

# Housing Stability Action Plan

## Strategic Areas of Focus

**Address the homelessness crisis.** More people are experiencing homelessness and with more complex needs than ever before.

There is a need to work differently with people to better understand their needs and help them access services quickly.

**Respond to the Homelessness Crisis**



**Create More Housing Stock**

**Provide Housing Supports**

**Make sure there are safe, affordable housing options available for the community as it grows and changes.**

There is a need for more affordable housing stock in our community. The shortage of safe, affordable housing options is impacting the stability and health of people.

**Create better ways to access housing.** People needing housing are stuck in a market with few options.

There is a need for more options to help people access the supports they need to stay housed.



# Strategic Area of Focus 1: **Respond to the Homelessness Crisis**

## **What We Will Do...**

**To respond to the homelessness crisis.**

### **Goal:**

Provide the right level of service at the right time to meet the needs of individuals and families at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

### **Result:**

Improved responsiveness to the needs of individuals and families at risk of or experiencing homelessness.

### **Outcomes We Will Measure...**

- Decrease in individuals and families experiencing homelessness
- Decrease in individuals and families living unsheltered
- Decrease in individuals and families staying in transitional housing spaces
- Increase in individuals and families diverted from entering homelessness
- Increase in individuals and families experiencing homelessness who are receiving service
- Increase in individuals and families experiencing homelessness who secure housing



# Strategic Area of Focus 1:

## Respond to the Homelessness Crisis

We Will Prioritize...	We Will Focus Our Efforts On...
<p>1. Helping people stay housed through prevention and diversion supports.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Strengthening partnerships for upstream prevention and rapid diversion of people at risk of or newly experiencing homelessness.</li> <li>b. Connecting individuals with financial, education, and legal resources to prevent evictions.</li> <li>c. Enhancing the Community Navigator Program.</li> <li>d. Engaging landlords to secure and maintain housing opportunities.</li> </ul>
<p>2. Moving people from living in encampments and emergency shelters to stable housing and housing supports.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Exploring an expansion of our MAP Program (Hub) to be inclusive of a broader range of community partners and services to meet future needs of individuals.</li> <li>b. Expanding the access to transitional housing support.</li> <li>c. Continuing partnerships to provide shelter and temporary housing.</li> <li>d. Refining our process to access services; including the use of HIFIS.</li> </ul>
<p>3. Improving community safety and well-being.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Advocating for and allocate funding to meet identified community needs.</li> <li>b. Maintaining an inventory of services to share with the community for improved system navigation.</li> <li>c. Expanding services and supports through in-person and virtual opportunities, including health and wraparound services.</li> </ul>
<p>4. Increasing system level coordination and effectiveness.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Strengthening partnership with the City of London and local Middlesex municipalities to enhance access to and advocate for services and supports for individuals living in Middlesex County.</li> <li>b. Working with community partners to identify, explore, and develop innovative ideas.</li> <li>c. Collaborating with partners to meet the needs of a growing diverse community.</li> </ul>



# Strategic Area of Focus 2: **Create More Housing Stock**

## **What We Will Do...** To create more housing stock.

### **Goal:**

Sufficient supply and range of housing stock exists in Middlesex County to help build strong communities.

### **Result:**

**Increase affordable, quality, and mixed housing options.**

### **Outcomes We Will Measure...**

- Increase in supportive housing units
- Increase in transitional housing units
- Increase in rental units secured
- Increase in housing units allocated to and/or maintained in Middlesex County.
- Increase in identified lands or spaces for development or redevelopment
- Increase in conversations with interest holders to promote a range of housing options



# Strategic Area of Focus 2: Create More Housing Stock

We Will Prioritize...	We Will Focus Our Efforts On...
<p>1. Helping people stay housed through prevention and diversion supports.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Highlighting opportunities that exist in the County to fast track development approvals.</li> <li>b. Making interest holders aware of external funding opportunities (i.e. Federal, Provincial).</li> </ul>
<p>2. Moving people from living in encampments and emergency shelters to stable housing and housing supports.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Promoting building a range of housing options that people who live in the community can afford.</li> <li>b. Exploring creative options for short-term and long-term rentals and redevelopment.</li> <li>c. Exploring the use of publicly owned, available lands for additional affordable housing units.</li> </ul>
<p>3. Improving community safety and well-being.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Providing local municipalities with educational material about housing options and affordability.</li> <li>b. Identifying and sharing best practices in a range of housing options.</li> </ul>
<p>4. Increasing system level coordination and effectiveness.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Researching the type of funding available to build or provide affordable units.</li> <li>b. Reviewing the inventory of housing stock in Middlesex County.</li> <li>c. Continuing the strong partnership between the City of London as the CMSM to allocate and maintain housing units within Middlesex County.</li> </ul>



# Strategic Area of Focus 3: **Provide Housing Supports**

## **What We Will Do...** To provide housing supports.

### **Goal:**

Meaningful opportunities to secure and maintain stable housing.

### **Result:**

Increase the number of individuals and families who secure housing and stay housed.

### **Outcomes We Will Measure...**

- Increase in housing benefits/allocated
- Increase in individuals and families matched to housing support programs
- Increase in individuals and families who secured a unit in community housing
- Increase in individuals and families housed with support



# Strategic Area of Focus 3:

## Provide Housing Supports

We Will Prioritize...	We Will Focus Our Efforts On...
<p>1. Helping people stay housed through prevention and diversion supports.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Developing education resources to inform tenants and landlords of their rights and responsibilities.</li> <li>b. Connecting with landlords and community housing organizations to inform them about the support available.</li> </ul>
<p>2. Moving people from living in encampments and emergency shelters to stable housing and housing supports.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Exploring supportive housing opportunities.</li> <li>b. Leveraging current units as transitional housing units.</li> <li>c. Addressing the specific housing needs of equity-deserving groups and prioritize affordable housing.</li> </ul>
<p>3. Improving community safety and well-being.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Engaging relevant sectors to support individuals with physical health, mental health, addictions, and trauma.</li> <li>b. Strengthening partnerships with the health sector to ensure continuity of care in the community.</li> <li>c. Building capacity among housing providers to connect tenants with healthcare services.</li> <li>d. Implementing an awareness campaign about homelessness.</li> </ul>
<p>4. Increasing system level coordination and effectiveness.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. Providing training and education for housing support providers to enhance capacity in the County.</li> <li>b. Advocating for the same level of services and supports in Middlesex County to be equivalent to those in our neighbouring communities.</li> <li>c. Exploring the use of innovative programs to encourage inclusive access to housing.</li> <li>d. Enhancing our partnership with the City of London as a CMSM to allocate and maintain funding to meet the needs of Middlesex County residents</li> </ul>

