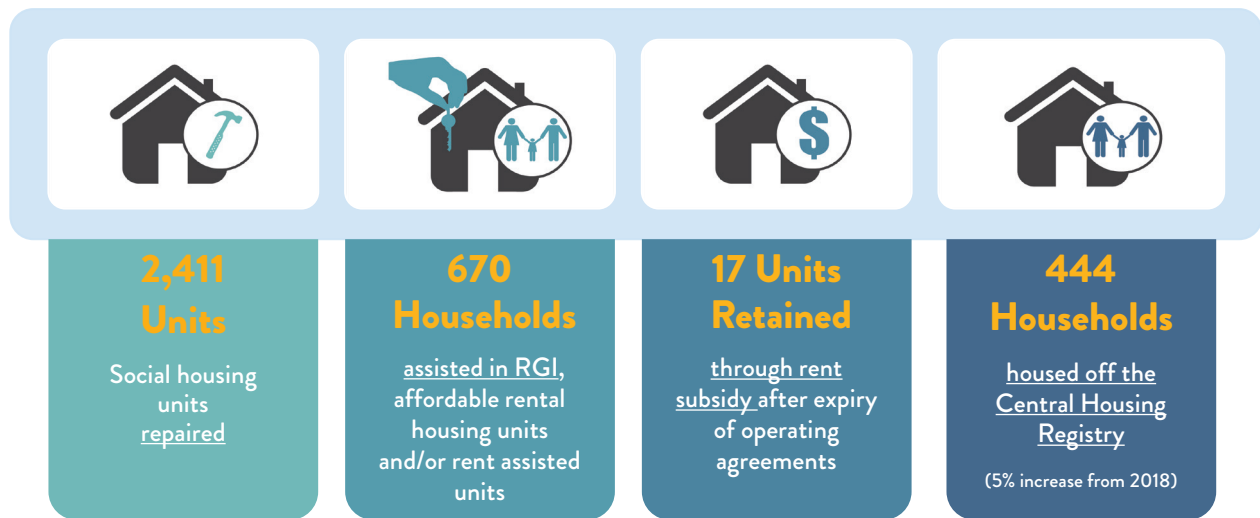
TOTAL STRATEGIES FOR HHMP



■ Number of Strategies Not Started
 ■ Number of Strategies In Progress
 ■ Number of Strategies Enhanced / Ongoing

SUSTAIN AND EXPAND SOCIAL & AFFORDABLE HOUSING

GOAL 1



GOAL 2

SUSTAIN AND EXPAND HOUSING THAT IS LINKED WITH SUPPORTS

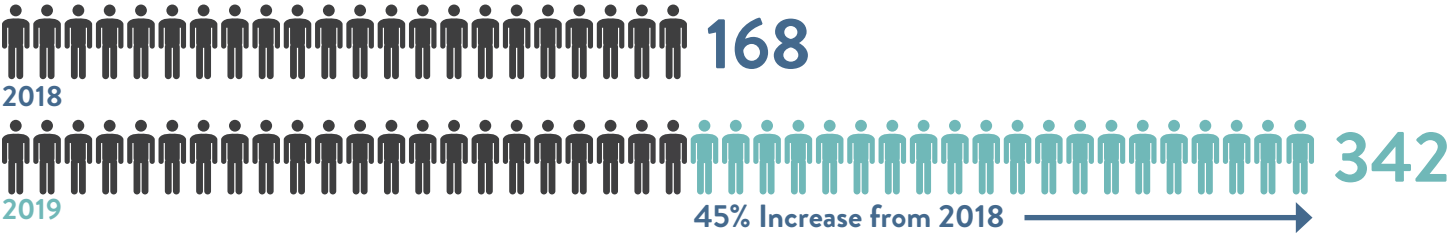
23 MORE households housed and supported through Windsor Essex Housing Connections

Ongoing review of housing continuum and support options

GOAL 3

ENDING HOMELESSNESS

NUMBER OF HOUSEHOLDS EXPERIENCING CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS



145
Households experiencing chronic homelessness were housed and self-resolved.



388
Households experiencing homelessness were housed.



48
Households experiencing chronic homelessness were housed with supports.

8
By-Names Prioritized List Memorandums of Understanding signed to increase formalized partnerships with organizations serving Windsor Essex residents at risk of homelessness to work in an integrated manner to ensure those at risk of homelessness receive appropriate supports.



