



City of
Peterborough

To: **Members of the General Committee**

From: **Sheldon Laidman, Commissioner of Community Services**

Meeting Date: **July 20, 2020**

Subject: **Report CSSS20-011**
Home for Good Supportive Housing Programs and Services

Purpose

A report to approve renewed service agreements and payments for the 100% provincially funded Home for Good Supportive Housing Program.

Recommendations

That Council approve the recommendations outlined in Report CSSS20-011, dated July 20, 2020, of the Commissioner of Community Services, as follows:

- a) That the Mayor and Clerk be authorized to execute renewed service agreements and payments for July 1, 2020 to March 31, 2022 with community partners related to the Home for Good Supportive Housing programs and services as set out in Table 1 of this report;
- b) That the Social Services Division Manager be delegated the authority to approve the annual Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing Home for Good Investment Plan and quarterly reporting to the Ministry.

Budget and Financial Implications

There are no budgetary or financial implications associated with the recommendations in this report.

The Home for Good funding allocation has not changed since 2017 and remains at \$983,236 per year. For the period of July 1, 2020 to March 31, 2022, the funding if approved, would be allocated as depicted in the below Table:

Table 1: Existing and Proposed Funding Allocations

Organization	Support Services	Annual Amount
Four Counties Addiction Services Team	Intensive Case Management Housing Support Workers	\$697,000
Salvation Army Peterborough	Financial Coaching for chronically homeless adults	\$33,650
YES Shelter for Youth and Families	Financial Coaching for youth experiencing homelessness	\$27,000
Peterborough 360 Degree Nurse Practitioner Led Clinic	Part time RN outreach support to Home for Good participants	\$50,000
Total		\$807,650

The balance of the Home for Good funding of \$175,586 is designated for rent supplements and City administrative supports to keep people in the program housed.

Background

In September 2017, the Social Services Division of the City was successful in an Expression of Interest for Home for Good funding. The funding is 100% provincial. These funds are for operating purposes only with up to a 10% allocation permitted to be used towards administration of the program. The City funds one full time position (the Homelessness System Data Administrator) with the administration funding associated with this program. The four partner agencies that are referenced in Table 1, along with St John's Anglican Church, were part of the original Expression of Interest submission developed through a working committee of various homelessness related agencies and organizations. The contract with St John's Anglican Church for Housing Support Workers was ended in December 2019. Having Housing Support Workers from only one agency (Four Counties Addictions Services) allows a more streamlined and efficient system of supports than splitting this across two agencies. Council Report CSSS10-010 dated November 27, 2017, approved the funding to these agencies for the initial period of the grant funding to June 30, 2020.

Attached as Appendix A is the funding allocation letter from the Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing confirming funding to March 31, 2022.

Since 2017, the City and community partners have used this funding to implement both congregate and scattered site supportive housing models in the community. Highlights of the initial program include:

- 78 individuals with high or very high acuity have been supported;
- Of the 78, 20 (27%) were youth and 7 (9%) were seniors;
- Of the 78, 6 (8%) self-identified as Indigenous; and
- Of the 78, 50 (64%) received rent supplements to assist with affordability of housing.

With the level of support provided by the Home for Good programs and services, the individuals taken from the By Name List of people experiencing homelessness are the highest level of need individuals. These individuals served were all chronically homeless and represent the most vulnerable people in the community. They received intensive case management, assistance with searching for and securing housing and once housing was secured, rent supplements were often provided to assist with affordability when necessary. The overall homelessness system being developed is in the midst of its transformation towards its goal of ending chronic homelessness. The Home For Good program is a key component of this evolving system. Coupled with the uncertainty surrounding the COVID-19 emergency situation, where much of the homelessness system has been disrupted, staff and the Built for Zero Committee are supportive of entering into additional two year contracts with the existing four agencies to ensure stability in the system and to continue to serve these high need individuals.

The Procurement Bylaw 18-084 considers the process of selecting partner agencies as an exempt expenditure. Appendix b.1.3 f) states that Social Services agencies that provide service to the City through Service Agreements such as Daycare and Hostel Operators are considered exempt.

Summary

The Home for Good program has existed since 2017 and the funding agreements with the existing four agencies providing the services associated with the program need to be renewed now that the program funding has been extended. The program serves a great need in the community and is a key component of the new homelessness system.

Submitted by,

Sheldon Laidman
Commissioner of Community Services

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Attachments:

Appendix A: Ministry of Municipal Affairs and Housing – Peterborough Allocation Letter