

Community Debrief and Call to Action

Ottawa's participation
in 20,000 Homes

April 23, 2015

I am... **homeless**
not nameless

Jesuis **sans abri**
mais pas sans nom





Outline



- 20,000 Homes
- Ottawa Context
- Why we became involved
- How we did it
- Results
- Call to Action



- Building a national movement of communities, mobilizing together to house 20,000 of Canada's most vulnerable homeless people, by July 1, 2018 (launching June 2015).
 - In Ottawa, to build on - and strengthen with broad community support and innovation - Ottawa's 10-year plan to end homelessness.
- Inspired by the successful 100,000 Homes Campaign in the USA



For 100,000 homeless
individuals and families



105,580 People
Housed
by participating communities

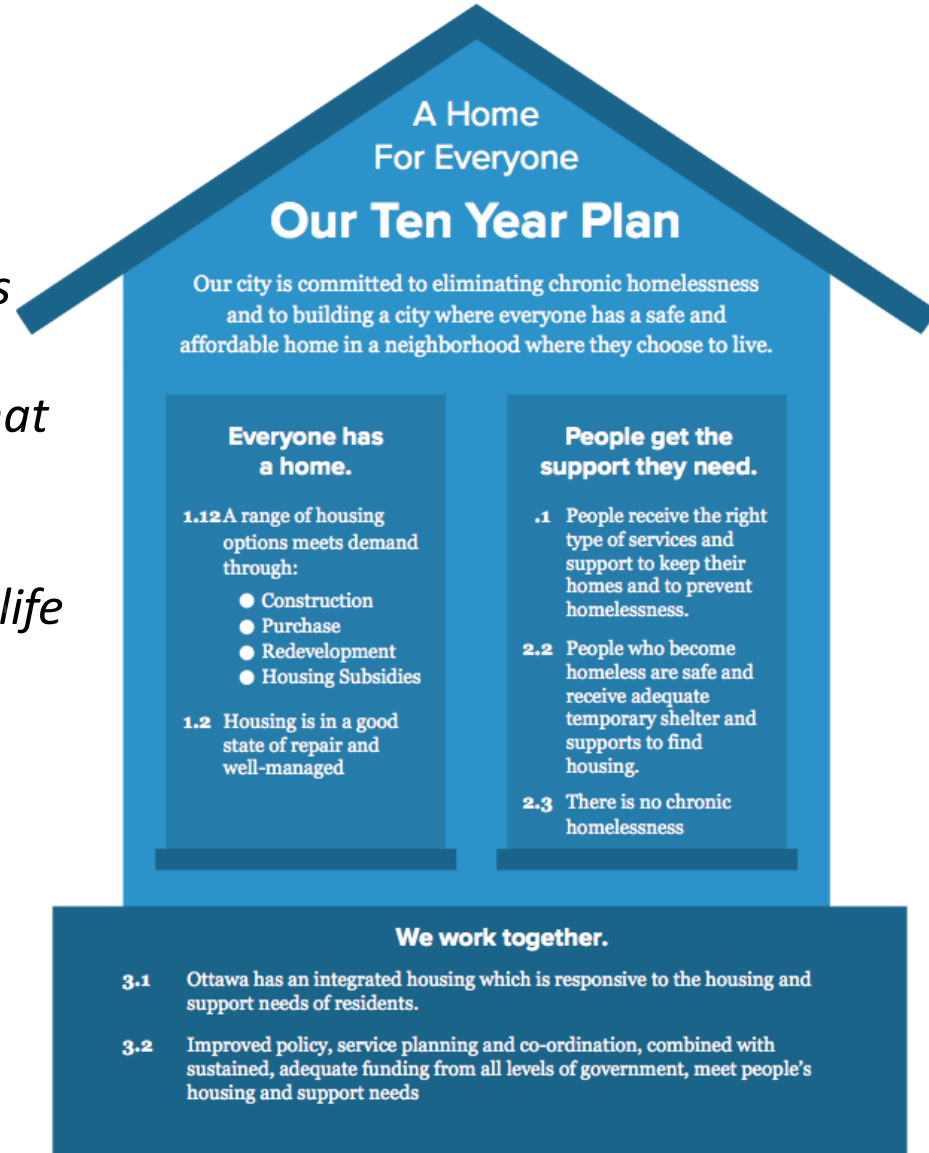
City of Ottawa: A Ten Year Plan (2014-2023)

