



END HOMELESSNESS IN OXFORD COUNTY



Oxford Housing Action Collaborative Supportive Housing Priority

County Council, December 13, 2023

What is the Oxford Housing Action Collaborative?

- Formed in 2019
- Committed group of community partners working together to find solutions to the local housing crisis, while supporting the positive work and systems that already exist
- Focused on ensuring that all people in Oxford County are housed and connected in the community (aligned with Oxford County Strategic Plan 2023-26: Goal 1.1. 100% Housed)



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OHAC Partners

- Children's Aid Society
- Canadian Mental Health Association Thames Valley
Addiction and Mental Health Services
- Domestic Abuse Services Oxford (DASO)
- Domestic Abuse Response Team
- Elgin Oxford Legal Clinic
- Indwell
- Ingamo Homes
- Operation Sharing
- Oxford County
- Oxford County Community Health Centre (OCCHC)
- Salvation Army Woodstock
- Social Planning Council Oxford (SPCO)
- Southwestern Public Health
- Woodstock General Hospital
- United Way Oxford



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The Housing Continuum



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Priorities 2022-24

Housing Continuum

Strategically increase and strengthen interim housing interventions

- Emergency Shelter
- Supportive Housing
- Seek opportunities for enhancing and increasing supportive housing options and availability
- Transitional Housing
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Supports

Enhance the continuum of sustainable supports for obtaining and maintaining housing

- Coordinated Access
- Prevention Supports
- Intervention Supports



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What is Supportive Housing

OHAC Definition:

Supports tailored to the person that enable them to live independently in their affordable home and maintain their housing.

Examples of Potential Supports:

- Nursing
- Social Work/Mental Health
- Food Security
- Life Skills Training
- Recreation
- Addictions Support

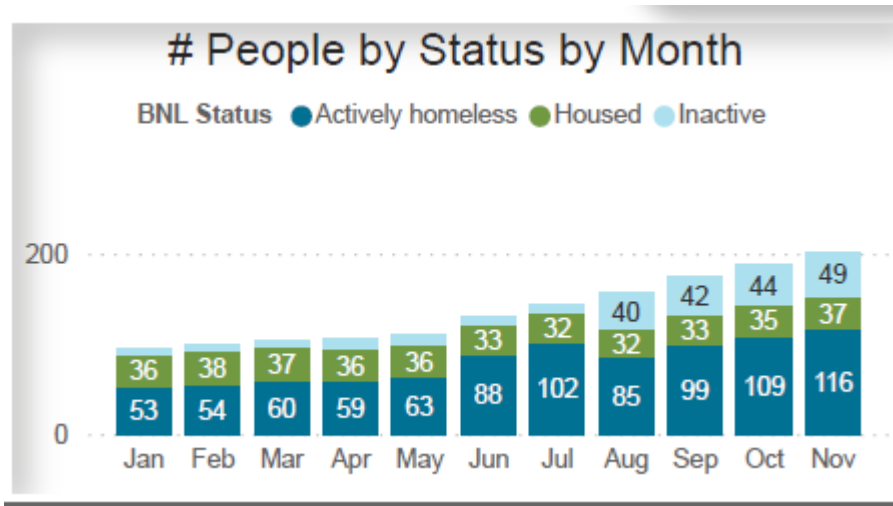


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Current Needs

- By Name List numbers (November)



116 people actively homeless
81 in chronic homelessness

- Longer in homelessness=harder to get out
- Long waitlists for existing supportive housing



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Why Supportive Housing is the Solution



Western University Centre for Research on Health Equity and Social Inclusion (2022). Indwell: Making Supportive Housing Work for Canada's Most Vulnerable.

Outcomes:

- Get people off of the by name/out of homelessness
- Improved health outcomes and proper use of hospital resources
- Police calls down
- Learning of life skills=increased independence
- Transitional housing outcomes = move to permanent housing



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To learn more about supportive housing and people's stories of hope, watch "Safe": <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OfUWXkkmUoo>



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Thank you!

If you have any questions or follow up, please reach out to

Stephanie Ellens-Clark

stephanie.ellens-clark@spcoxford.ca

Randy Peltz

rpeltz@oxchc.ca



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