

Reaching Home:

Region of Durham Homelessness Plan

2019 – 2024

Note:

All communities receiving funding from Designated Communities stream are required to use this template in order to complete the community plan under Reaching Home. In completing this template, communities are encouraged to develop comprehensive community plans that reflect the contributions of all funding partners, including other orders of governments, not-for-profit organizations, and the for-profit sector.

Please note that in communities that receive funding from both the Designated Communities and Indigenous Homelessness streams, cross-stream collaboration is expected to promote the adoption of a community-wide planning process and support the achievement of community-level outcomes reflecting the needs of the whole community. To support communities in completing their community plans, a Reference Guide has been developed. It is recommended that this be reviewed prior to completing your community's homelessness plan to ensure understanding of the requirements and completeness.

The Community Plan for Reaching Home must be approved by the Community Advisory Board (CAB) of the Designated Community before it is submitted to Service Canada. If your community is developing a joint plan with the Indigenous Community Entity, both Community Advisory Boards must approve the community plan.

In addition to the core requirements provided in this template, communities may also wish to include other components that provide insight into the community's housing and homelessness context or contribute to community-level homelessness challenges, such as a map of the community's current homelessness services and/or gaps in homelessness services or infrastructure (e.g. housing stock). Communities have full flexibility in drafting these sections.

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1. Community Engagement

Please identify the steps taken to engage your community stakeholders in developing this plan.¹

In 2019, the Region of Durham amended the terms of reference for the Durham Advisory Committee on Homelessness (DACH) to incorporate other advisory networks with representation from the local government, non-profit organizations representing various sectors and individuals with lived experience to share information about resources, identify service needs and gaps and provide feedback to Regional Council on the implementation of At Home in Durham. The Community Advisory Board (CAB) officially became a sub-committee of DACH. Both the CAB and DACH were consulted during the development of the Community Plan and final approval was provided by both bodies.

On June 21, 2019, local government, non-profit organizations and individuals with lived experience came together for a community wide co-production session to identify priorities and key strategies needed to establish a community plan for homelessness funding and program planning. The outputs from this community wide engagement were then used to inform the Community Plan.

On August 2nd and September 4th of 2019 the Community Advisory Board came together to continue consultation to help inform the development of the Community Plan.

On August 19th and 28th of 2019, the Gap Committee, comprised of individuals with lived or living experience of homelessness focused on filling the gaps in service delivery, provided valuable consultation that also helped inform the Community Plan. The first priority identified by the Committee was for prevention and shelter diversion. These activities will be provided through Durham's Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) funding. The second priorities identified were for housing services and support services.

The purpose of all engagement activities was to identify priorities for the Region of Durham's community plan and to determine what percentage of Reaching Home Designated Community funding should be allocated toward each local funding priority.

The Region of Durham has been making connections with local indigenous organizations to include these organizations in planning and decision making. These organizations will be invited to all subsequent engagement sessions and their representation on the CAB will be solicited.

¹ Engagement with local Indigenous organizations, and the Indigenous Community Entity and Community Advisory Board is expected in the development of this community plan.

2. Investment Plan

In the table below, please outline your planned allocation of Reaching Home funding (including funding from the Designated Community stream and Community Capacity and Innovation stream) from 2019-24 by investment area. Please note that it is acceptable that your community's funding priorities change over time. This investment plan is to demonstrate that your community has a vision moving forward for the allocation of Reaching Home funding. An example has been included in the Community Plan Reference Guide.

Our community recognizes that Reaching Home is a service-based program that has limited capacity to support fulsome capital projects. As such, the bulk of our community funding will be allocated towards housing placements in accordance with our coordinated access system. Outside of housing placements, the community has determined that individualized support services are also necessary investment targets. Our community has decided that other sources of funding (Provincial CHPI funding) will be used to focus on homelessness prevention, outreach supports, diversion activities and triage activities to support the community plan.