- Adoption of **10-year Plan: A Home for Everyone** (2014-2023), 3 goals:
 - Ensuring everyone has a home
 - Ensuring people get the support they need to remain housed
 - end chronic homelessness in Ottawa
 - Working together
- To-date: Important focus on long-term shelter clients
 - 2014: 537 chronically and episodically homeless men and women
- *To achieve the results we want, we need to do more in the short-term, to get ahead for the long-term*

TEN-YEAR PLAN

to end homelessness

*...The Plan represents a commitment to our community that **we will work together as individuals, organizations, and government bodies** to ensure that all residents have a safe and affordable home and that they have access to the support they need to remain housed as their life circumstances change.*





Why in Ottawa?

- **...because Housing, First:** that housing is a right for all Canadians, and permanent, safe, appropriate and affordable housing with the support necessary to sustain it, needs to happen first – and fast.
- **...to increase awareness,** so the community understands the needs of those without homes: visibly, and among our hidden homeless population
- **...to inspire action** – from the Ottawa community to work together to leverage and create additional housing solutions.
 - maximizing existing resources, corralling new resources



**Alliance
to End Homelessness
Ottawa**



Ottawa Initiative partners / sponsors

- Alliance to End Homelessness Ottawa
- Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness
- Canadian Mental Health Association, Ottawa Branch
- Centretown Affordable Housing Development Corporation
- Christie Walther Communications
- City of Ottawa
- Community Solutions
- Downtown Rideau BIA
- Jewish Family Services
- John Howard Society of Ottawa
- Ottawa Little Theatre
- Ottawa Mission
- Ottawa Police Service
- Pinecrest Queensway Community Health Centre
- The Royal
- St. Albans Church
- Salvation Army Booth Centre
- Sandy Hill Community Health Centre
- Tewegan Aboriginal Youth Housing
- United Way Ottawa
- Youth Services Bureau
- Anonymous Donors

... and committed
volunteers!

A collective impact approach!



Volunteer to be part of Ottawa's 20,000 Homes campaign!

Join the movement to end homelessness by participating in our Action Week (April 17-23)



Participez à Ottawa à la campagne
20,000 Foyers!

Joignez-vous au mouvement pour mettre un terme à l'itinérance en participant à la Semaine de l'action (17-23 avril).

Inscrivez-vous en tant que bénévole d'ici le 6 avril.

Aidez avec l'enquête, la documentation, l'entrée des données ou le soutien aux bénévoles.



Équipes d'enquête : Travaillez en équipes avec des intervenants de première ligne pour interroger les personnes qui vivent l'itinérance. Vous pouvez choisir de travailler le matin, en après-midi ou en soirée, le samedi 18 avril, le lundi 20 avril ou le mardi 21 avril.



Documentation : Aidez à documenter le projet et à attirer l'attention du public par la photographie, le film, le design ou l'écriture.



Entrée des données : Aidez à entrer les données rassemblées par les équipes d'enquête.

Sign-up as a Volunteer by April 6

Help in surveying, documentation, data entry or volunteer support



Survey Teams: Work in teams alongside frontline staff to interview people experiencing homelessness. Shifts are available during mornings, afternoons and evenings of Saturday, April 18; Monday, April 20; and Tuesday, April 21.



Documentation: Assist in documenting the initiative and building public awareness through photography, film, design and writing.



Data Entry: Assist in entering the data collected by the survey teams.



Volunteer Support: Support volunteers with refreshments, survey collection and general set-up and clean-up at our action headquarters.

Training and Orientation

Ottawa Action Week

- Over 120 participated in training and orientation (required for survey teams)
 - Friday, April 17 and Saturday, April 18, at United Way Ottawa
 - Provided by Community Solutions / Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness
- Background information on the 100K campaign in the US
- Introduction to the 20K Homes campaign / Housing First approach
- Introduction and training in using the survey tool, the VI-SPDAT

The VI-SPDAT...