Emergency Shelter Review Underway



EMERGENCY SHELTER STATS

| Welcome Centre Shelter For Women | Welcome Centre Motel | Salvation Army |
|--|--|--|
| 489 SINGLE WOMEN | 607 FAMILIES | 809 SINGLE MEN |
| ↓ Decrease of 25% | ↑ Increase of 13% | ↓ Decrease of 7% |
| | | |
| AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY 11.4 DAYS | AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY 13 DAYS | AVERAGE LENGTH OF STAY 11 DAYS |
| ↑ Increase of 21% | ↓ Decrease of 7% | ↑ Increase of 20% |
| 3 5,554 total bed nights | 7,896 total bed nights | 8,904 total bed nights |

DOWNTOWN MISSION

(Information was provided by the Downtown Mission)

| Total Number of SINGLE MEN | Total Number of SINGLE WOMEN | Total Number of YOUTH | Total Number of FAMILIES |
|---|------------------------------|-----------------------|--------------------------|
| 2,085 | 610 | 231 | 17 |
| ← AVERAGE NIGHTLY TOTAL 78.20 (75% occupancy) → | | | |
| | | | |
| Increase of 12% | Increase of 4.45% | Increase of 0.86% | Increase of 325% |
| ↑ TOTAL ANNUAL BED NIGHTS 28,545 Increase 9.8% | | | |

ADDRESS INDIGENOUS HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS NEEDS

GOAL 4



16 Indigenous households experiencing homelessness were housed and supported by Indigenous led organizations.



50 Can Am Urban Native Homes units sustained and maintained through repair.



GOAL 5

REDUCE AND PREVENT YOUTH HOMELESSNESS



26 Youth experiencing homelessness were housed with appropriate supports.



2 Housing First for Youth staff enhancements to the Windsor Essex Housing Connections program.



15 Affordable rental housing units awarded under the Community Housing Renewal Strategy-Ontario Priorities Housing Initiative dedicated to increase youth supportive housing.

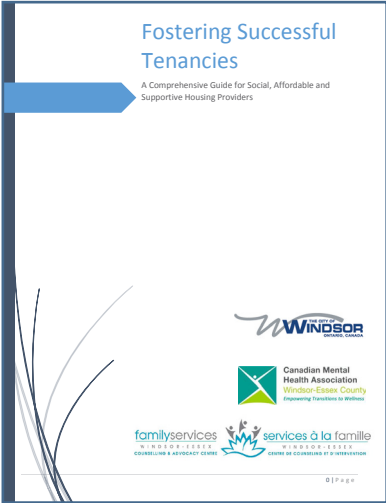


Total Amount Awarded for Youth Supportive Housing
\$2,363,760

GOAL 6

FOSTER SUCCESSFUL TENANCIES THROUGH COMMUNITY COLLABORATION

INNOVATION, EVIDENCE & CAPACITY BUILDING

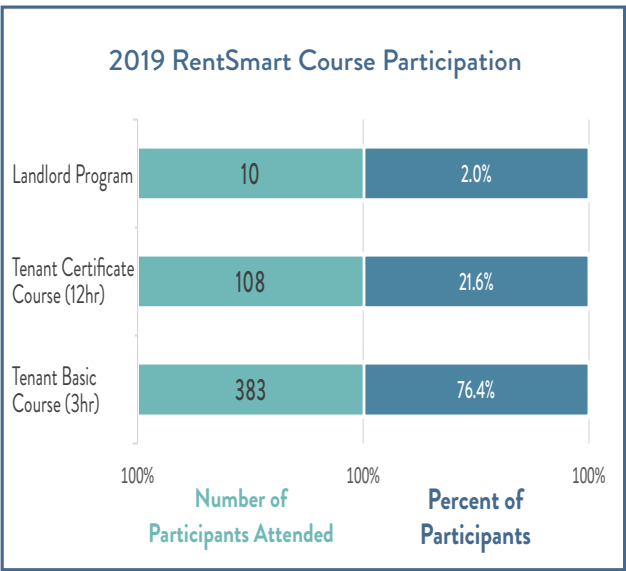


The **Fostering Successful Tenancies** resource toolkit was created to support social, affordable and supportive housing providers, to assist in building their capacity and to foster successful tenancies in a proactive manner that is based on best and emerging practices.

The toolkit can be found here:
<https://www.citywindsor.ca/Documents/FINAL-IEC-Resource-Toolkit-Fostering-Successful-Tenancies.pdf>



In 2019, **Pathway to Potential and Housing Services** worked together to implement the RentSmart Ontario program in Windsor-Essex County with the participation of **12 community agencies.**



- 363 Newcomers
- 64 Youth
- 25 Women
- 23 Persons with Intellectual Disabilities
- 16 People experiencing or at-risk of homelessness
- 10 Landlords/Property Managers

The majority of survey respondents indicated the course was **VERY USEFUL** and learning about **TENANT and LANDLORD RIGHTS and RESPONSIBILITIES** was the most **HELPFUL.**



“It always puts a smile on our faces to be reminded that never again will we worry about finding a home. We can play games, watch movies, go for walks, plan our backyard, pick up sticks, make pillow forts, play in the yard, craft and laugh and spend precious time together. Things we couldn’t always do as a family in previous rentals. There is so much to be grateful for!”

