



Wellington-Guelph Health and Housing Community Planning Table Key Messages

Meeting Date: June 18, 2024

The following are the Key Messages from the Wellington-Guelph Health and Housing Community (HHC) Planning Table meeting that was held on June 18th at 169 Gordon Street in Fergus. Please share these key messages broadly with interested partners and stakeholders.

1. Members of the Health and Housing Collaborative Planning Table have developed and finalized their terms of reference including their mandate to “*provide advice, oversight and actively contribute leadership to support both planning and action towards a vision and community plan to integrate health and housing services in Wellington-Guelph based on consultation with/input from those with lived and living experience*”. The two main areas of this mandate include:
 - A. Planning – Development of a vision for integrated health and housing services and a plan to achieve an integrated and equitable spectrum of social, housing and health supports to address prevention as well as the needs of families, youth, adults and seniors in the City of Guelph and the County of Wellington
 - B. Action – The Table will identify and support practical, real-time opportunities and activities to advance integrated health and housing. This includes work within each of the 12 ‘Action Areas’ that emerged from the Health and Housing Integration Symposium earlier this year.
2. One of those ‘Action Areas’ was *Provision of Basic Needs for People Experiencing Homelessness*. This work has been prioritized and a sub-working group will meet in early July. A second ‘Action Area’, Preventative Services, has also been prioritized and a group to support this work will be established in the coming weeks.
3. The Wellington-Guelph Health and Housing Community (HHC) Planning Table will host quarterly stakeholder meetings to engage enabling and impacted partners in the work of the Planning Table share. The first meeting is being planned for late September. If you are interested in attending this meeting, please e-mail Alicia Ryzebol (aliciar@wellington.ca)
4. As part of its planning mandate, members of the Health and Housing Collaborative Planning Table have initiated work to map both housing and health services within and across the health and housing spectrum in Wellington Guelph. This mapping will inform a common understanding of the current state of health and housing resources. We will then create an ideal state of health and housing services (informed by data, best and leading practices etc.). Finally, a plan to progress from our current state to the ideal state will be developed.
5. Membership of a ‘Persons with Lived Experience (PWLE) Advisory Group’ is being finalized. Once convened, this group will be invited to define their role in guiding/informing/directing this work.

6. Earlier in June, a discussion was held with a health privacy lawyer and health and housing partners from across Wellington Guelph. During this discussion, health and housing providers discussed the challenges (largely related to the interpretation of very complex health privacy laws) that they experience when attempting to share information about shared, complex and vulnerable clients. Partners were enlightened and excited about the many identified opportunities to clarify and simplify processes to enable easier communication between Wellington Guelph health and housing partners. This work will continue through Guelph Wellington OHT working groups.