

Reaching Home:

Kingston 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.

Reaching Home: Kingston Homelessness Community Plan

Table of Contents

1. Community Engagement.....	3
2. Investment Plan.....	5
3. Cost-Matching Requirement.....	6
4. Coordinated Access	6
5. Community-Wide Outcomes	9
6. Official Languages Minority Communities	10

Reaching Home: Kingston Homelessness Community Plan

1. Community Engagement

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

The Kingston Community Advisory Board (CAB) is made up of individuals across multiple sectors that are representative of our community, including Francophone & Indigenous representatives, who are strongly linked to the homelessness serving system and work in partnership with community organizations/stakeholders to understand the issues related to homelessness, and to develop a comprehensive plan and approach for recommending federal funding and solutions to address the local needs of our community.

Our CAB works closely with the City of Kingston, as well as having municipal staff on CAB. The City of Kingston, in its development of the 10-year Municipal Housing and Homelessness plan, underwent a series of extensive community consultations in an effort to thoroughly understand the thoughts surrounding housing and homelessness in Kingston, at that time. As part of the 5-year review of this plan that commenced in the fall of 2018, and reviewed at the Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee on September 11, 2019, the City has once again engaged in an environmental scan and consultations with the community, including the Community Entity and CAB. CAB meetings were held May 8, June 11, and September 18.

As a result of working together, plans and strategies to efficiently and effectively address the issue of homelessness have been/continue to be developed in a coordinated way. These include how to best utilize resources/funding that are available to our community, including the Homelessness Partnering Strategy and now Reaching Home. CAB members consulted with their respective networks and voted to approve new Sub-projects and approved the Community Plan on October 17.

Working collaboration and collectively is a strength of our community. As Community Entity (CE), the United Way, Kingston, Frontenac, Lennox & Addington (KFLA) has taken a leadership role to engage with the community at all levels, including those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless. This has informed our CAB's direction regarding identification of priorities and the development of a community plan with strategies for investment of Reaching Home funds to prevent and end homelessness in Kingston.

Examples of successful outcomes resulting from community engagement and working together, include:

- United Way's collective impact work on preventing and ending youth homelessness and implementation of a plan that includes strategies and investment in such things as: system mapping and protocol development, family mediation program, hub for marginalized youth, increased youth transitional housing, focus on rural youth homelessness, education and awareness campaigns, additional prevention, diversion and housing first services for youth, etc.;
- The United Way, KFLA coordinates and hosts the Youth Homelessness Steering Committee, with collaboration of over 30 partners, the United Way produced the innovative and accessible

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

Reaching Home: Kingston Homelessness Community Plan

Report on Youth Homelessness 2019, which highlights that visible youth homelessness has gone from 50% of all homeless persons, to nearly 0%, over the past 5 years of partnership.

- The Bi-annual Coordinated Point-in-Time (PiT) Counts to collect data/information and identify issues, causes, trends related to homelessness (i.e.) high ratio of female & Indigenous homelessness, need for prevention programs and transitional housing services for youth, etc. Kingston is committed to working with diverse community partners to continue with future PiT Counts, and will incorporate consultations with and magnate events by Indigenous partners. There have been outreach activities with Queen's University's Four Winds, Tipi Moza, Kagitum Mikum and Mohawks of the Bay of Quinte;
- Re-design and implementation of Housing First approach within the municipal homelessness service system;
- Participating in the national 20,000 Homes Campaign September Round Table, and recent transition to Built for Zero, including readiness to launch a by-name list for chronic homelessness;
- Implementation of the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS) within City funded programs and movement towards a more broadly coordinated homelessness service system that strengthens the capacity of community agencies not funded by the service manager, to participate in the HIFIS program;
- A CAB member also sits on the City of Kingston Housing and Homelessness Advisory Committee which held a Special Round Table Meeting in July, 2019 regarding Indigenous housing issues and culturally supportive housing. Members of the CAB will continue to participate in roundtables and other events planned for 2020;
- In addition to the renewal of half of the proceeds from the Kingston Penitentiary Tours earmarked for youth homelessness, The UW, KFLA lead, in cooperation with community partners, organizing the Rocking the Big House concert on Sept 14.
- The UW, KFLA's partnership with the Novelis Neighbour Project in the week of October 15, 2019 to provide funds and human resources to replace flooring and fixtures at the Kingston Youth Shelter.

Reaching Home: Kingston Homelessness 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.

