

<b>To:</b>	Warden Halliday and Members of Grey County Council
<b>Committee Date:</b>	June 14, 2018
<b>Subject / Report No:</b>	HDR-CW-12-18 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan Year in Review
<b>Title:</b>	10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan Year in Review
<b>Prepared by:</b>	Anne Marie Shaw, Director of Housing Barb Fedy, Director of Social Services
<b>Reviewed by:</b>	Kim Wingrove
<b>Lower Tier(s) Affected:</b>	
<b>Status:</b>	Recommendation adopted by Committee of the Whole as presented as per Resolution CW148-18; Endorsed by County Council on June 28, 2018.

## Recommendation

1. That report HDR-CW-12-18 pertaining to Grey County Housing and Homelessness 10 Year Plan annual report be received.

## Executive Summary

Each year an annual report on Grey County's 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan is provided to the province, council and the public. This report details the progress and work towards the four identified strategic areas: sustain and create affordable housing, homelessness prevention, transitional housing, service coordination and collaboration.

## Background and Discussion

The Grey County 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan outlines the vision and direction that forms a 10 year strategy to improve the housing and homelessness system in Grey County. The plan is based on four strategic areas identified during public consultations:

- Sustain and create affordable housing
- Homelessness prevention
- Transitional housing
- Service coordination and collaboration

The plan builds on past successes, enhances current programs, and promotes and strengthens community networks. The plan describes how this will be achieved through a list of recommendations aimed at creating positive outcomes.

Each year an evaluation of the implementation of the plan is reported on. The following is an evaluation of 2017, the fourth year of the 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan for Grey County. Highlights from the year include:

## Sustain and Create Affordable Housing

Grey County has 888 units of rent geared to income housing. Building condition assessments and a 10 year capital plan assist staff in identifying and prioritizing capital repairs and renovations. The County also applied and received funds for the Social Housing Improvement Program for non-profit housing providers and Grey County Housing Units. Capital projects such as windows, roofs and doors were completed through this program.

The last phase of the Alpha Street regeneration was completed. The County has free Wi-Fi and computers available at the resource centre.

All tenants of Grey County housing can access the connected for success program through Rogers that offers low cost Wi-Fi.

Owen Sound Housing Company is creating 28 new rental units in Owen Sound. 22 of the units are at affordable rents and 6 are market rent units.

Family housing in Owen Sound has been identified for a regeneration plan. As tenants move out houses will be sold and new rental housing will be built.

Homeownership Program provides a 5% down payment program towards homeownership. In 2017 the program assisted 22 households purchase a home with a total of \$198,950 in funding.

## Homelessness Prevention and Transitional Housing

Grey County entered into a pilot project with Hope Grey Bruce to provide outreach services to tenants of Grey County Housing to maintain and enhance their housing.

Sustainable Housing Benefit provides funding to residents of Grey County to assist in maintaining or finding affordable housing. In 2017 \$457,248 was provided to residents of Grey County on items such as last month's rent, utility arrears and rental arrears.

Ontario Renovates program allows residents to stay in their homes by providing a forgivable loan for repairs and renovations. In 2017 \$212,789 in funding was used for items such as roofs, windows and doors and heating systems.

Community Enhancement Fund provides small grants to community programs to provide resources for people at risk of homelessness. In 2017 funds were provided to community partners to provide meals, transportation and other items and supports.

Grey County supports on average 70 residents a month with transitional housing through the Housing with Related Supports Program.

Y Emergency Housing Program provides services and supports to residents of Grey County in immediate need or a risk of losing their housing.

## Service Coordination and Community Partners

The County continues to partner with agencies to provide services and resources for tenants and residents.

**CP@clinic** is a drop in community based health promotion program within the Grey County Housing buildings. The clinic focuses on the prevention of cardiovascular disease, diabetes and falls and provides assessments and health education. The clinic links participants to community resources and reports results to the participant's family physician.

**The Good Food Box** program makes purchasing vegetables and fruits easy and affordable. The box contains 10-15 different types of fresh fruits and vegetables to your door and is available September to June each year.

**VON in House Service Program** provides homemaking, personal support, meal preparation and or attendant services to elderly individuals who sometimes need help to continue to live independently.

**Family Resources Centres** are available in Owen Sound and Meaford family housing. The centres provide resources and programs according to tenant needs and improve community development on the two sites.

**Community Relations Workers** are available to all Grey County tenants and Non-Profit Housing Providers. Community Relations Works link tenants to support services based on needs identified by the tenant. Currently over 20 community agencies partner with Grey County Housing.

## Next Steps

Proceed with transportation project to determine most effective ways to link Grey County communities.

Work with CMHC to develop partnerships to build affordable housing through the co-investment fund.

Continue to promote the development of affordable housing and supports.

Westmount regeneration plan.

Work with community partners to improve on existing emergency housing system.

Grey County will begin consultation sessions in the fall to gather community input as to the next five years of the plan. Consultation will continue into the spring with a report of an updated 10 year housing and homelessness plan in spring 2019.

## Legal and Legislated Requirements

Annual public report required

## Financial and Resource Implications

Program funding is from the Community Homelessness Prevention Program and the Investment in Affordable Housing Program.

