

Huron Housing and Homelessness Monthly Share-Out

January 2025

Previous Month's Share-Outs

Huron's Housing and Homelessness Serving System is a group of agencies and programs that coordinate to provide housing and support to people experiencing housing insecurity and homelessness.

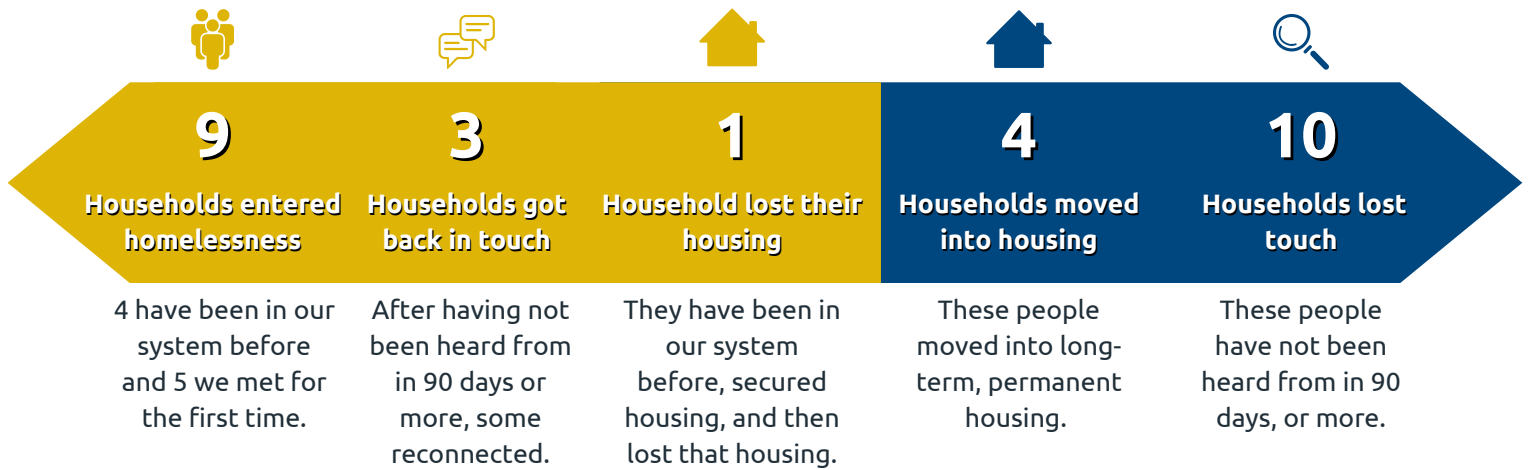
At least **142** households were experiencing homelessness in Huron County this month.

Of those, **130** households had been chronically homeless for six months or more in the last year.

185 people, including children, are represented by the households experiencing homelessness.

Inflow: People entering homelessness.

Outflow: People exiting homelessness.



Population Specific Data

11

Youth (16-25) experiencing homelessness.

22

Families experiencing homelessness.

29

People with Indigenous identity experiencing homelessness.

**Numbers In This Report Only Represent Households That Are Active and Consenting To Being On The Huron County By-Name List*

Monthly Myth Buster



Myth: Ticketing those experiencing homelessness will help us raise funds to support the homeless.

In Toronto, from 2000-2010, **67,388** Safe Streets Act tickets were issued, valued at **\$4,043,280**. The cost to the Toronto Police Service relating to issuing these tickets was **\$936,019** over this eleven year period, not including the costs associated with the court system. This amounts to **14,847** hours of police time dedicated to issuing these tickets. Over the eleven year period, only **\$8,086.56** in fines were paid.

- Source

Inspiring Community Focused Approaches For Reducing Homelessness

St. Thomas-Elgin - Major Reduction In Chronic Homelessness - April 24, 2024

[More Info...](#)

- A collaborative community approach led to a 30% reduction in chronic homelessness in St. Thomas-Elgin between July 2023 and January 2024, finding homes for 126 people experiencing homelessness (>50% experiencing chronic homelessness).
- A major factor that contributed to reductions in St. Thomas-Elgin included new supportive housing. In September of 2023, St. Thomas welcomed, [The Station](#), a 45-unit housing project for people experiencing chronic homelessness with mid-acuity. Additionally, their local emergency shelter worked to become low-barrier and housing focused, while the YWCA St. Thomas-Elgin implemented a program to support women-led families facing housing instability in the community.
- Other supports, like the Sublocade Harm Reduction Program also contributed, offering regular meetings and monthly injections (rather than daily doses), and not requiring people to abstain from street drugs, helping lead to a reduction of street drug use over time, with zero overdoses. This program also boasts strong physician-patient relationships, resulting in improved mental & physical health, engagement in other health and housing programs, and more people being housed, with less people returning to homelessness.
- The St. Thomas Police Service (STPS) has observed that there has been a reduction in police interventions on the streets and at the shelter, showing that these programs are great examples of how other sectors, including the health and justice sector, are needed in local solutions and responses to reducing homelessness.

Wellington-Guelph - Reduction In Chronic Youth Homelessness - December 5, 2024

[More Info...](#)

- In August 2018, Wellington-Guelph began collecting Homelessness By-Name Data, identifying 51 people between the ages of 16 and 25 experiencing homelessness. Now, just over six years later, that number has been reduced to 12.
- In May 2023 Wyndham House opened the Bellevue Project, a supportive housing option for youth—the first-of-its-kind in Canada, offering permanent housing for 8 residents, as long as they need it, keeping them off the street, and out of the shelter system.
- The Bellevue Project is supported by 2 on-site staff, 24/7, who offer life skills training, harm reduction, and mental health support, not to mention a youth focused healthcare team that meets clients where they are at, without judgement.
- After time at Bellevue, the youth often express interest in independently moving into their own market rent home.

Fort McMurray - Resolved An Encampment Without Enforcement - January 30, 2024

[More Info...](#)

- In August 2023, the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo (RMWB), and partnering community organizations, including Alberta Health Services and the RCMP, peacefully transitioned 29 people from a downtown encampment into housing and other long-term accommodations.
- The visible encampment became a matter of public concern and safety. Complaints were made frequently in July by downtown businesses, residents and groups working with the occupants.
- Rather than turning to enforcement, RMWB and its partner organizations worked with residents in the encampment throughout the entire process, using the strength of their Coordinated Access System and By-Name List, to relocate them. A service contract was secured to provide temporary housing with 24/7 support, in collaboration with other housing programs, which resulted in 18 encampment residents entering the bridge housing program, 6 entering Housing First, 2 were housed in permanent Supportive Housing, and 1 person was given a bus ticket to re-connect with family in their home community. Additionally, 2 people were peacefully detained due to outstanding warrants and later connected with supports access housing.
- Bylaw officers and the RCMP blocked off roadways to reduce stress for residents who were completing the move, Victim Services was on site to provide Critical Incident Stress Management for individuals who required additional emotional support during the transition, and Alberta Health Service staff were on call to provide services upon arrival to their accommodations.

When everyone has a safe and affordable place to call home, our whole community benefits.

Be Part of the Solution.

Say YES to supportive and affordable housing in your neighbourhood!



**HURON
COUNTY**