Annual Allocations:

2019-2020: \$716,310

2020-2021: \$698,810

2021-2022: \$947,351

2022-2023: \$940,221

2023-2024: \$940,221

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Housing Services	55%	55%	55%	55%	5%
Prevention and shelter diversion	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Support Services	15%	15%	15%	15%	15%
Capital Investments	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Coordination of Resources and Data Collection	15%	15%	15%	15%	15%
Administration	15%	15%	15%	15%	15%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

3. Cost-Matching Requirement

In the table below, please outline all funding for homelessness initiatives your community plans to receive from external partners from 2019 to 2024. This includes both financial and in-kind contributions. If your anticipated community contributions do not project to cost-match funding from both the Designated Community stream and Community Capacity and Innovation stream for each year, explain the circumstances below the table and include a description of the steps you will take to meet the requirement. An example has been included in the Community Plan Reference Guide.

Projected External Funding towards Homelessness Initiatives						
Funder	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2019 - 24
Provincial Homelessness Program (CHPI)	\$9,066,779	\$9,066,779	\$9,066,779	\$9,066,779	\$9,066,779	\$45,333,895
TOTAL	\$9,066,779	\$9,066,779	\$9,066,779	\$9,066,779	\$9,066,779	\$45,333,895

4. Coordinated Access

*Please discuss the steps you will take to implement a coordinated access system in your community. If your community has a coordinated access system in place, please describe how it presently functions. **Note:** Please also ensure you discuss how Indigenous Organizations have been engaged on the design of Coordinated Access, or how they will be engaged.*

The Region of Durham plans to take the following steps to implement a Coordinated Access System for Durham Region:

1. The Region of Durham will continue to host community engagement sessions with local government, non-profit, Indigenous organizations, and individuals with lived experience to establish community priorities that will help to guide the implementation of Coordinated Access. The Region will also establish a sub-committee on implementing Coordinated Access. The Region already sits on a sub-committee for the ongoing implementation of the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS 4.0). To ensure that work in both sub-committees is aligned, many members will sit at both tables.
2. The Coordinated Access sub-committee will decide on a governance model to oversee the management of the CAS. This includes, but is not limited to,

establishing the terms of reference, creating management and accountability policies and procedures.

3. The Coordinated Access sub-committee will select a model of access that best fits Durham Region, a common assessment tool, prioritization criteria and a referral process by the end of 2020/2021.
4. Both the Community Advisory Board (CAB) and the Durham Advisory Committee on Homelessness (DACH) will approve the proposed procedures established by the sub-committee by the end of 2020/2021.
5. Training and technical assistance will be offered to front-line service providers beginning in 2020/2021.

HIFIS 4.0 has already been implemented in Durham Region. Ongoing work is being done by the HIFIS Community Coordinator and the HIFIS sub-committee to onboard more agencies.

The Region of Durham has been making connections with local Indigenous organizations to include these organizations in planning and decision making. These organizations will be invited to all subsequent engagement sessions and their representation on the CAS sub-committee will be solicited to help design the CAS in Durham Region.

5. Community-Wide Outcomes

If you would like your community to measure progress on additional outcomes beyond the [federally mandated outcomes](#), please identify those outcomes. Please provide your proposed indicators, targets, and methodology for each of the additional identified outcomes.

We heard during community consultations that there is a need to continue discussions on establishing Community-Wide Outcomes and baselines. Community Wide outcomes will be determined as the discussions progress.

6. Official Language Minority Communities

The Government of Canada has a responsibility under the Official Languages Act to ensure that programs and services meet the needs of [Official Language Minority Communities \(OLMCs\)](#). Please describe the steps that you will take to ensure that the services funded under the Reaching Home take the needs of the [OLMCs](#) into consideration where applicable.

The Region of Durham is committed to addressing the needs of all homeless persons. The Community encourages organizations representing OLMCs to apply for selection processes by offering translation upon request.

According to the Point in Time Count conducted in 2018, less than 1% of the homeless persons identified as a member of an OLMC. The community will include a clause in all sub-project agreements to ensure that service providers are prepared to offer services in the minority official language, should there be a request. Partner agencies have access to over-the-phone translation services to assist individuals requiring Official Language services.

The Region of Durham will continue to monitor the demand for services in the official minority language on an ongoing basis so that a right mix of sub-projects is in place to support the OLMCs. Representation on CAB will be solicited from local Francophone Associations.

Note: ESDC has removed all personal and identifying information for members of the Community Advisory Board from this document. To validate or change this information, please contact your Service Canada representative.