

Housing and Homelessness Support Program with Related Supports

Overview

The Housing and Homelessness Support Program works from a holistic, housing first approach to assist those experiencing or at risk of homelessness, or in unsafe housing. The Housing and Homelessness Support Program is unique in that they are funded by the Regional Municipality of Durham as opposed to the Ministry of Community and Social Services, which funds our other services.

The purpose of the Housing and Homelessness Support Program is to assist those experiencing or at risk of homelessness, in any form, to find or stabilize a safe place they can call home. We work throughout Uxbridge, Scugog and Brock townships with individuals and families to ensure safe and sustainable housing support to those in need. We do this by assisting folks to find affordable housing, mediating with landlords, and tenants to solve issues, supporting clients through the Landlord Tenant Board process, connecting individuals with income and food security programs, apply for housing programs including the By Name List, subsidized housing and priority housing. Outreach Workers:

- Refer to agency partners to develop a support network that reduces the risk of future homelessness, for example, our Housing and Homelessness Support Program has a partnership with, "Cedar Haven Centre" in Cannington
- > Explore and apply for subsidized housing benefits
- Provide advocacy with landlords or the Landlord Tenant Board
- > Informal counseling for clients in financial or housing crisis
- Locate and secure affordable housing
- > Provide access to stability funds for rent arrears, utility arrears and last month's rent
- > Support individuals to access government funded programs
- Connect individuals to shelters
- Emergency assistance by providing food and gas cards
- Develop working relationships with landlords and many agencies and facilitate open communication to lead to success
- Provide a harm reduction program
- Operates a winter warming initiative that offers financial supports for winter shelter, food and supplies

Applications for Service and Eligibility Considerations

To be eligible for this regionally funded program, participants must have a low income (income below the Household Income Limits as set out by the Region of Durham), have legal status in Canada and have assets less than \$50,000 (single person) and \$75,000 (couples and families). These supports are available throughout Durham but the Region expects that CLDN will focus its efforts on residents of north Durham (the townships of Scugog, Brock and Uxbridge) regardless of whether or not they have an intellectual disability.

Our Locations and Hours of Operation

Our Housing and Homelessness Support Program Outreach Workers travel throughout North Durham to provide supports and services as required. North Durham encompasses the following townships: Scugog, Uxbridge, and Brock. Our Housing and Homelessness Support Program Outreach Workers have access to office space in all three of these townships.

Community Living Durham North's head office is located at:

60 Vanedward Unit 2 Port Perry, ON 905-985-8511

Housing and Homelessness Support Program Outreach Workers are available Monday thru Friday and the occasional Saturday, although appointments are required as they are mobile for most of their working hours.

Contact Information

Housing and Homelessness Support Program office number - 905-852-5919 Cell Numbers – 289-385-0753 or 905-260-5929

Jessica Robinson, 905-985-9312 x 29 is the Manager of our Housing and Homelessness Support Program. Her email is jessica@cldn.ca

All email referrals can be sent to the following address: <u>hhspgroup@cldn.ca</u>

Click <u>HERE</u> to visit our Housing and Homelessness Support Program Facebook page.

Our website <u>www.cldn.ca</u>