**March 30, 2015**

**Results of the Request for Offer**

**for the Homelessness Funding**

The City of Ottawa’s Housing Services Branch (HSB) has completed a Request for Offers (RFO), which has realigned federal and provincial funds to non-profit organizations delivering homelessness services in Ottawa, effective April 1, 2015.  The funding streams allocated are as follows:

* the federal Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS)
* the homelessness services portion of the provincial Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI)

After stakeholder consultation over the last 18 months, service providers outlined in their RFO proposals how they would provide key functions in the homelessness service system post April 2015. The City received 65 proposals from 29 agencies who collectively requested $16.4M (the available funding was $10.8M).  There was no new funding nor was there a loss of funding through the RFO process; the $10.8M remains invested in services and supports for people who are homeless and/or at risk of homelessness. Decisions were made based on recommendations from an allocation group comprised of community members with expertise in issues related to homelessness, and one City staff. The process was overseen by a Fairness Commissioner from the City’s Supply Branch.

Attached is the list that outline the programs and agencies (Appendices I). High level funding impacts are as follows:

* Nineteen agencies will have an increase in funding
* Two have little to no impact to their funding
* Two agencies’ budgets have been reduced
* Three agencies will no longer receive homelessness funding, however two will retain their core day program funding
* Three agencies not currently receiving homelessness funding were unsuccessful

City staff has worked with all agencies that were impacted to assist in the transition (warm-transfer) of clients to other services that exist or that have been expanded as a result of this RFO (see Appendix II). Offers to share the résumés of affected staff have been made and information has been provided on available employment services.

Staff will continue to support agencies and clients with the transition (e.g. ongoing dialogue, training, meetings, links to other resources). Staff will maintain a flexible approach by monitoring and responding to emerging issues/gaps as well as providing regular updates and information to the sector as required.

This RFO is responsive to new federal requirements that 65% of federal funding must be invested in Housing First services and aligns funding with the priorities of *A Home for Everyone* - the City’s Ten-year Housing and Homelessness Plan.  Services are to be provided to people who have been homeless for extended or repeated periods of time. In addition, funding allocated to other programs required an emphasis on housing outcomes.

Housing outcomes are about assisting people who are homeless or at risk of homelessness to obtain, stabilize and retain housing by providing affordable housing and supports as needed. Over time, this will result in a reduction in the costs associated with emergency responses to homelessness (i.e. shelter per diems), and an expansion of investments in housing, supports and prevention.

The key objectives of the RFO were as follows:

* To integrate and align key components of a HF approach while maintaining investments in other homeless approaches (e.g. prevention, housing, supports)
* To increase coordination and centralization of services where possible, avoiding duplication, making efficient/effective use of resources.
* To ensure specific responses to priority populations as appropriate
* To align funding where it will have the greatest impact from social and financial perspective; shifting investments focused on emergency responses to homelessness (shelter per diems) to progressive approaches focused providing people with housing and supports as needed
* To support the effective identification and prioritization of those with the greatest need in our community for housing and supports

As a result of this RFO process, Ottawa will be better positioned to respond to funders’ requirements, achieve the objectives of the Ten-year Plan and ensure targeted investments in services and supports for people who are homeless and/or at risk of homelessness.

We would like to acknowledge your patience during the negotiation phase of this process and while we continue to work with agencies to warm transfer clients to the appropriate and expanded services as necessary.

**Appendix I**

**Results of the Request for Offers –**

**Homelessness Services Project Type and Agency**

The allocated funding comes from the homelessness portion of the following streams:

* The federal Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS)
* The provincial Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI)

| **Project type** | **Name of agencies** |
| --- | --- |
| General Housing Assistance | * Action-Logement Centre d'information région d'Ottawa-Carleton * Catholic Centre for Immigrants (CCI) * Housing Help * Tungasuvvingat Inuit * Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health Inc * Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa |
| Housing-based Case Management including Rooming Houses | * Canadian Mental Health Association, Ottawa Branch * Minwaashin Lodge - Aboriginal Women's Support Centre * Operation Come Home * Options Bytown Non Profit Housing Corporation * Pinecrest-Queensway Community Health Centre * The Governing Council of The Salvation Army in Canada * Tungasuvvingat Inuit * Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health Inc |
| Housing Locator Service | * The Governing Council of The Salvation Army * Action Logement (in partnership with the Salvation Army) |
| Landlords’ Line | * The Governing Council of The Salvation Army |
| Outreach/In-reach | * The Elizabeth Fry Society of Ottawa * John Howard Society of Ottawa * Minwaashin Lodge - Aboriginal Women's Support Centre * Operation Come Home * The Governing Council of The Salvation Army in Canada |
| Resources Centres in Social Housing | * Options Bytown Non Profit Housing Corporation |
| Shelter-based Diversion and Case Management | * The Ottawa Mission * The Governing Council of The Salvation Army in Canada * Shepherds of Good Hope * Cornerstone Housing for Women/Le Pilier: Logements pour Femmes * Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa |
| Supportive and Transitional Housing | * Bruce House * Cornerstone Housing for Women/Le Pilier: Logements pour Femmes * Daybreak Non-Profit Shelter (Ecumenical) Corporation * St. Matthew's Harmony House * John Howard Society of Ottawa * Options Bytown Non Profit Housing Corporation * Ottawa Salus Corporation * Tewegan Housing for Aboriginal Youth * Ottawa Young Men's and Young Women's Christian Association * Youth Services Bureau of Ottawa * Shepherds of Good Hope |
| Trusteeship Program | * The Governing Council of The Salvation Army in Canada |

