Housing For All: Our Plan At A Glance

REDUCE HOMELESSNESS THROUGH PREVENTION

- Develop a Homelessness Response Strategy
- Improve and increase access to emergency and transitional housing options

SUPPORT HOUSING STABILITY THROUGH COLLABORATION

- Improve access to and coordination of services
- Strengthen the system of supports through enhanced partnerships

MAINTAIN & IMPROVE THE EXISTING HOUSING PORTFOLIO

- Sustain community housing as mortgages expire
- Continue to invest in repair and renewal of the County's housing portfolio
- Implement a technology solution to support capital planning for community housing

INCREASE AFFORDABLE AND RENTAL OPTIONS

- Implement the Master Housing Strategy as funding becomes available
- Facilitate new affordable housing units through partnerships & innovation

ADVOCATE FOR INCREASED INVESTMENT

- Collaborate with other Service Managers and municipal organizations to advocate for sustained federal and provincial investment in new affordable housing supply programs
- Work with local partners to advocate for increased investment in homelessness response and housing stability supports

REDUCE HOMELESSNESS THROUGH PREVENTION

- Complete a needs assessment to identify the current and future scope of homelessness throughout the County.

- Undertake a scan and develop a map of all programs and services offered across the County to support homelessness support and prevention.

- Conduct a comprehensive and inclusive community engagement process, informed by community partners and people with lived experience of housing instability and homelessness.

- Identify options and opportunities for pathways out of homelessness.

- Identify service gaps, short-term and long-term strategies, and resources to reduce homelessness in the County.

- Partner with community agencies to increase housing options for people experiencing homelessness.

- Leverage funding opportunities to assist people with maintaining their residence if facing eviction.

- Utilize the By-Name List and Coordinated Access system to assist people in becoming "housing ready" and consistently work on the prioritization list to rehouse and stabilize those who are presently unhoused.

MEASURING OUR PROGRESS

- #/% of people on the By-Name List who obtain housing

- # of people who become homeless (new or return to By-Name List)

- Change in # of people on By-Name List

- Emergency shelter usage

- #/% of at-risk participant households who received Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) community outreach and support services

- #/% of at-risk participant households assisted by HPP who retained housing for 12 months or more

- #/% of people referred to housing stability services through the centralized waiting list system

SUPPORT HOUSING STABILITY THROUGH COLLABORATION

- Leverage the County's Centralized Waiting List system to connect people to housing stability supports.

- Partner with and promote 211 to enhance housing stability resource information available to the public.

- Establish a strategic community planning table to improve coordination of services, data tracking and provincial funding applications.

- Identify, connect, and promote collaboration of all navigators in Oxford County to enhance a shared understanding of service pathways.

- Enhance supports available to community housing residents.

- Collaborate with private landlords and local housing providers to provide increased housing options.

- Acknowledge the requirement for some vulnerable community members to receive regular and on-going support with standardized approaches and touch points.

MEASURING OUR PROGRESS

- Initiating establishment of a central database for collecting goal supportive data from community partners

- Supporting a minimum of 40 rent support applications (rent supplement, housing allowance) annually

- Initiating a new rent supplement program to encourage the retention and participation of private sector landlords in the traditional rent supplement program

- Preserving and creating supportive housing stock (#/% change in units)

MAINTAIN & IMPROVE THE EXISTING HOUSING PORTFOLIO

- Engage community housing providers and support viability as buildings age and mortgages end.

- Support building the capacity of community-based housing providers to use the end of mortgages as an opportunity to explore their strategic planning.

- Encourage housing providers to achieve scale through redevelopment, amalgamation, or partnerships as appropriate.

- Establish a framework for new agreements with community providers as mortgages end, informed by:

  - updated assessments of capital needs

  - financial viability assessment

- Review long-term capital needs for County owned housing stock and explore funding options to sustain the portfolio.

MEASURING OUR PROGRESS

- Completing Building Condition Assessments (BCA) for all community housing providers

- Implementing asset planning software for community housing providers, to support building viability and ensure appropriate capital investments

- Establishing and facilitating a community housing table to build a strong, supported housing provider network

- Hosting one training and/or event annually to increase community housing sector capacity building and strengthen governance

- Engaging community housing provider boards, attending a board meeting prior to negotiating end of operating agreements

- Amalgamating operational support for community housing providers that are entering into new operating agreements to promote efficiency in the sector

- Developing a consistent framework for entering into new agreements with community housing providers, including a review of capital needs (informed by a recent BCA) and financial viability

- Negotiating new agreements with all community housing providers whose mortgages are coming to an end, with a focus on preserving all RGI units

- Reviewing asset needs of County owned housing stock and complete a review of long-term, 10-Year financial needs to ensure the portfolio remains sustainable

- Maintaining the current number of community and County owned housing units

INCREASE AFFORDABLE & RENTAL OPTIONS

- Continue implementation of the Master Housing Plan as funding permits.

- Review effectiveness of current new supply incentives and affordable ownership programs and ensure resources are allocated strategically.

- Explore potential benefits of establishing a County-owned housing development corporation.

- Explore opportunities to increase supply through co-location with County and/or local municipal services.

- Consider potential to increase worker housing supply through partnerships with employers.

- Continue to consider innovative housing models and funding programs to increase affordable accessory dwelling units on existing residential properties.

- Continue to consider innovative housing models and funding programs to support critical home repairs.

MEASURING OUR PROGRESS

- Initiating a minimum two multi-residential housing projects per year

- Reallocating a portion of the home ownership revolving loan fund to support the My Second Unit and Housing Repair Programs

- Supporting the creation of a minimum of 8 affordable second units annually through the My Second Unit Program, in line with available funding

- Support a minimum of 8 residential home repairs annually through the Residential Repair Program, in line with available funding

- Completing a business case to understand the opportunities and challenges of establishing a Local Housing Development Corporation, and the role it may play in meeting the actions of the 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan, including supporting the creation of affordable housing and the rehabilitation of the community housing stock

- Partnering with a local municipality to support a project that provides a co-location for affordable housing and a municipal service

- Partnering with a local municipality and/or local employer to provide affordable housing options for employees

ADVOCATE FOR INCREASED INVESTMENT

- Review successful Canadian housing advocacy campaigns to inform County advocacy planning

- Continue to engage local housing and health system partners in development of business cases and related initiatives to advocate for increased provincial investment in housing and housing stability programs

- Leverage membership in organizations such as ROMA, FCM and AMO to advocate for sustained investment in affordable housing development

- Explore facilitating a Housing Summit to raise awareness of County initiatives and promote continued action to address housing need

- Outreach to local service manager areas to determine opportunities to develop regional advocacy messaging

MEASURING OUR PROGRESS

- Endorse/support advocacy efforts by organizations such as ROMA, WOWC, OMSSA, HSSC, FCM and AMO as appropriate

- Convene an engagement with local service manager areas to determine opportunities to develop regional advocacy messaging.