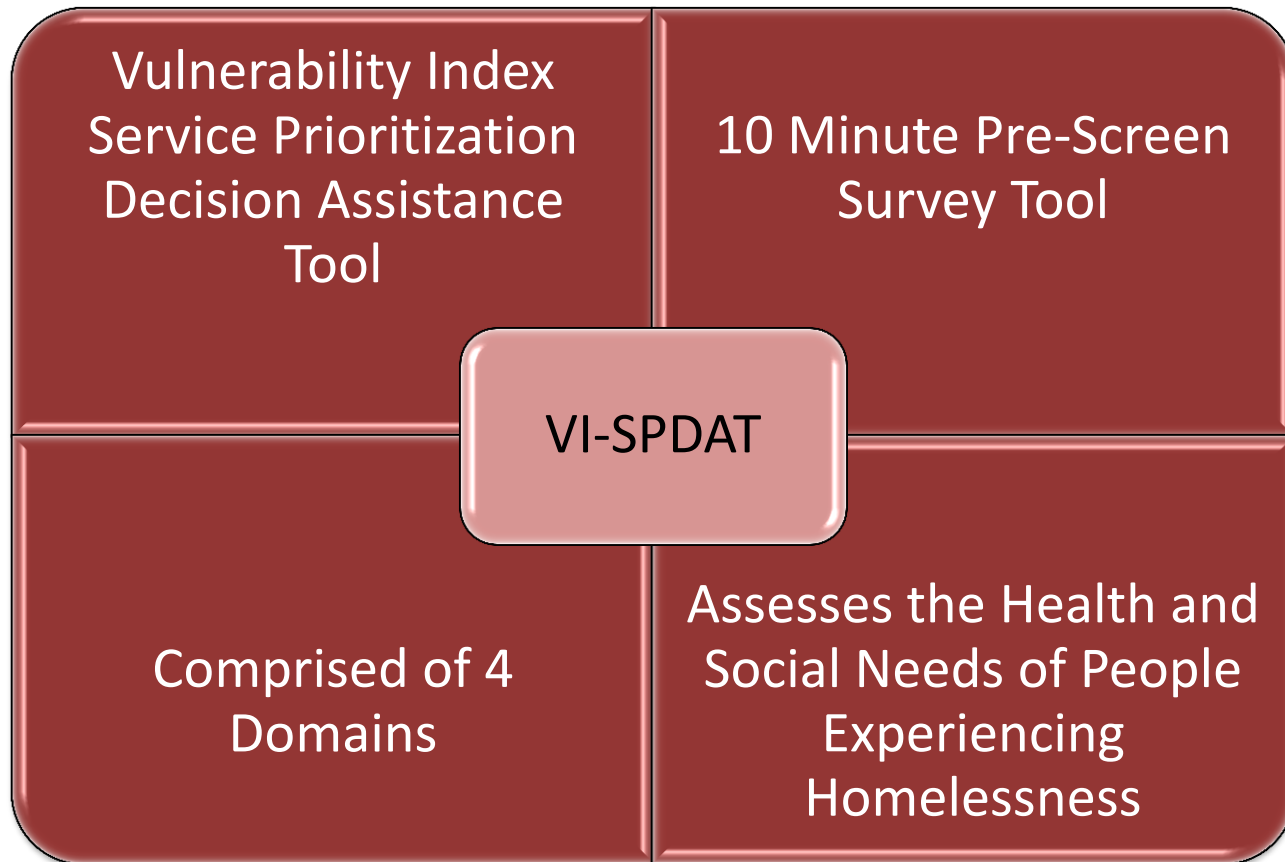
Vulnerability Index & Service Prioritization Decision Assistance Tool (VI-SPDAT)