- Homeownership Downpayment Assistance recipient

GOAL 7

MONITOR, REPORT AND EVALUATE

Creation of “**Help is Around the Corner**” Information Sheet. This information sheet is designed to be used by businesses, residents, etc. to assist in determining who to contact if you encounter someone who may be experiencing homelessness found here: <https://www.citywindsor.ca/residents/housing/Documents/Help-is-Around-the-Corner-Poster.pdf>

Quarterly meetings held with Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee (HHAC) and the Windsor Essex Community Advisory Board (CAB) as the champions and to inform the development of a work plan that supports the goals and strategies of the 10 year Housing and Homelessness Master Plan http://topaz/mapserver2012/windsor_eis/WindsorEIS_1a.aspx

Help IS Around The Corner...

This information sheet is to be used by businesses, residents, etc. to assist in determining who to contact if you encounter someone who may be experiencing homelessness.

NO

↓

Engage with Person(s)

Hi, are you looking for help?

Is there anything I can do to assist you?

Is there someone we can call for you?

YES

↓

Call 911

For your safety and theirs it is best to call emergency services

Does the person’s behaviour pose an immediate safety concern? And/or is there an active crime in progress?

Are they open to assistance? If yes, provide the following resources

Crisis and Mental Wellness Centre
519-973-4435 | 744 Ouellette Ave.

Welcome Center Shelter for Women
519-971-7595 | 263 Bridge Ave.

The Salvation Army
519-253-7473 | 355 Church St.

The Downtown Mission
519-973-5573 | 875 Ouellette Ave.

Describe The Situation
- Focus on the Who? What? Why? and When? of the situation.

Provide the Location
- Give the address or closest intersection.
- If the individual left, provide the direction they are travelling in.

Provide a Description
- Age (estimate)
- Clothing, height, hair colour
- Area/location the person frequents

OR CALL

211

311

WINDSOR CITY SERVICES

i For non-emergency or for further assistance contact:

Outreach services
1-888-933-1831 | or@fswc.ca
Windsor Police Non-Emergency
519-258-6111

THE CITY OF
WINDSOR
ONTARIO, CANADA

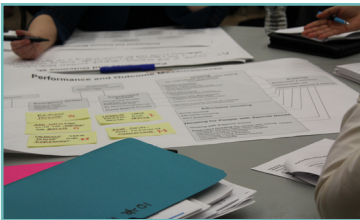
WINDSOR
POLICE

WEHC
WINDSOR-ESSEX
HOUSING CONNECTIONS

HDGH
EST. 1988

Canadian Mental
Health Association
Windsor-Essex County
Empowering transitions to wellness

THANK YOU



The five-year review of the Windsor Essex 10 year Housing and Homelessness Master Plan was a success driven by the support of City and County Councils, Senior Leadership teams, community stakeholders and the participation of the community, through the voice of lived experience.

A vital component in the review of Windsor's Housing and Homelessness Plan is a meaningful and comprehensive community engagement strategy. As part of this strategy, a broad range of stakeholders were invited, through various formats, to share their insights, ideas and experiences on the strengths, challenges, and gaps in housing and homelessness services across Windsor Essex, and to help determine priorities for the next Plan.

Over January and February 2019, stakeholders participated in the following activities:



THANK YOU TO OUR FUNDERS

The City of Windsor is the consolidated service manager for housing and homelessness programs for the City of Windsor and County of Essex. You can contact us and learn more about our programs and services at the following:

HOUSING AND CHILDREN'S SERVICES

400 City Hall Sq. E. PO Box 428 Station "A"
Windsor ON N9A 6L7

519-255-5200 ext 6240

sshousing@citywindsor.ca

www.citywindsor.ca/residents/housing/Pages/Housing.aspx

WINDSOR ESSEX COMMUNITY HOUSING CORP.

Portable Housing Benefit
(COHB and WEHB) Applications

519-254-6994 ext 4005

housingbenefit@wechc.com

www.wechc.com/customer-survey-inquiry

CENTRAL HOUSING REGISTRY

Rent-Geared-to-Income (RGI) Applications
2470 Dougall Ave.

519-254-6994

www.chrwec.com

HOMELESSNESS & HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION

519-255-5200 ext 5289

sshousing@citywindsor.ca

www.citywindsor.ca/residents/housing/Housing-with-Supports-and-Homelessness-Prevention/Pages/default.aspx