**Contact:** Shelley VanBuskirk

Senior Program Administrator, Homelessness Programs and Domiciliary Hostel Program  
Housing Services Branch, City of Ottawa   
100 Constellation Dr., 8th Floor East, Ottawa, ON  K2G 6J8   
Phone: (613) 580-2424 Ext.16366, Fax: 580-2648

***Appendix II***

**Community Meals, Food Cupboards & Drop-in Centres - Downtown Ottawa**

*Below is a list of some meal, food and drop-in centres in downtown Ottawa. More information is available at 211 (available 24/7) or go to* [*www.ottawa.cioc.ca*](http://www.ottawa.cioc.ca)

**Community Meals and Emergency Food Cupboards:**

* The Salvation Army Ottawa Booth Centre (171 George St, 613-241-1573) – provides **daily breakfast and supper** at 8:00 a.m. - 8:15 a.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 3:15 p.m. Also provides emergency groceries.
* The Ottawa Mission (35 Waller St. 613-234-1144) - provides **daily meals**, 8:00 a.m. - 8:30 a.m., 11:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m. and 3:00 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. Also provides emergency groceries. Clothing store is open 3 days per week on Tuesday 7:45 p.m. - 8:30 p.m., Friday 9:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m. and Sunday 9:30 a.m. - 10:15 a.m.
* Shepherds of Good Hope (233 Murray Street, 613-241-6494) – provides **daily lunch and light evening meal** (613-789-8210), 11:30 a.m. -12:30 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. -9:30 p.m. Also provides emergency groceries.
* Capital City Mission (153 Chapel street, 613-241-2407) – provides **daily breakfast and light lunch**, 9:30 a.m. -10:30 a.m., 10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. (sandwiches), and 1:00 p.m. (light snacks).

**Drop-in Centres (provide light meals/snacks, some food cupboards):**

* Centre 454 (454 King Edward, 613-235-4351 ext. 236) – Open Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday, 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. – 3:30 p.m., Wednesday 8:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m., Saturday and Sunday 9:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. Drop in and support services for men and women. Access/referrals to housing and health services. **Provides light snacks, coffee, tea.**
* Centre 507 Drop In Centre (507 Bank St, 613-233-5626 ext. 221) – Open 6 days per week Drop-in hours: Monday – Friday 12:00 – 3:30; Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 5:30 – 9:00pm; Sunday 1:00 pm – 4:00 pm. Crisis intervention, refer and connect men and women to housing and health supports. **Provides light meals** Monday - Friday 12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m., and **dinner** Monday, Wednesday and Thursday 5:30 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. (18+).
* Centre Espoir Sophie (145 Murray St, 613-789-5119) – Open four evenings per week, Monday – Thursday 3:00 p.m. -9:00 p.m. Short term counselling, advocacy, referral, emergency food bank, laundry for men and women. **Provides supper.**
* St. Luke’s Table (760 Somerset St. West, drop-in: 613-234-6287) – Drop-in open Monday – Friday 8:00 a.m. - 11:15 a.m. **Light breakfast** 8 – 9:00 a.m., **lunch** 12 – 1:00 p.m. Provides housing and health supports for men and women.
* St. Joe’s Women’s Centre (151 Laurier St. East, 613-231-6722) – for **women and children**. Open Monday to Friday (9:00 a.m. - 4 p.m.). Drop in and support, clothing and food cupboard. **Daily lunch and supper provided** (supper available to anyone).
* The Well (154 Somerset St. West, Admin: 613-594-8861 ext. 27 women’s line: 613-594-2843) – for **women and children**. Open Monday 9:00 a.m. - 1:30 p.m., Tuesday - Friday 9:00 a.m. - 3:30 p.m. Drop in and support services, counselling, referral, clothing, and **food cupboard**.  **Daily lunch** provided.

**Aboriginal-specific Support Services:**

* Wabano Centre for Aboriginal Health (299 Montreal Rd) – Drop-in clinic: 613-748-5999 admin: 613-748-0657 – Offers a number of programs and services including, but not limited to, a full service medical clinic, counseling, addiction supports, and housing supports. Open Monday-Friday 9:00 a.m. – 5:30 p.m. with extended walk-in clinic hours from 5:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday.
* Minwaashin Lodge/ Aboriginal Women’s Support Centre (1155 Lola St) 613-789-6876 – **For women and children.** 24 hour service.
* Tungasuvvingat Inuit (604 Laurier Ave West) Admin: 613-565-5885, Healing Centre: 613-563-3546, Health Centre and Community Support: 613-749-4500 – Drop-in and support services, referral, open Monday – Friday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.

*Detailed agency information is also available at 211 (24/7) or* [*www.ottawa.cioc.ca*](http://www.ottawa.cioc.ca)