Prescreen for Single Adults

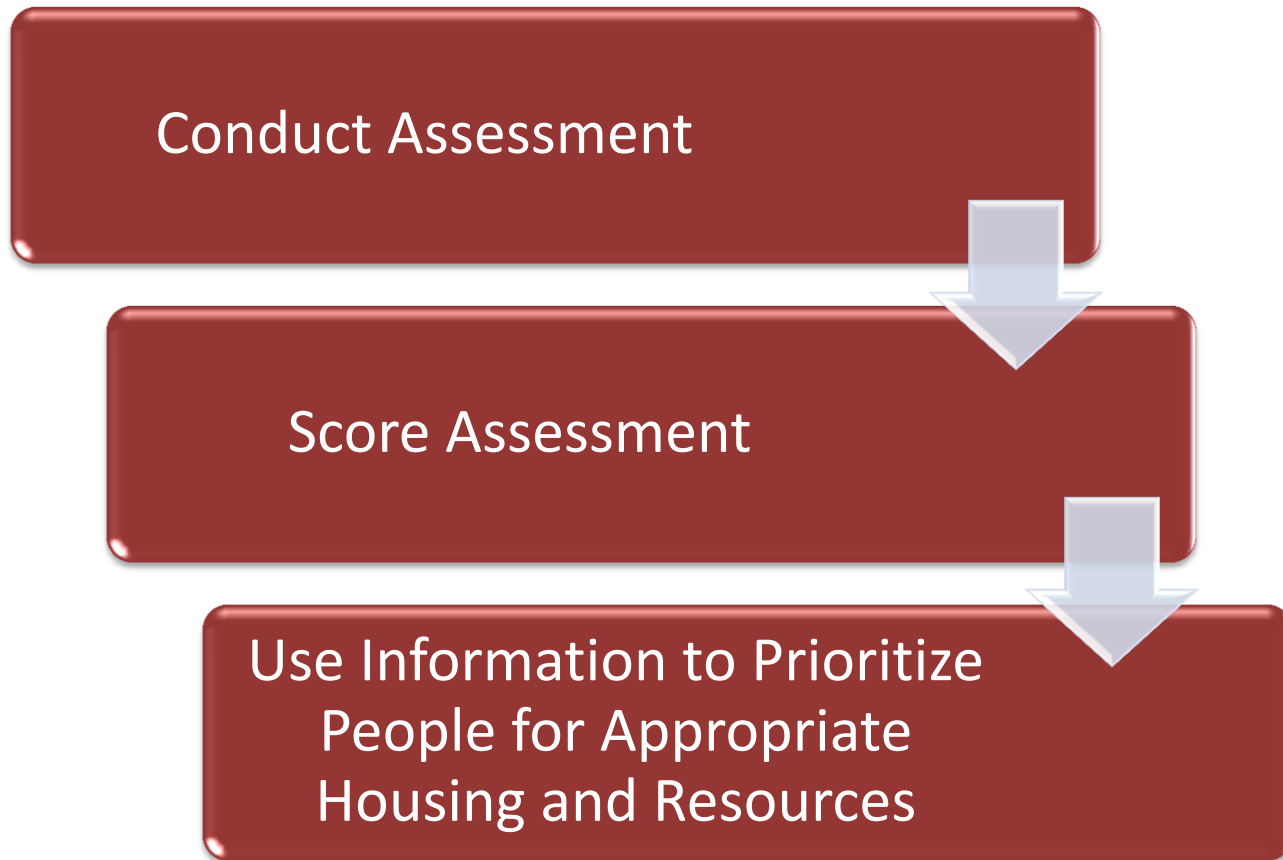
GENERAL INFORMATION/CONSENT

Interviewer's First Name		Interviewer's Last Name	
Interviewer's Email		Interviewer's Phone Number	
Agency	Date (DD-MM-YYYY):	Time of Day: (## : ##)	
<input type="checkbox"/> STAFF <input type="checkbox"/> VOLUNTEER		<input type="checkbox"/> AM <input type="checkbox"/> PM	
Location of Survey (by type):			
<input type="checkbox"/> Street <input type="checkbox"/> Shelter <input type="checkbox"/> Hospital/Community Clinic <input type="checkbox"/> Jail/Prison <input type="checkbox"/> Other, Specify			
Location of Survey (by site):			
<input type="checkbox"/> Restoring Hope Youth Shelter <input type="checkbox"/> John Howard Society Drop-In <input type="checkbox"/> St. Luke's Table <input type="checkbox"/> Operation Come Home <input type="checkbox"/> Centre 454 <input type="checkbox"/> Needle Exchange and Safer Inhalation Program (NESI) <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Services Bureau (YSB) Drop-In <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Services Bureau (YSB) Young Men's Shelter <input type="checkbox"/> Youth Services Bureau (YSB) Young Women's Shelter <input type="checkbox"/> The Mission <input type="checkbox"/> Salvation Army <input type="checkbox"/> Shepherds of Good Hope <input type="checkbox"/> Cornerstone Women's Shelter <input type="checkbox"/> Wabano Aboriginal Drop-In <input type="checkbox"/> Caldwell Family Centre <input type="checkbox"/> Ottawa Inner-City Ministries (OIM) Drop-In <input type="checkbox"/> The Well Drop-In <input type="checkbox"/> Tungasuvvingat Intuit (TI) <input type="checkbox"/> Minwaashin Lodge <input type="checkbox"/> St. Joe's Supper Table <input type="checkbox"/> YSB LGBTQ Drop-In <input type="checkbox"/> St. Joe's Women's Centre <input type="checkbox"/> JFS Streetsmarts <input type="checkbox"/> Salvation Army Mobile Outreach <input type="checkbox"/> Tewegan Aboriginal Youth Housing <input type="checkbox"/> The Royal (Mental Health Centre) <input type="checkbox"/> Daisy's Drop-In <input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify):			
In what language do you feel best able to express yourself?			
First Name	Last Name	Nickname	
How old are you?	What's your date of birth?	Has Consented to Participate	
		<input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO	

