Huron Housing and Homelessness Monthly Share-Out

August 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.

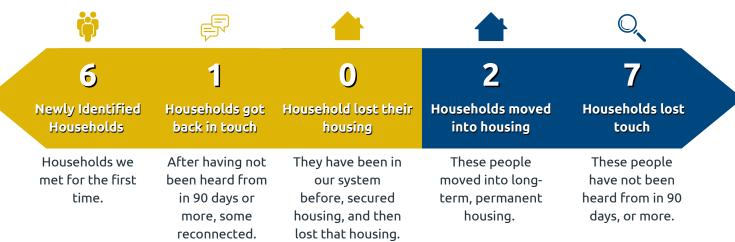
At least 146 households were experiencing homelessness in Huron County this month.

Of those, 126 households had been chronically homeless for six months or more in the last year.

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

Inflow: People entering homelessness.

Outflow: People exiting homelessness.



Population Specific Data

9	115	22	26
Youth	Single	Families	Identifying as
(16-25)	Adults		Indigenous

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



In 2020, authors from a group of Canadian universities worked to create "From Survival to Integration: The Four Processes of Leaving Homelessness,"

a Framework for Occupational Therapists with regards to supporting people to exit homelessness, remain housed, and to develop what the individual considers to be a meaningful life. This Framework looks closely at the cycle of homelessness, and discusses how to support the journey from homelessness to housing from the perspective of individual, community, and population standpoints. If this is something that is of interest to you, please click the link above to access it directly.



The Need For Supports After Exiting Homelessness

Why Exiting Homelessness Can Be Difficult

- Exiting homelessness is not always a straight forward path, and can include multiple cycles of finding housing, and returning to homelessness. Many factors/supports can make the transition out of homelessness into permanent long-term housing more successful, but they aren't always available.
- The Housing First Model involves moving people experiencing homelessness rapidly from the street or
 emergency shelters into stable and long-term housing, with supports, encouraging housing stability and
 improved quality of life for the person served and, to the extent possible, fostering self-sufficiency.
 - When supports are difficult to find, or unavailable, individuals must look at an unsupported move to Private Market housing, without help to acclimatize them to this new and very scary experience.
 - Over half (51.2%) of households that had experienced sheltered or unsheltered homelessness moved into housing that was unaffordable, crowded or in need of major repairs.
 - Once in these situations, people are forced to try to navigate social, legal, and financial systems that they do not always understand in order to maintain their housing.
- Social Supports, whether they are family, friends, peer, or professional, are incredibly important to the
 journey of individuals once housed.
 - Evidence suggests that the more social supports a person has, the fewer episodes of homelessness
 they experience, underscoring the importance of friends and family in determining health and length of
 homelessness.

The Experience of Transitioning From Homelessness

- Understanding experiences, like those listed below, helps us to see why housing stability may be so difficult for those transitioning from homelessness:
 - The sudden isolation of being housed can have repercussions for both substance use disorder and mental health. In some cases, phobias may arise, or individuals may have difficulties staying inside when they are used to sleeping outdoors. In addition, the large change in environment and daily routine can cause trauma histories to manifest in new ways.
 - Some have only lived communally and don't know how to cook or clean or upkeep the apartment
 - A feeling of "housing guilt" can arise when a person feels guilty to be housed while their friends are still
 on the streets, which can sometimes lead to difficult conflicts of interest when helping friends becomes a
 risk to housing status.
 - Individuals can struggle with hoarding after years of having nothing, resulting in possible evictions due to collecting everything they can once they have an apartment.
 - The largest component that is a key motivator in keeping someone housed is making sure that people
 feel really connected to the community. When experiencing homelessness, many have a built-in
 community of with them, from supports, to shelters and camps, they are always with people. Moving
 into an apartment can be incredibly lonely, so implementing harm reduction activities into the daily lives
 of everyone in these buildings is a key component.

- Sources <u>1</u>, <u>2</u>, <u>3</u>, <u>4</u>, <u>5</u>, <u>6</u>, <u>7</u>

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!