



ALLIANCE TO END
HOMELESSNESS
OTTAWA

ANNUAL REPORT



September 2018

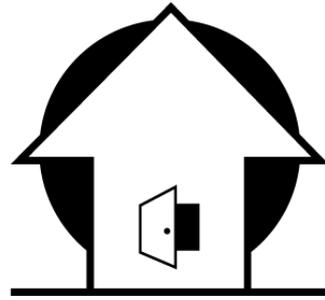


www.endhomelessnessottawa.ca



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Your Alliance in Review



As I mark my one year anniversary with the Alliance to End Homelessness Ottawa, I look forward to building on the organization's accomplishments to date. There is more work to be done to continue to strengthen our collective voice as we work to continuously improve the quality of life for those who are homeless, or at risk of homelessness in Ottawa.

The Alliance will continue to provide research, community engagement and learning, along with timely information on public policy and advocacy as we work with newly elected governments at both the provincial and municipal levels. The recently launched *Advocacy Toolkit*, and re-developed Progress Report '*Homelessness in Ottawa: A Roadmap for Change*' are just two examples of advocacy resources developed this past year by the Alliance Policy Committee and Research and Evaluation Working Group in consultation with our members. I encourage you to use these resources as often as you can as you engage with your Board, donors and with community stakeholders.

There is great potential for Alliance members to increase our impact while fostering a deeper understanding of the sector's leadership role on homelessness prevention and the importance of increasing the supply of affordable housing in our city. As we move forward, the complexity of the challenge is real. As is the knowledge, experience and capacity of our members to offer solutions to how we envision the future of our sector. The door is open. Now is the time to work collaboratively towards meaningful change.

Many thanks to the Alliance Board and to our members, funders and community partners for your continued involvement. Thank you for all you do to create a more vibrant, equitable and inclusive Ottawa.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'K. Holinsky'.

Kristen Holinsky | Executive Director



2018 Year End Progress

-  Set-forth a **Roadmap for Change** and call to action to governments, non-profits and the community, to co-design solutions that will make a significant impact towards preventing and ending homelessness in our city.
-  Launched our first **Advocacy Toolkit** to educate, inform and support local efforts to address homelessness and housing affordability challenges and successes in Ottawa.
-  Led Ottawa's first **Systems Mapping** initiative that surveyed over 100 local agencies to help inform the redevelopment of the City's 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan, among other priorities.

WE CONNECT

We convened the largest **Community Forum on Ending Homelessness** to date last fall, engaging local leaders on issues of importance to our community such as Housing First, Inclusionary Zoning, Housing as a Human Right and the National Housing Strategy – and so much more!

In collaboration with our partners, the Alliance is working with the City of Ottawa through their newly formed **Interdepartmental Working Group on Affordable Housing** to address housing, transit, planning and citywide development issues.

The Alliance has been collaborating with **Making Voices Count, Healthy Transportation Coalition, ACORN Ottawa, CAWI, Refugee613, Ottawa Social Housing Network, Coalition of Community Health and Resource Centres, Ottawa Local Immigration Partnership, A Way Home Ottawa** and others on local advocacy and capacity building efforts.

Hosted an interactive March **Members Meeting** that sought direct input from members into the Alliance's recently developed Policy Briefs.

AWHO's Youth Liaisons played an integral role in Ottawa's first **Poverty Challenge**, a citywide event that gathered civic leaders to build understanding around the experience of homelessness and housing insecurity from the perspective of those who have experienced it first hand.

Work with local funders and supporters, such as **United Way Ottawa, Ottawa Community Foundation, Crime Prevention Ottawa** and **Canadian Forces Moral and Social Welfare**, among others, to bring research and projects to members.

WE ADVOCATE

The Alliance responded to the mid-point update by the City's Housing Services Branch to City Council's Community and Protective Services Committee in March 2018. The resulting report, **'Homelessness in Ottawa: A Roadmap for Change'** ensured attention from City Council, the community and the private sector to Ottawa's specific homelessness challenges, and garnered considerable media coverage.

This year's **Progress Report** took a new approach. It tracks outcomes from 2014 to 2017, since the adoption of the City's 10-Year Plan. It also recognized the release of the City's own 'Progress Report' detailing the City's analysis of investments and outcomes to date.

Furthermore, the report puts forward a **Roadmap for Change** and call to action to governments, non-profits and the community, to co-design solutions that will make a significant impact towards preventing and ending chronic homelessness in our city.

The Alliance is encouraging our members to make the most of the provincial and municipal elections through the launch of our **Advocacy Toolkit**. The toolkit includes downloadable Social Media Tools - Policy Briefs - One-Pagers and more.