The VI-SPDAT



How Does the VI-SPDAT Work?



Ottawa Action Week: April 18-21

Surveying those without homes

- Teams of volunteers / agency staff surveyed people without homes – using the VI-SPDAT tool
 - including those we met on our streets, in our shelters, at our homeless drop-ins and day programs
- Locally added demographic questions
- Experiencing homelessness April 18, April 20-21, 2015
- Participation was voluntary; participants received a \$5 Tim's gift card to thank them for their time.

Survey Teams: April 18, April 20–22

- Restoring Hope Youth Shelter
- John Howard Services
- The Well / La Source
- St Luke's Table
- Operation Come Home
- Centre 454
- Jewish Family Services Streetsmarts
- Tungasuvvingat Inuit
- Wabano Centre
- Minwaashen Lodge
- Ottawa Innercity Ministries
- Daisy's Drop-In



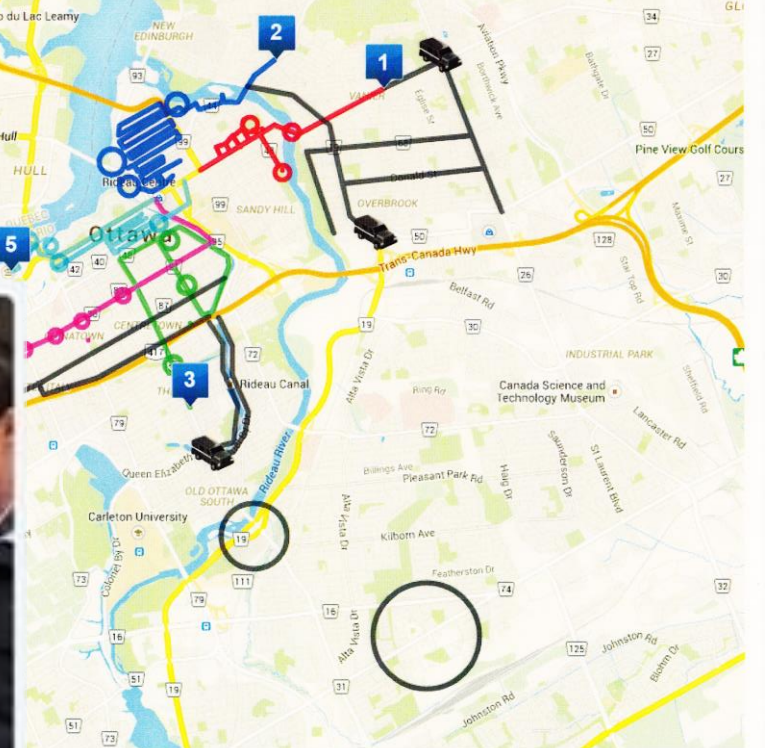
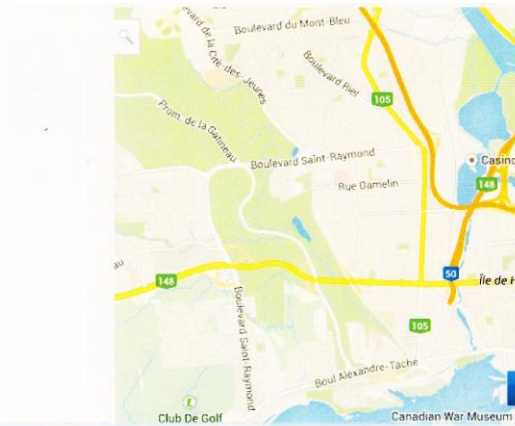
Survey Teams: April 18, April 20–22



