



Wellington-Guelph Health and Housing Community Planning Table Key Messages

Meeting Date: July 17, 2024

The following are the Key Messages from the Wellington-Guelph Health and Housing Community (HHC) Planning Table meeting that was held on July 17th at the County of Wellington building in Guelph. Please share these key messages broadly with interested partners and stakeholders.

1. A Health and Housing Community Planning Manager is being recruited to support the work of the Planning Table. This position should be filled in September. Members of the Community Planning Table agreed that a first task for the Manager will be to develop a broad communication strategy.
2. Membership for the 'People With Lived Experience (PWLE) Advisory Group' is being developed with the goal to have this group's first meeting in September. This group is being formed to both inform the work of this Wellington-Guelph Health and Housing Community (HHC) Planning Table as well as the next 10-year Housing and Homelessness Plan.
3. Community Partner Meetings will be held virtually each quarter to engage enabling and impacted partners in the work of the Planning Table. The first meeting will be held in late September. All attendees from the April 'Wellington-Guelph Health and Housing Symposium' will be invited to attend.
4. A report summarizing the April Health and Housing Symposium and the work of the Health and Housing Community Planning Table thus far, will be going to the Joint Social Services and Land Ambulance Committee in September and will be made public at that time. The report will be formally shared by email with all April Symposium attendees.
5. Members of the Community Planning Table discussed the process to establish a vision statement for the 'Integration of Health and Housing' in Wellington-Guelph. It was agreed that the PWLE Advisory Group will be supported by the Planning Table to develop this vision in consideration of outputs from the Symposium.
6. Since the last meeting, some Community Planning Table members have completed work to align the 12 priority areas that were identified through the Symposium with the mandates of existing tables. Once this work is completed, the chairs of the identified existing tables will be contacted to discuss if they have any capacity to support this work. The HHC Planning Table will take a lead role in the following action areas: advocacy, public education, upstream prevention, integration of health and housing, and mapping of services and data collection.

7. Additionally, some Community Planning Table members have met to begin the process of mapping the current state of health and housing services. This complex work is critical to the integration of health and housing and will be used to identify the gaps in our current system and resources (relative to the ideal state) and the development of a plan to achieve the ideal state of health and housing resources and service in Wellington-Guelph.
8. The 'Provision of Basic Needs for People Experiencing Homelessness' Working Group held its first meeting on July 3rd. The group discussed the services that already exist in our communities and agreed to develop a summary and communicate those available services. There was conversation about establishing a daytime hub i.e. a place to go to access a variety of services. The group also discussed the opportunity to coordinate existing health and housing outreach services and functions so that existing resources might be better able to provide wrap-around services for individuals who are unsheltered or living in encampments. Sarah Gillies will be one of the co-chairs for this group. The second co-chair will be selected (from those who have expressed interest) at the next meeting. This group has agreed to meet monthly, with their next meeting set for July 25th.
9. Table members reviewed the community's 'inflow' and 'outflow' trends from the 'By-Name List' (i.e. the registry of people in our community who are experiencing homelessness) over the most recent 12-month period. It was noted that although we had great success in finding permanent housing solutions in 2023 and early 2024 (known as 'outflow'), there have been significant increases in the demand for housing (known as 'inflow') that have resulted in an increase in the number of individuals on the 'By-Name List'.
10. The final funding package for 10 Shelldale has not yet been received (expected soon). As a result, there has been a delay in moving residents into the building. Offers have begun to go out for units and move-ins will happen in the next few weeks. Partners from permanent supportive housing agencies have met to have preliminary discussions about the form and function of the integrated care team that will be developed to support existing and new permanent supportive housing units.