We are collaborating with a dozen **Alliance's across Ontario** including in Toronto, Peel Region, London, Guelph-Wellington and others, along with the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness to form a regional body focused on provincial level homelessness and affordable housing issues.



WE RESEARCH

The Alliance released three locally driven research papers this Spring.

'Building Bridges: Perspectives On Youth Homelessness From First Nations, Inuit And Métis, Newcomer, And LGBTQ2S+ Youth In Ottawa'

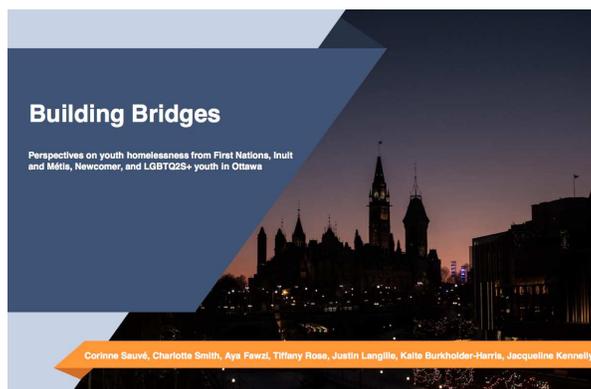
We can as a society strive to ensure that all youth, across all demographics, have access to safe housing with the unique supports that they require to remain stably housed. The recommendations outlined in this report are possible, and they are plausible, and long overdue.

'Housing, Shelter, And Safety: Needs Of Street-Level/Survival Sex Workers In Ottawa'

This important study points to the intersecting barriers to housing that converge for street-level/survival sex workers; the success of low-barrier, person-centred approaches that work to meet survival sex workers "where they are"; and the importance of prioritizing and coordinating greater access to service models of this kind.

'Time To Get On Board: Building More Affordable Housing Near Rapid Transit Stations In Ottawa'

This is a summary report of a session held at City Hall in Spring 2018 to identify potential policies to facilitate the construction of new affordable housing along Ottawa's LRT corridors. The report offers further context on the role of the City, developers and social housing providers in transit oriented development, and provides a better understanding of community issues and concerns.



WE LEAD

The Alliance is leading Ottawa's first **Systems Mapping** initiative in collaboration with homelessness, supportive and social housing agencies and community stakeholders, including the City's Housing Services Branch.

The goal of this data driven initiative is to better understand the programs, services and structures in place that can inform an evidence-based approach to aligning future policy, program and funding related targets and outcomes specific to Ottawa's housing and homelessness needs.

With our members support the Alliance has:

- >>> Surveyed over 100 local agencies, identifying the various programs and services for homeless and at-risk groups;
- >>> Collected the largest Systems Mapping data set of any participating Canadian city to-date;
- >>> Is the first Canadian city to map separately both the homelessness serving sector as well as the non-profit housing sector; and
- >>> Is working with stakeholders and the City to use the results to help inform the redevelopment of the City's 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan, among other priorities.

As new federal funding comes online the significance of Systems Mapping will be in offering the tools to do the strategic planning necessary to determine local services and program needs around funding and resource allocations.

The mapping process also responds to increasing requests by funders for systems-level coordination at the local level, and will further allow for opportunities to rethink – collectively – how we partner and evolve.



Click images below to access resources.

VALUE TO MEMBERS

The Alliance is an Ottawa-based collaborative that brings together the expertise of local housing and homelessness organizations with the power to collectively make change and get things done.

Over this past year we have been building our communications platforms with advocacy, policy and relevant issue updates to better support members to:

Increase policy capacity and results. The Alliance is a key stakeholder representing our members with community and government decision makers.

Stay informed. The Alliance knows what's happening in the community and tracks government decision making at the municipal, provincial and federal levels – and keeps you up-to-date.

Add your leadership voice. We actively work alongside and collaborate with local networks, while offering members a variety of opportunities to share their input and expertise.

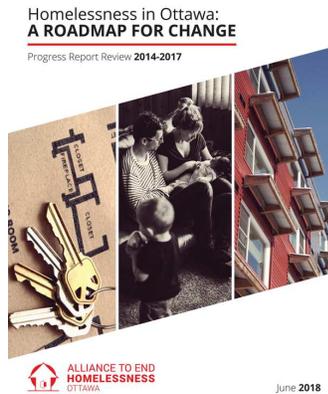
Learning and professional development. Members receive special rates and access to our events, input at Membership Meetings, voting rights at our AGM, and a role in our advocacy, research and community initiatives.

The Alliance further engaged members this year by:

- ✔ Chairing the Research and Evaluation Working Group
- ✔ Chairing the Policy Committee
- ✔ Convening the Progress Report Working Group
- ✔ Convening the Systems Mapping Advisory Committee
- ✔ Sitting at partnership tables with: Making Voices Count, Healthy Transportation Coalition, ACORN Ottawa, CAWI, Refugee613, Ottawa Social Housing Network, Coalition of Community Health and Resource Centres, Ottawa Local Immigration Partnership, A Way Home Ottawa ... among others!