- Needle Exchange and Safer Inhalation Program, Somerset West
- The Royal
- Youth Services Bureau Drop-in / Women's Shelter / Men's Shelter
- Cornerstone
- The Mission
- Shepherds of Good Hope
- Salvation Army Booth Centre
- Ottawa Innercity Ministries
- Salvation Army Outreach
- Caldwell Family Centre
- St. Joe's Women's Centre
- St. Joe's Supper Table
- Tewegan Aboriginal Youth Housing



Survey Teams: Street Outreach (daytime and late night)





Volunteer Headquarters

St. Alban's Church
(454 King Edward)



- Catering provided by The Mission
- Communications between survey teams: Christie Walther
- Data Entry – volunteers working at United Way / Centraide Ottawa

Creating a Portrait

Homelessness in Ottawa

I am... **homeless**
not nameless

Jesuis **sans abri**
mais pas sans nom

- Production of Housing Success Stories
- Generating a comprehensive snapshot of those individuals in Ottawa without homes

Survey Results!



Overview

461 surveys completed

- Chronically Homeless (6 months +) 345
75%
 - Chronically Homeless (1 year +) 300
65%
-
- Episodic (4 or more episodes of homelessness in past 3yrs) 94
20%

Overview



Length of Time Homeless:

- Average Total Length of Time on the Streets or in Shelters (months)