To tackle the issue of homelessness, our community recognizes the importance of prevention. As such, the bulk of our Reaching Home funding will be dedicated to homelessness prevention and shelter diversion activities. This approach compliments and helps to fill gaps within the City's existing housing and homelessness system, as the municipal Service Manager overseeing the delivery of homelessness programs funded under the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI). It also aligns with United Way's investment strategy towards addressing homelessness through a prevention and intervention lens.

Additionally, United Way as CE, along with our CAB, will work with the City and community agencies to expand the capacity of the existing coordinated access system, beyond City funded programs, to encourage and allow other service providers to participate in the coordinated access system.

Outside of this, we recognize there may be a need for capital investments to enhance/expand coordination and access to programs geared to housing and homelessness.

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24
Housing Services	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Prevention and shelter diversion	50%	50%	50%	50%	50%
Support Services	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%
Capital Investments	25%	25%	25%	25%	25%
Coordination of Resources and Data Collection	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%
Administration	15%	15%	15%	15%	15%
TOTAL	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

5-year Annual Reaching Home Allocations:

2019-2020:	\$389,779
2020-2021:	\$377,279
2021-2022:	\$439,315
2022-2023:	\$433,165
2023-2024:	\$433,165

Reaching Home: Kingston Homelessness Community Plan

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 Total
City of Kingston – Municipal Funding	\$760,838	\$820,935	\$865,106	\$865,106	\$865,106	\$4,177,091
United Way KFLA	\$811,800	\$811,800	\$811,800	\$811,800	\$811,800	\$4,059,000
TOTAL	\$1,572,638	\$1,632,735	\$1,676,906	\$1,676,906	\$1,676,906	\$8,236,091

In addition to the City of Kingston Municipal Funding, which includes Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI), and the funds the United Way contributes, the United Way has continued the partnership with the St. Lawrence Parks Commission to equally divide funds raised from the Kingston Penitentiary Tours.

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 City of Kingston is the Service Manager for Kingston and the County of Frontenac and is responsible for the overseeing the delivery of homelessness programs funded under the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI).

The City developed a coordinated access system in 2015 in accordance with the 10 Year Municipal Housing and Homelessness Plan. Individuals and families wishing to access homelessness services may enter the system through one of several access points where they

Reaching Home: Kingston Homelessness Community Plan

receive coordinated intake, including a standardized assessment. They are then prioritized for services by target population – adults/families, youth, and rural.

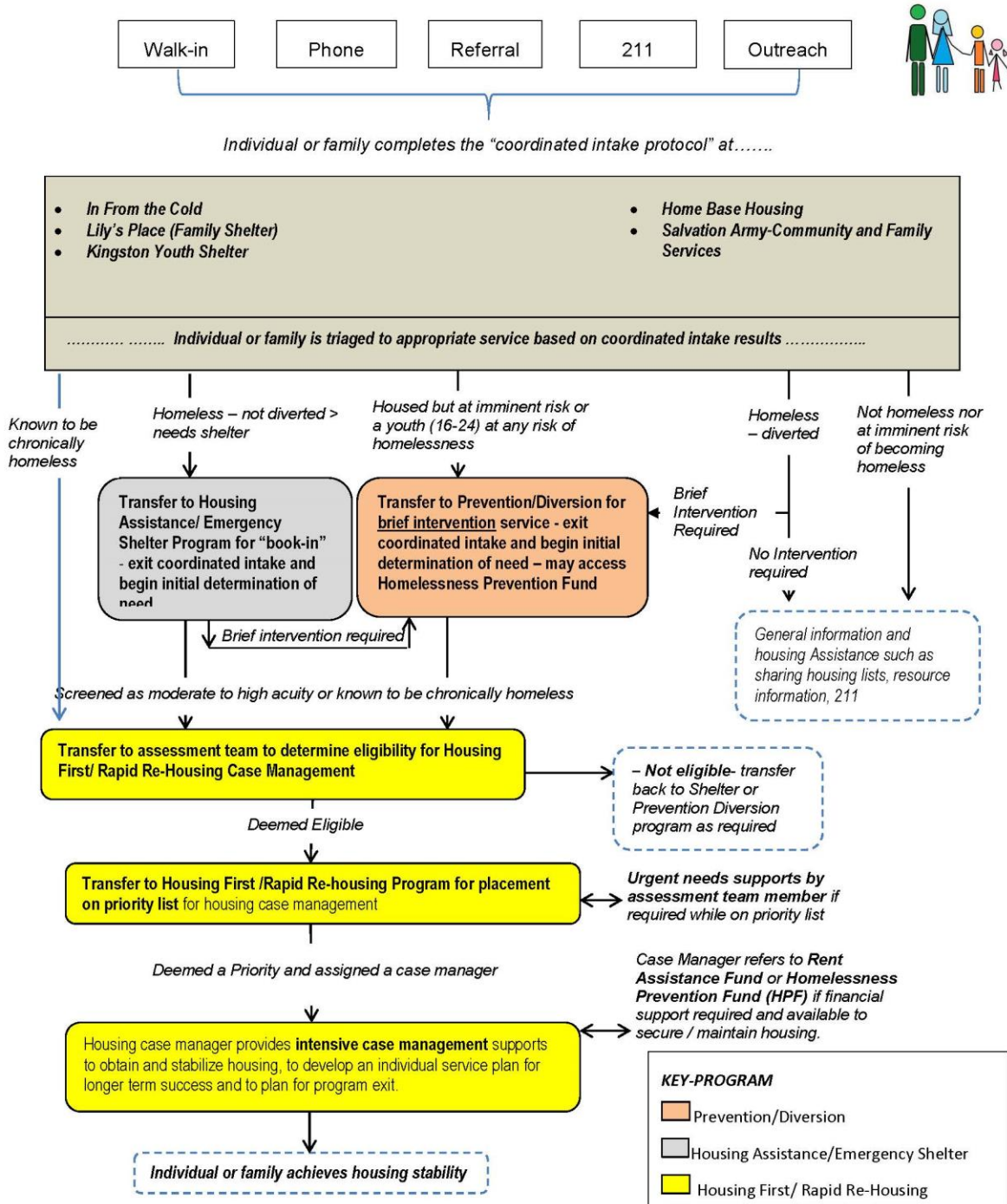
Although the coordinated access system currently only includes CHPI-funded service providers, the Service Manager is in early stages of discussion with community partners, including the CE, regarding strategies to include them in the existing system.