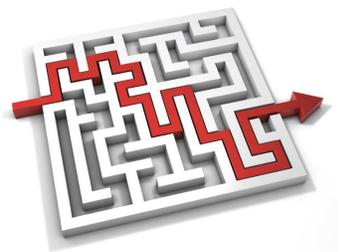
MEMBER RESOURCES

Progress Report



Community Forum

Alliance to End Homelessness Ottawa
Annual Community Forum on Ending Homelessness
November 22nd, 2017
RA Centre - 2451 Riverside Drive, Ottawa, ON



Advocacy Toolkit



Information & Collaboration



Systems Capacity Building



Local Research



In a city such as Ottawa, one of the wealthiest cities in all of Canada we can take action to prevent and reduce homelessness and housing insecurity for our residents. Investments are critical to addressing ongoing service and program needs. Affordable housing is an important investment in our city, in our communities, and in the people of Ottawa – both economically and socially.

We can make a difference in our city to create a more prosperous, inclusive Ottawa – where everyone has an appropriate and affordable home. This would indeed be an amazing social legacy that the Alliance is proud to champion.

ALLIANCE BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2017-18

EXECUTIVE:

Christine MacIntosh – John Howard Society of Ottawa – Chair

Deirdre Freiheit – Shepherds of Good Hope – Vice-Chair

Tim Simboli – Canadian Mental Health Association, Ottawa Branch – Secretary

Doug Pawson – Causeway Work Centre – Treasurer

DIRECTORS:

Christopher McIntosh – Pinecrest-Queensway Community Health Centre

Joyce Potter – Community Member

Marc Provost – The Salvation Army Ottawa Booth Centre

Larissa Silver – Youth Services Bureau

Peter Tilley – The Ottawa Mission

Catharine Vandelinde – Options Bytown Non-Profit Housing Corporation

EX-OFFICIO: City of Ottawa | United Way Ottawa

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR: Kristen Holinsky

ALLIANCE MEMBERSHIP: Action-Logement/Action-Housing | Bruce House | Canadian Mental Health Association, Ottawa Branch | Carlington Community Health Centre | Catholic Immigration Centre | Causeway Work Centre | Centre 454 | Centre 507 Drop-In | Centre des services communautaires/Vanier Community Service Centre | Centre for Research on Educational and Community Services, University of Ottawa | Centretown Citizens Ottawa Corporation | Centretown Community Health Centre | City of Ottawa, Housing Services Branch | Community Legal Services Ottawa Centre | Cooperative Housing Association Eastern Ontario | Cornerstone Housing for Women/LePilier | Daybreak Non-Profit Housing | Elizabeth Fry Society of Ottawa | Gloucester Housing Corporation | Housing Help | John Howard Society of Ottawa | LiveWorkPlay | Lowertown Community Resource Centre | Minwaashin Lodge/Oshki Kizis Healing Lodge | Montfort Renaissance | Multifaith Housing Initiative | Nepean Housing Corporation | Operation Come Home | Options Bytown Non-Profit Housing Corporation | Ottawa Community Housing Corporation | Ottawa Inner City Health Inc. | Ottawa Inner City Ministries | Ottawa Pastoral Counselling Centre | Ottawa Salus Corporation | PAL Ottawa | Pinecrest-Queensway Community Health | Centre Royal Ottawa Health Care Group | Sandy Hill Community Health Centre | Shepherds of Good Hope | Somerset West Community Health Centre | South-East Ottawa Community Health Centre | St. Joe's Women's Centre | St. Luke's Table | The Ottawa Mission | The Salvation Army Ottawa Booth Centre | The Well/La Source | Tungasuvvingat Inuit | Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health | Western Ottawa Community Resource Centre | Wigwamen Incorporated | YMCA-YWCA, National Capital Region | Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa | Thank you as well to our many individual members!

OUR PARTNERS: Broadening the Base | Cooperative Housing Association Eastern Ontario | Healthy Transportation Coalition | Making Voices Count | Ottawa Social Housing Network | Ottawa Supportive Housing Network | Refugee613 | Ottawa Social Housing Registry | Ottawa ACORN | Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation | Ontario Non-Profit Housing Association | A Way Home Canada | Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness | Canadian Housing and Renewal Association | Canadian Observatory on Homelessness | Canada Without Poverty

OUR FUNDERS: Canadian Forces Moral and Social Welfare | Catherine Donnelly Foundation | Crime Prevention Ottawa | Mitcas | Ottawa Community Foundation | United Way Ottawa

Thank you to our members and ongoing sponsors for your generous support!

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