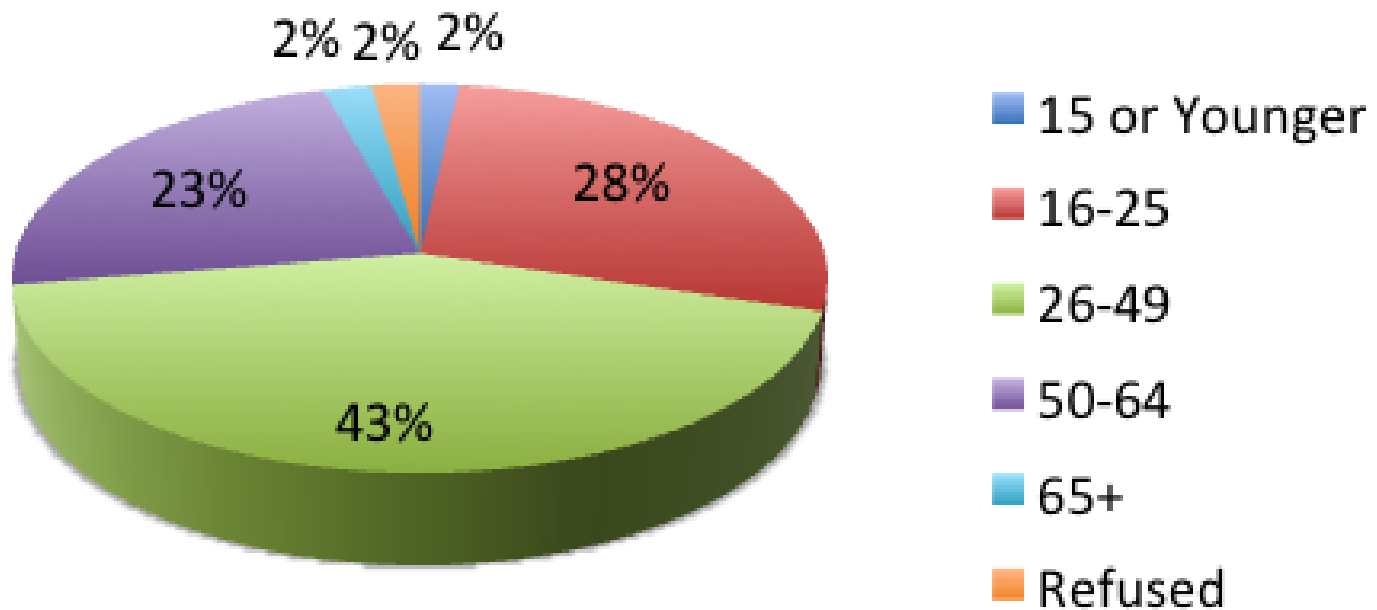
3.7 years

- Average Number of Episodes of Homelessness in the Past Three Years

3 Episodes

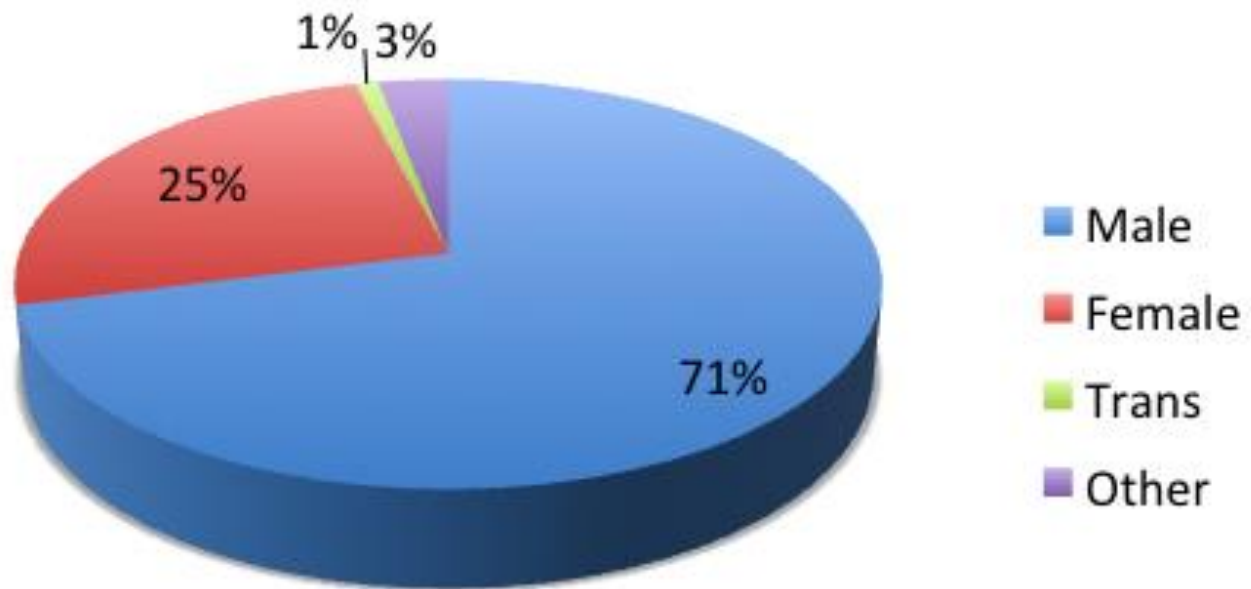
Overview

Age Distribution



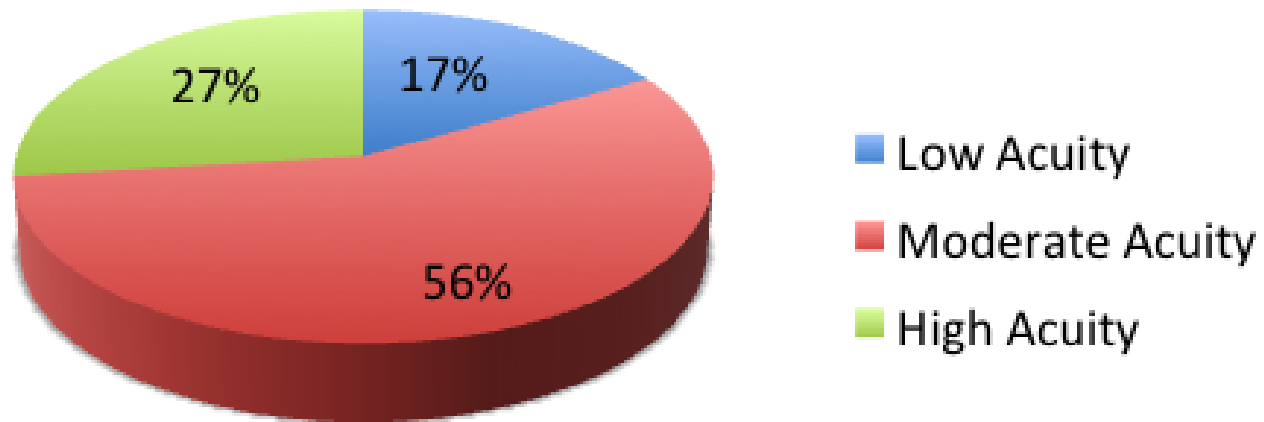
Overview

Gender



Overview

Acuity



Youth (16-25)

