 Committee Report

# Report HDR-SS-16-14

**To**: Chair Dwight Burley and Members of the Social Services Committee

**From**: Anne Marie Shaw, Director of Housing

Barb Fedy, Director of Social Services

**Meeting Date:** November 12, 2014

**Subject: Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative Program Additional Funds**

**Status**: Recommendation adopted by Committee as presented per Resolution SSC70-14; Endorsed by County Council November 25, 2014 per Resolution CC164-14;

## Recommendation(s)

**WHEREAS the County of Grey has entered into an agreement with The Province to administer the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI);**

**AND WHEREAS the County of Grey has received one time additional funding in the amount of $305,745 from the Province for the CHPI program to be expensed by March 31, 2015;**

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT Report HDR-SS-16-14 be received;**

**AND THAT council approve the Investment Plan for the CHPI funds as required by the Province;**

**AND THAT the one time additional funding in the amount of $305,745 be approved to be expensed by March 31, 2015.**

## Background

The Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) aims to prevent, address and reduce homelessness by improving access to adequate, suitable and affordable housing. Under the CHPI, Service Managers have the flexibility to use funding to meet local needs and priorities.

Currently Grey County supports five Domiciliary Hostels with operating funding for long term and transitional housing. Grey County also provides funding to the Family Y Owen Sound Grey Bruce Housing Support Program for the delivery of emergency and homelessness prevention programs. Lastly, Grey County provides funding for the Sustainable Housing Benefit program administered by the County to assist families, seniors and individuals to obtain and maintain affordable housing.

The Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) is a consolidation of five programs which were previously administered by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing and the Ministry of Community and Social Services. The amalgamation of these programs resulted in a loss of funds to the County of Grey. The additional one time funding from the Province is to provide stability to the Service Manager in the short term. The Province has committed new funding for CHPI and is conducting a review of the CHPI funding model and Grey County’s 2015-2016 CHPI allocation.

### Investment Plan for Additional Funds

The additional CHPI funds will be used to supplement our Sustainable Housing Benefit and provide funds for outreach to assist people who experience chronic homelessness in our communities. There is an increased need for the sustainable housing benefit due to an increase in utility costs. The cost of utilities effect the ability of a household to maintain or sustain affordable housing. Also, there are a number of individuals in our communities that struggle with chronic homelessness. Funds will be used for outreach services that focus on working intensively with an individual to obtain, maintain and sustain housing according to the Housing First Model.

**Homelessness Prevention (Sustainable Housing Benefit) $205,745**

**Services and Supports (Outreach Services) $100,000**

## Financial / Staffing / Legal / Information Technology Considerations

$305,745 in Provincial one time funding provided to the County of Grey to be expensed by March 2015.

## Link to Strategic Goals / Priorities

The CHPI program will assist in the implementation of the Grey County 10 Year Housing and Homelessness Plan.

## Attachments

[Additional Funding Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative 2014-2015](https://greydocs.ca/urm/idcplg?IdcService=GET_FILE&dDocName=GC_240308&RevisionSelectionMethod=LatestReleased&Rendition=Web)

Respectfully submitted by,

Anne Marie Shaw, Director of Housing

Barb Fedy, Director of Social Service