## Relevant Consultation

Internal:

HDR-CW-12-18

Date: June 14, 2018

☐ External:

# Appendices and Attachments

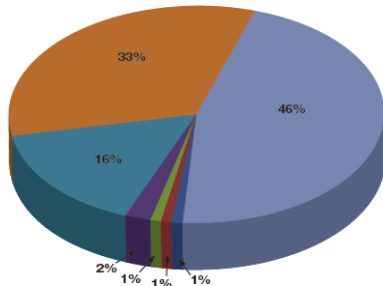
## [Housing and Homelessness 2017 Report](#)

### Homeless Prevention

#### Sustainable Housing Benefit 2017

Total of \$458,691.34 Provided

Moving Expenses \$2,599.98	Pest Control \$2,275
Maintenance of Equipment \$3,667.27	Beds/Appliances \$11,025.00
Rental Arrears \$71,622.46	Utility Assistance \$155,715.58
Last Month's Rent \$211,786.05	



#### Investment in Affordable Housing Ontario

**Renovates:** This program allows homeowners to stay housed by providing a forgivable loan for repairs and renovations.

Categories	Number of Households Assisted
Windows and Doors	5
Roofs	6
Heating Systems	5
Insulation & Electrical	2
Fire Safety Systems	1
<b>Total Funds Distributed</b>	<b>\$212,789</b>

### Service Coordination and Community Partners

Partnerships enable us to stretch our resources so we can do even more throughout our buildings and community. The County continues to partner with agencies to help improve the lifestyle of tenants and residents.

**CP@clinic** Cp@clinic is a drop-in community-based health promotion program within the Grey County Housing buildings. CP@clinic focuses on the prevention of cardiovascular disease, diabetes, and falls by providing assessments and health education, linking participants to community resources, and reporting results to the participant's family physician.

**Hope Grey Bruce** Grey County has partnered with Hope Grey Bruce to provide mental health outreach supports to tenants living in Grey County Housing. This pilot project helps tenants maintain tenancy and enhance their tenancy.

**Good Food Box** The Good Food Box program makes purchasing vegetables and fruit easy and affordable for everyone in the community. The box contains 10-15 different types of fresh fruits and vegetables each month. The produce included will vary by season. It operates September - June each year.

**VON In House Service** VON's Supportive Housing Program provides homemaking, personal support and/or attendant services to elderly individuals. Sometimes one might need help to continue to live independently. VON staff assist with personal care, light housekeeping, meal preparation and laundry.

**Family Resource Centres** Grey County Housing operates two Family Resource centers in Owen Sound located on Alpha Street and one in Mesford located on Victoria Street. There have been many benefits for the residents of housing neighbourhood and improvements to the community since these were developed.

**Community Relations** Grey County Housing's Community Relations Workers link tenants to supports services based on the needs identified by the tenant. Currently over 20 community agencies partner with Grey County Housing.

**Y Housing** Y Housing provides services and supports to residents of Grey County in immediate need or a risk of losing their housing.

**Housing and Homelessness 2017 Report**

**Grey County**

**DOWN WITH HOMELESSNESS UP WITH HOUSING!**

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### Highlights of Grey County Housing and Homelessness Plan

This annual report highlights the progress made on goals of the Grey County 10-Year Housing and Homelessness plan in 2017.

#### Grey County has identified four key strategic areas:

- Sustain and Create Affordable Housing
- Homelessness Prevention
- Transitional Housing
- Service Coordination and Collaboration

#### Services & Programs Provided by Grey County:

- Providing households affordable housing, services and supports in Grey County and 10 Non-Profit housing providers
- Running Provincial Programs such as Ontario Renovates, Homeownership, Rents Supplement. [www.grey.ca/affordable-housing](http://www.grey.ca/affordable-housing) for more information
- Providing supports to people experiencing homelessness or at risk of homelessness
- Providing 70 people transitional housing
- Working with many community partners to provide supports to residents in need in Grey County.



### Sustain and Create Affordable Housing & Transitional Housing

#### New affordable units: Owen Sound Housing Company building

- 28 units of housing
- 22 affordable units
- 6 market rent.

The units are expected to open summer 2018.

**Homeownership:** provides a 5% down payment for households to purchase a home

Households Assisted	22
Average Purchase Price	181,736
Average Down Payment Assistance	9,043
<b>Total Funds Distributed</b>	<b>198,950</b>

**Rent Supplement:** Grey County supports 75 rent supplements paid to private landlords to assist households by lowering their monthly rental cost making housing accommodations more affordable.

**Transitional Housing:** Grey County supports on average 70 units of transitional housing through Housing with Related Supports Program.

### Consultation

Grey County wants to hear from you at the halfway mark of our 10 year housing and homelessness plan. Consultation sessions, surveys and focus groups will start in Fall of 2018. Your feedback will help shape the direction and services provided for the next five years of our plan.

#### Housing & Homelessness Mission Statement

To collaborate with community partners and private enterprises to develop a coordinated system of services needed by residents of the Grey County to obtain, maintain and sustain safe, appropriate and affordable housing.

#### Resources

Resources can be found online at [www.grey.ca/affordable-housing](http://www.grey.ca/affordable-housing).

National Housing Strategy - ([www.placetocallhome.ca/pdfs/Canada-National-Housing-Strategy.pdf](http://www.placetocallhome.ca/pdfs/Canada-National-Housing-Strategy.pdf))

Ontario Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy - ([www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page9181.aspx](http://www.mah.gov.on.ca/Page9181.aspx))

Grey County 10-Year Housing and Homelessness Plan - ([www.grey.ca/affordable-housing](http://www.grey.ca/affordable-housing))

Stay tuned for more information