Total Youth Surveyed	128
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• Chronically Homeless (6 months +)	81
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63%

• Chronically Homeless (1 year +)	62
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48%

• Episodic (4 or more episodes of homelessness in past 3yrs)	41
--	----

32%

Youth (16-25)

91%

Reported Living With a Mental Health Condition

78%

Reported Having a Substance Use Condition

67%

Reported Having a Serious Health Condition

Both Youth and Aboriginal

21%

of Aboriginal Peoples surveyed are Youth(16-25)

23%

of surveyed youth identify as Aboriginal,
including First Nations, Inuit, and Métis

Aboriginal Peoples

Total Aboriginal Peoples Surveyed **140**

• Chronically Homeless (6 months +) **110**

79%

• Chronically Homeless (1 year +) **91**

65%

• Episodic (4 or more episodes of homelessness in past 3yrs) **23**

16%

Aboriginal Peoples

89%

Reported living with a Mental Health Condition

84%

Reported having a Substance Use Condition

79%

Reported having a Serious Health Condition

Veterans

39 people Identified as having served in the Canadian Armed Forces



SOLDIERS HELPING SOLDIERS

***INITIATIVE D'ENTRAIDE
ENTRE MILITAIRES***

SERVICE USE: Health

What is a Serious Medical Condition?

Liver Disease

Kidney Disease

Heart Disease

Emphysema

Diabetes

Asthma

HIV+/AIDS

Cold/wet weather injury (Frostbite / Heat Stroke)

Cancer

Hepatitis C

Tuberculosis

Health

Indicating Serious Medical Condition 311

- PLUS Chronically Homeless (6 mo +) 236

51%

- PLUS Chronically Homeless (1 yr +) 207

45%

-
- *Tri-morbidity: chronic health condition, mental illness, substance abuse* 249

54%

SERVICE USE: Health

Over the Past Six Months:

Total # visits to ER	828
Total # of ambulance rides	498
Total # of inpatient hospitalizations	213
Average # of visits to Emergency Department	2.0
Average # of ambulance rides	1.2
Average # of inpatient hospitalizations	0.5

Safety and Risk

191 people (41%) reported that they have been attacked or beaten up since becoming homeless. Of these, 53 are youth aged 16-25.

207 people (45%) reported that they have people take or borrow their things or get them to do things they don't want to do

Legal and Criminal Justice

Over the Past Six Months:

Total people in jail or prison	101
22%	
Total people with legal situations	158
34%	

Foster Care

129 people (28%) reported that they had ever been in foster care.

Of these, 44 are youth aged 16-25.

Call to Action



Call to Action

- Ensure community focus on our mission:
 - Our objective?

End homelessness. Find permanent housing solutions for our neighbours who are most vulnerable – 20,000 across Canada by July 1, 2018

Call to Action

Building political support for renewed investment in housing and support services:

- Government of Canada: Election 2015
- Ontario: Poverty Reduction Strategy - ending homelessness in Ontario
- City of Ottawa: Strategic Initiatives / Budget Priorities

Call to Action

We all have a role to play!

- Landlord engagement
- Make a house a home!
 - *'Welcome Baskets' – household items, home furnishings*
- Individual / Corporate contributions
 - *Gifts in Kind Program (Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre)*
 - *Matthew House Furniture Bank (warehouse space, transportation, goods, volunteers)*
- Employment / training opportunities (co-funded)
- Broadening the Base
 - catalyzing a broad, citywide effort to develop housing for priority populations, including individuals who are chronically homeless

Call to Action

20,000 for Canada, X for Ottawa...?

*Over the coming weeks, learn how to become
further involved by visiting the Alliance
20KOttawa sub-site!*

www.endhomelessnessottawa.ca/20kOttawa



**Alliance
to End Homelessness
Ottawa**



**L'Alliance
pour mettre un terme à
l'itinérance**



 **20,000**
HOMES

 **20 000**
FOYERS