

Annual Progress Report on the Housing for All Plan

Strategy	Action Items	Outcomes	Measures	Total/Actuals 2024
Reduce Homelessness Through Prevention	Complete a needs assessment to identify current and future scope of homelessness	The Homelessness Response Strategy is currently underway and includes:	#/% of people on the BNL who obtained Housing	54 individuals
	Undertake a scan and develop a map of all programs and services offered	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - a review of the current and future scope of homelessness - mapping of all programs and services 	# of people who became homeless (new or return to BNL)	Newly Identified: 169 Return to BNL: <i>From Inactive: 68</i> <i>From Housed: 9</i>
	Identify service gaps, short-term and long-term strategies, and resources	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - identification of service gaps, strategies and resources to address homelessness - a comprehensive public consultation process <p>The County entered into arrangements with community partners to support and house individuals from the By-Name List.</p>	Change in # of people on BNL	Actively Homeless: +25 <i>Dec 2024 - Actively Homeless: 143</i> <i>Dec 2023 - Actively Homeless: 118</i>
	Utilize By-Name List & Coordinated Access	<p>Council approved the development of 20 transitional housing beds to support individuals from the By-Name List.</p>	Emergency shelter usage	Total: 35 Woodstock: 30 Tillsonburg: 9
	Identify options and opportunities for pathways out of homelessness	<p>The Out of the Cold Shelter in Tillsonburg opened for a second year, providing shelter for those experiencing homelessness starting on November 1, 2024.</p>	#/% of households assisted by HPP who retained housing	192 individuals
	Partner with community agencies to increase housing options		#/% of households who received community outreach and support services	149 individuals (Day Space and MHOB)
	Leverage funding opportunities to assist people with maintaining their residence	A total of \$2.9 million from the Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP) was expended on various supports and services for those at risk of or experiencing homelessness.		
	Conduct a comprehensive and inclusive community engagement process			

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Support Housing stability Through Collaboration	Partner with and promote 211 to enhance housing stability resource information	The County supported Encampment Response in collaboration with Area Municipalities and Community Partners.	Initiating establishment of a central database for collecting goal supportive data from community partners	Future date
	Establish a strategic community planning table	The County, in collaboration with community partners, increased the hours of the Mobile Health Outreach Bus (MHOB) and the frequency of attending encampments.	Supporting a minimum of 40 rent support applications (rent supplement, housing allowance annually)	230 individuals received a rent supplement or COHB.
	Leverage the County's Centralized Waiting List to connect people to housing stability supports	The County Navigator continued to provide outreach and assistance to those experiencing or at risk of homelessness.	Preserving and creating supportive housing stock (#/% change in units)	13 additional supportive/transitional units created, and 20 new units approved.
	Identify, connect and promote collaboration of all navigators in Oxford County	Municipal 511 was implemented in the urban municipalities in support of local encampment response.	Initiating a new rent supplement program to encourage the retention and participation of private sector landlords in the traditional rent supplement program	In progress
	Enhance supports available to community housing residents	Staff continued to provide in shelter support at the day space.		
	Collaborate with private landlords and local housing providers	A total of 80 households received a rent supplement and 150 households received a portable housing benefit through the Canada Ontario Housing Benefit (COHB).		
	Acknowledge the requirement for some vulnerable community members to receive regular and on-going support			
Maintain & Improve the Existing Housing Portfolio	Engage community housing providers and support viability as buildings age and mortgages end	All existing rent-gear-to-income units were maintained under the County and non-profit/cooperative portfolios.	Complete Building Condition Assessments (BCA) for all community housing providers	A total of 4 BCAs were completed, with 8 remaining.
	Review long-term capital needs for County owned housing stock and explore funding options to sustain the portfolio	The County implemented Asset Planner to assist Housing Providers with understanding capital needs. Building Condition Assessments	Establishing and facilitating a community housing table to build a strong, supported, housing provider network	In progress

