MEMBER ORGANIZATIONS OF THE ALLIANCE TO END HOMELESSNESS **OTTAWA IN 2012**

Action-Logement / Action-Housing Bruce House Canadian Mental Health Association -Ottawa

Centre 454

Centre 507 Drop-In

Centre des services communautaires **Nanier Community Service Centre**

Centre for Research on Educational and Community Services, University of Ottawa

Centretown Community Health Centre City of Ottawa, Housing Services Branch Community Legal Services Ottawa Centre

Cooperative Housing Association of Eastern Ontario

Cornerstone Housing for Women/Le Pilier Daybreak Non-Profit Shelter

Housing Help John Howard Society of Ottawa

Minwaashin Lodge/Oshki Kizis Healing Lodge Monfort Renaissance

Montfort Renaissance Inc. Multifaith Housing Initiative

Nepean Housing Corporation Nepean, Rideau, Osgoode Community

Resource Centre

Operation Come Home Options Bytown Non-Profit Housing

Corporation Ottawa Community Immigrant Services

Organization (OCISO) Ottawa Inner City Health Inc.

Ottawa Inner City Ministries

Ottawa Pastoral Counselling Centre

Ottawa Salus Corporation

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 Lunch Club

The Ottawa Mission

The Salvation Army Ottawa Booth Centre The Well/La Source

Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health

Western Ottawa Community Resource Centre

YMCA-YWCA, National Capital Region Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 21, 2013

Homeless Alliance: Kudos to Government of Canada

Kudos to the Government of Canada from the Alliance to End Homelessness Ottawa (ATEH) for extending **Homelessness Partnering Strategy** (HPS) and the **Investment in** Affordable Housing (IAH) Framework in today's federal budget. It comes as a great relief to our members that the federal role in ending homelessness will extend beyond March in 2014 to March in 2019.

The 2013 Budget announced funding from 2014 to 2019 for:

- HOMELESSNESS PARTNERING STRATEGY \$119 million per year over five years using a "Housing First" approach.
- INVESTMENT IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING framework renewed \$253 million per year over five years.

The current three year round of HPS funding goes to March 2014 at \$134.8 million per year. A five-year federal commitment will be a great help to local communities and may allow some time to adapt to the \$16 million reduction. Nonetheless, reduced funding could reduce the amount of housing and services that can be provided.

ATEH was also pleased to see \$100 million over two years to support the construction of housing in Nunavut and \$65 million over two years to more than double its reimbursement rate and to simplify the Funeral and Burial Program for Canada's veterans.

A number of Ottawa agencies have been moving forward on a comprehensive approach to Housing First working in partnership with each other and the City of Ottawa. The Housing First goal in Ottawa is to move people rapidly and successfully from shelters and the streets into stable housing while providing them with supports to be safely and stably housed including supports for underlying mental health or addiction issues.

In the coming months this community will definitely look forward to working the Minister of Human Resources and Skills Development to confirm the implementation details of the HPS funding approach. HPS funding has been crucial in Ottawa efforts to end homelessness.

Over 2001 to 2014, HPS will have contributed an average of \$5.6 million dollars per year, a total of \$67 million to Ottawa. HPS helped 61 agencies* provide shelter and supported housing and services in Ottawa. A total of 426 contributions have been made to Ottawa agencies since the funding was first announced in 1999.

In particular, it has been extraordinarily helpful that HPS allowed the community to be responsive to local priorities, allowing effective and timely projects to address our community's needs:

- Developing new supportive housing
- Enabling small and large renovations for homelessness services
- Helping people find and stabilize in housing, and preventing housing loss

- Providing health, outreach and support services, and
- Coordinating services in Ottawa to reduce homelessness

The capital projects and service projects have helped a broad cross-section of Ottawa's most vulnerable residents including families and individuals with a low income, youth, Aboriginal peoples, victims of violence, seniors, refugees and people with physical or mental health disabilities. It is ATEH's firm belief that the wider community recognizes the importance of the gains made with HPS funding and sees it as an essential federal commitment to this community.

Capital funding over this period resulted in the construction of 202 shelter/transitional units and 225 permanent supportive housing units in the city, including:

- 12 shelter beds and 18 transitional units for the young men's shelter at Youth Services Bureau
- 12 shelter beds and 18 transitional units for the young women's shelter at Youth Services Bureau
- 40 supportive units at Ottawa Salus for adults with severe mental health issues
- 42 units of supportive housing for 20 senior and 22 adult chronically homeless women at Cornerstone Housing for Women
- 12 transitional units at Daybreak Non-Profit Shelter (Ecumenical)
- 85 supportive units for men transitioning from the justice system through the John Howard Society
- 26 hospice beds constructed at the Ottawa Mission
- 3 supportive units built by Nepean Non-Profit Housing Corp, and
- 10 residential treatment units at the Tungasuvvingat Inuit healing centre.

The prevention of housing loss is one of the most indispensable activities provided by HPS funding since its inception. A number of Ottawa agencies collaborate to ensure residents who are in imminent danger of losing their housing get the support they need to prevent them from becoming homeless. Since the federal homelessness funding began, many thousands of Ottawa households have been assisted in their struggle to stay housed.

The Alliance to End Homelessness (ATEH) and its 43 member organizations have always valued the Government of Canada's contribution to this community's efforts to both end and prevent homelessness and ensure that Ottawa residents have access to safe housing they can afford in order to be as engaged as possible in their own community. ATEH applauds the government for staying the course with the Homelessness Partnering Strategy and the Investment in Affordable Housing framework.

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^{*}List on next page

* List of Ottawa agencies that received federal funding contributions over the 2001 to 2013 period through HPS program (previously known as SCPI, HPI). HPS in Ottawa is administered through the City of Ottawa for either ongoing programs or one-time projects

Abbeyfield Houses

Aboriginal Youth Non-Profit Housing Corporation

Action-Logement

Andrew Fleck Child Care Services
Blue Heron Cooperative Housing

Bruce House

Centre for Addiction & Mental Health
Carlington Community Health Centre
Catholic Immigration Centre Ottawa Centre

Causeway Centre 454

Centre 507

Centre Espoire Sophie

Centre for Equality Rights in Accommodation

Rights in Accommodation

City Living
City of Ottawa

Canadian Mental Health Association Ottawa

Branch

Cornerstone Housing for Women Daybreak Non-Profit Shelter Elizabeth Fry Society of Ottawa Emily Murphy Non Profit Housing

Families Matter Co-op

The Good Companions Centre

House of Hope Housing Help

Ottawa Inner City Health, Inc.

Innercity Ministries
Jewish Family Services
John Howard Society

Lifeline Centre for Addicted Survivors of Trauma

Lowertown Community Resource Centre

OMRA Shelter Alternatives Corp.

Minwaashin Lodge / Aboriginal Women's Support

Centre

Montfort Renaissance

Nelson House

Nepean Community Support Services

Nepean Housing Corporation
Odawa Native Friendship Centre

Operation Come Home

Options Bytown Non-Profit Housing Corporation

Ottawa Mission

Ottawa Salus Corporation

Pinganodin Lodge

Pinecrest-Queensway Community Health Centre

The Social Housing Registry of Ottawa

Rideau St. Youth Enterprises

The Salvation Army

Sandy Hill Community Health Centre

South-East Ottawa Community Health Centre

Shepherds of Good Hope St. Luke's Lunch Club St. Joe's Women Centre

St. Mary's Home

St. Mathew's Harmony House

Tungasuvvingat Inuit

Vanier Community Health Centre Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health

The Well/La Source

The National Capital Region YMCA-YWCA

Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa