
REPORT TITLE: Homelessness Prevention Program – Service Provider Agreements

FROM: Sean Baird, Commissioner of Human Services

RECOMMENDATION

- 1. That the Director of Housing Services be granted authority to accept the funding from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing (MMAH) for the Region of Peel’s continued participation in the Homelessness Prevention Program for the provincial funding term to March 31, 2024, or as may be extended and/or increased by the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing; and**
- 2. That the Director of Housing Services be delegated authority to submit the required Investment Plan for the any updates required to the Investment Plan to the MMAH for approval for each applicable funding year; and**
- 3. That the Director of Housing Services be authorized to execute agreements, including amendments and extensions to current agreements, with the following service providers to allocate funding for 2023-2024:**
 - “Services and Housing In the Province (SHIP)” (for the Peel Youth Village project) in the amount of up to \$427,072;**
 - “Services and Housing In the Province (SHIP)” (Home for Good Coordination) in the amount of up to \$730,016;**
 - “John Howard Society of Peel-Halton-Dufferin” in the amount of up to \$269,854;**
 - “Our Place (Peel)” in the amount of up to \$132,372;**
 - “Canadian Mental Health Association Peel Dufferin Branch” in the amount of up to \$100,000; and**

That the Director of Housing Services be authorized to use and distribute the MMAH funding amount of approximately \$1,007,033 to include: an amount of up to \$266,635 for program administration; up to \$559,933 for portable housing subsidies to program participants; and, up to \$180,465 to be further disbursed to any of the above noted service providers, as well as “The Governing Council of the Salvation Army in Canada”, for housing and support services for program participants.

REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

- On April 1, 2022, the Ministry consolidated the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative, Home for Good, and Strong Communities Rent Supplement Program into one flexible Homelessness Prevention Program (HPP).**
- On June 9, 2022, Council approved \$30,701,100 of funding for services provided under the HPP 2022-2023.**

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- On February 9, 2023 Council was advised that the 2023-2024 HHP allocation would remain at \$30,701,000.
 - Staff is seeking Council approval to extend agreements valued at \$2,666,347 with existing service providers who will continue providing services under the Homelessness Prevention Program.
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DISCUSSION

1. Background

In March 2022, the MMAH announced that the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative, the Strong Communities Rent Supplement Program, and the Home for Good programs would be consolidated into the HPP, effective April 1, 2022.

In June 2022, Council approved \$30,701,100 of funding for services provided under the HPP 2022-2023 (Resolution No. 2022-561).

On February 9, 2023 Council was advised that the \$30,701,000 HPP allocation would remain for 2023-2024.

2. Approval to Continue Program and Extend Agreements

The current agreements with some of the service providers, who have been providing services under the HPP since April 2022 are set to expire March 31, 2023, and Council authority is required to amend and extend these agreements. Staff is seeking Council approval to amend and extend service agreements with these service providers as follows, at the current annual budget of \$2,666,347.

a) Home for Good Collaborative

- Services and Housing in the Province (SHIP) in the amount of up to \$730,016. This funding will be used to provide coordination for the service providers as well as the provision of housing supports, mental health supports, substance use supports, and peer supports;
- John Howard Society of Peel-Halton-Dufferin in the amount of up to \$269,854; to provide two Intensive Case Managers and one Housing Support Worker with a focus of assisting individuals transitioning out of correctional institutions;
- Our Place (Peel) in the amount of up to \$132,372 to provide housing and support services for Youth ages 16-24 years;
- The Canadian Mental Health Association Peel Dufferin Branch in the amount of up to \$100,000 to support those who are homeless and on the street.

b) Peel Youth Village Aftercare Services

SHIP in the amount of up to \$427,072. This funding will be used to continue aftercare services for qualifying youth who are transitioning out of the Region's Peel Youth Village.

c) Use of Remaining Funds

The remaining budget of approximately \$1,007,033 includes an amount of up to \$266,635 for internal program administration; up to \$559,933 for portable housing

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subsidies to program participants; and, up to \$180,465 be further disbursed to any of the above noted service providers as well as The Governing Council of the Salvation Army in Canada, for housing and support services to program participants. Staff will utilize these amounts to support the Region's role in the program, as well as for direct support of specific program participants.

RISK CONSIDERATIONS

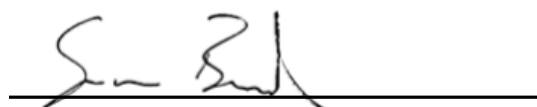
The HPP supports some of Peel's most vulnerable and chronically homeless residents. Without extending these contracts the program formerly known as "Home for Good" would cease to operate, and participants would be at significant risk of losing their housing and returning to homelessness. This would negatively impact the Region's goal of eliminating chronic homelessness.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS

This report has no financial implications. The funding required to extend these contracts is available within the 2023 Housing budget through the HPP funding.

CONCLUSION

The Homelessness Prevention Program provides housing assistance and support services to individuals and families with complex mental and physical health challenges within the four provincial priority areas. Through this report, staff is seeking Council approval to continue the Homelessness Prevention Program and extend agreements with existing service providers until March 31, 2024.



Sean Baird, Commissioner of Human Services

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