(see below)

Reaching Home: Kingston Homelessness Community Plan

Current Municipal Service Manager Map:

SERVICE MAP FOR THE HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS SERVICES SYSTEM - CITY OF KINGSTON AND COUNTY OF FRONTENAC



Reaching Home: Kingston Homelessness Community Plan

United Way as CE, will work with the City to support new participating agencies in the coordinated access system, as well as, sub-projects funded through Reaching Home, to use HIFIS, the Homelessness Management Information System that is used by our community.

United Way as CE, will work with the City to establish a governance structure, including a data sharing agreement for accessing information and reporting to ESDC towards the required goal of reducing chronic homelessness by 50% by 2027-2028.

Engagement with the local Indigenous community has also begun to ensure that there is an understanding of their cultural needs and requirements within the system. These engagements will continue and Cultural Awareness training for Housing and Homelessness System service providers will begin in 2020.

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.

Outcome: Coordinated Access by March 31, 2022

- Our community has an existing coordinated access system. We will work towards expanding the capacity of our existing system to include organizations that are not currently funded by the City of Kingston, as service manager, and required to use HIFIS.

Outcome: Reduction in chronic homelessness by 50% by 2027-28

- To meet this outcome, our community will identify a baseline number by establishing a By-Name List - a real-time list that has the names, or unique identifiers of individuals who are chronically homeless within the City and County of Frontenac.
- Service providers will note the names (for those who consent to having their name on the list) and unique identifies (for those who do not consent to having their name on the list) through the Coordinated Access System and also through the street outreach program.
- We anticipate the list will be live by the end of October 2019. This list will be used to ensure that no one falls through cracks in the system and that those who are at greatest need of support are prioritized in an effective and timely manner. This list will be updated by the Service providers within the City's system at first, with a hope to include all organizations that serve homeless individuals in the future.
- We will also use information collected through the biennial Point-in-Time Count to broaden our understanding of the issues, trends, gap, and progress made related to the issue of homelessness in our community, as well as, how we can better utilize resources and coordinate services.

Reaching Home: Kingston Homelessness Community Plan

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.

In 2016, a bilingual member from our community was recruited to the CAB to ensure needs of the Official Language Minority Community are represented.

English is predominantly the mother tongue of the Kingston population and service providers have not reported any barriers to services to Francophones. Many of Kingston's French speakers are associated with CFB Kingston and receive services through Military Family Services.

While our community has a very small number of OLMC's compared to the overall population, all funded sub-projects are able to offer programming, and information on Reaching Home, in both official languages. All current Sub-project organizations have bilingual staff and most agencies have an active offer greeting in French.

To ensure that the services funded under the Reaching Home Strategy address OLMC needs, the CE will continue to implement Call For Proposal (CFP) processes that include applicants identifying their ability to provide access to services that meet the needs of the OLMC.

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