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	Encourage housing providers to achieve scale through redevelopment, amalgamation, or partnerships as appropriate	(BCAs) were completed for various non-profit and cooperative housing providers.	Implementing asset planning software for community housing providers, to support building viability and ensure appropriate capital investments	In progress
	Support building the capacity of community-based housing providers to use the end of mortgages as an opportunity to explore their strategic planning	County staff provided support and expertise to non-profit/co-operative housing providers with capital projects and RFP processes, as needed.	Hosting one training and/or event to annually increase community housing sector capacity building and strengthen governance	Targeting Q3 2025
	The County expended funds under the Repair Program to support critical repairs for a number of housing providers.	Engaging community housing provider boards, attending a board meeting prior to negotiating end of operating agreements	Ongoing	
	Amalgamating operational support for community housing providers that are entering into new operating agreements to promote efficiency in the sector	Ongoing		
	Maintaining the current number of community and County owned housing units	All 1,236 units were maintained		
	Developing a consistent framework for entering into new agreements with community housing providers, including a review of capital needs	Completed and approved by County Council on May 8, 2024.		

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			(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	In progress
			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	In progress
Increase Affordable & Rental Options	Continue implementation of the Master Housing Plan as funding permits	Construction continued on the affordable housing project located at 785 Southwood Way, Woodstock, consisting of 52 rental units (including 37 at affordable rental rates).	Initiating a minimum two multi-residential housing projects per year	Three projects were initiated – 14 Harvest Avenue, Tillsonburg, 102 Dereham Drive, Tillsonburg, and 175 Springbank Avenue North, Woodstock
	Explore potential benefits of establishing a County-owned housing development corporation	Development approvals commenced for the affordable housing project located at 175 Springbank Road North, Woodstock, consisting of 45 rental units (including 23 at affordable rental rates).	Reallocating a portion of the home ownership revolving loan fund to support the My Second Unit and Housing Repair Programs	In progress, awaiting Ministry approval
	Explore opportunities to increase supply through co-location with County and/or local municipal services	Discussions continued for two prospective affordable housing projects in the Township of Zorra	Supporting the creation of a minimum of 8 affordable second units annually through the My Second Unit Program, in line with available funding	A total of 9 My Second Unit applications were approved

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	Consider potential to increase worker housing supply through partnerships with employers	and Town of Tillsonburg, in support of the Master Housing Strategy. Planning approvals were completed for the future affordable housing site located at 385-387 Dundas Street, Woodstock.	Support a minimum of 8 residential home repairs annually through the Residential Repair Program, in line with available funding	A total of 5 Repair Program applications were approved
	Review effectiveness of current new supply incentives and affordable home ownership programs	14 affordable rental units were approved at 14 Harvest Avenue, Tillsonburg.	Partnering with a local municipality to support a project that provides a co-location for affordable housing and a municipal service	Ongoing work with the Township of Zorra and Town of Tillsonburg on two prospective projects
	Continue to consider innovative housing models and funding programs to support critical home repairs	Lands were purchased in the Town of Tillsonburg to support the creation of up to 100 market and affordable rental units.	Partnering with a local municipality and/or local employer to provide affordable housing options to employees	Future project
	Continue to consider innovative housing models and funding programs to increase affordable accessory dwelling units on existing residential properties	A total of 9 My Second Unit and 5 Repair Program applications were approved.	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	Future project
Advocate for Increase Investment	Review successful Canadian housing advocacy campaigns to inform County advocacy planning	Staff engaged with local service managers through various networks to support various regional advocacy messaging.	Endorse/support advocacy efforts by organizations such as ROMA, WOWC, OMSAA,	Staff attended ROMA and AMO, and continued participation in WOWC, HSSC and

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	Leverage membership in organizations such as ROMA, FCM and AMO	Staff also attended ROMA and AMO, and continued participation in WOWC, HSSH and OMSAA, with the goal of advocating for various housing program funding.	HSSC, FCM and AMO, as appropriate	OMSAA, particularly around joint housing and homelessness efforts.
	Explore facilitating a Housing Summit to raise awareness of County initiatives and promote continued action		Convene an engagement with local service manager areas to determine opportunities to develop regional advocacy messaging	Staff engaged with local service managers through OMSAA to support various regional advocacy messaging around the negotiation of the National Housing Strategy and various funding programs.
	Outreach to local service manager areas to determine opportunities to develop regional advocacy messaging			