Homelessness Services Update

January 2025

Jeffrey Sinclair, Manager Homelessness Services





Topics

- Homelessness Services Approach
- Service Focus
- Service Outcomes
- Current Challenges and Opportunities
- Next Steps





Homelessness Services Approach

- Focus on Solutions to Homelessness
 - Prioritize an End to Chronic and Veteran Homelessness
- Data is used to monitor progress and inform decisions
- Continuous improvement by adopting proven practices







Focus on Prevention and Housing

Prevention and Diversion

- Housing Loss Prevention
- Shelter
 Diversion

Emergency Supports

- AssertiveStreetOutreach
- Housing Focused Shelter

Returns to Housing

- Rent Supports
- Bridge Housing
- Housing First
- Permanent Supportive Housing





Service Outcomes

Prevention and Diversion

- 462 cases opened
 - 403 prevented from homelessness
 - 317 maintained current housing
- Diversion
 - 56% with youth
 - ~30% with couples and families
 - Overall, 29% success rate

Emergency Supports

Outreach

- 1093 individuals engaged
- 330 moved to shelter
- 50 housed
- 991 positive exits from emergency shelter (housing, treatment programs, etc)

Returns to Housing

- Rapid Rehousing
 - 31 households (54 people) housed
- Bridge Housing
 - 11 exits to housing
- Housing First/ Home for Good
 - 102 Move-ins this year





Challenges and Opportunities

- Lack of Supportive Housing
- Persistently Low Social Assistance Rates
 - OW single \$733/month
- Lack of Access to Clinical Mental Health and Substance Use Treatment
- Challenging Behaviors

- Solutions to Homelessness are well understood
- Rental Market Calming
 - Vacancy Rate 2.8%
 - Asking rent for a 1-bed \$1,660
 - Asking rent for a 2-bed \$1,972
- Year to Date Housing Outcomes (Flow through System)
 - Street to shelter 651 people
 - Street to housing 83 people
 - Shelter to housing 753 people





Next Steps

Move from Seasonal to Permanent Year-Round Shelter Beds

Maintain Overflow Motel Scale Up
Prevention
and
Diversion

Invest in Supports and Rent Assistance

Additional Capital Investments

- Riordon 45 beds
- Summer Street55 beds
- Families
 Supported in
 Interim Family
 Shelter as
 needed
- Diversion practice in all shelters 2025
- Prevention work in 2025
- Increased COHB Supplements
- Estimated 70 additional people to be supported
- Supportive Housing Master Plan
- Bridge Housing
- Permanent Supportive Housing
- Additional Shelter Spaces



