

# Women's Housing Planning Collaborative: Gender Lens On Homelessness

Deputation to Emergency and Community Services sub-committee  
of City of Hamilton Council

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Greater Hamilton

# Women's Housing Planning Collaborative (WHPC)

## □ Members:



## □ Funder: Homelessness Partnering Strategy



## □ Monthly meetings:

- Steering Committee
- Service Coordination Committee
- Advisory Committee (First Voice)





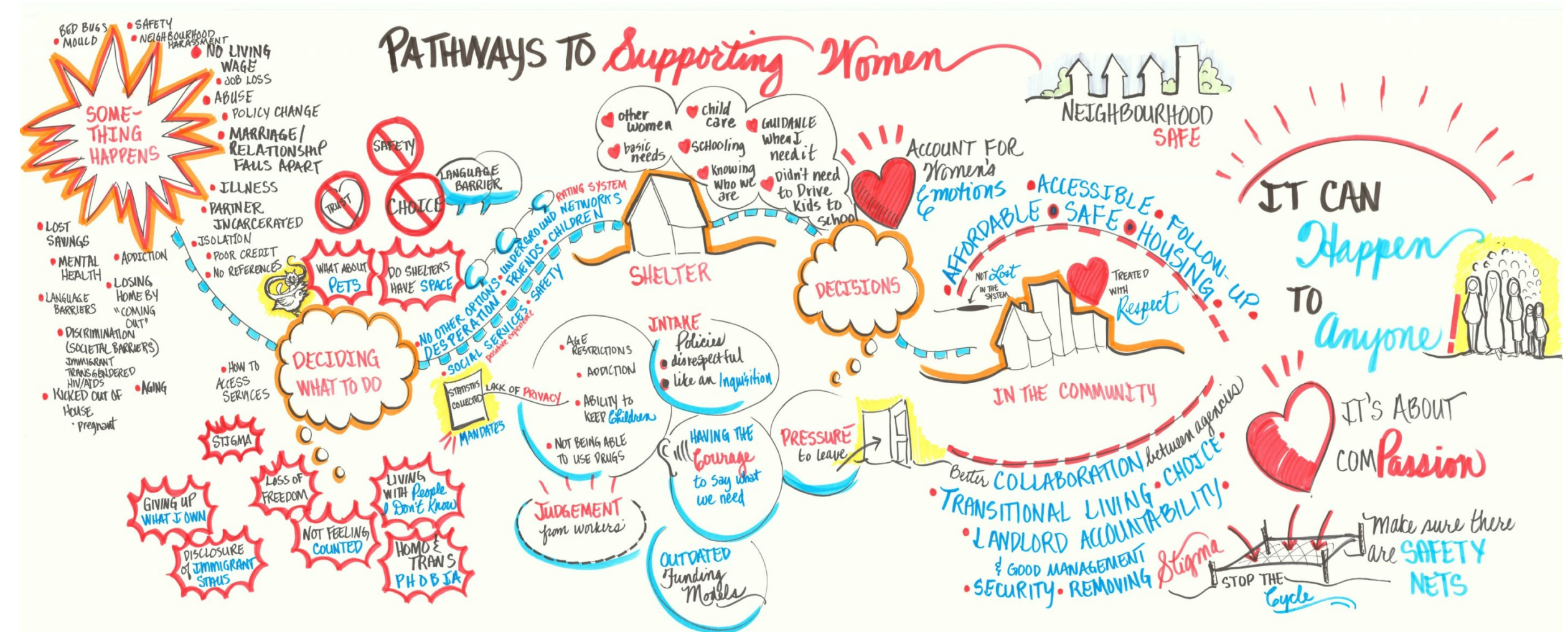
# Women's Housing Planning Collaborative (WHPC)

- Mandate:
  - ▣ develop, coordinate, advocate for and facilitate a gender specific, comprehensive and seamless system of services to meet the needs of women experiencing homelessness and at risk of homelessness.
- Activities:
  - ▣ Service planning
  - ▣ Memorial
  - ▣ Advocacy

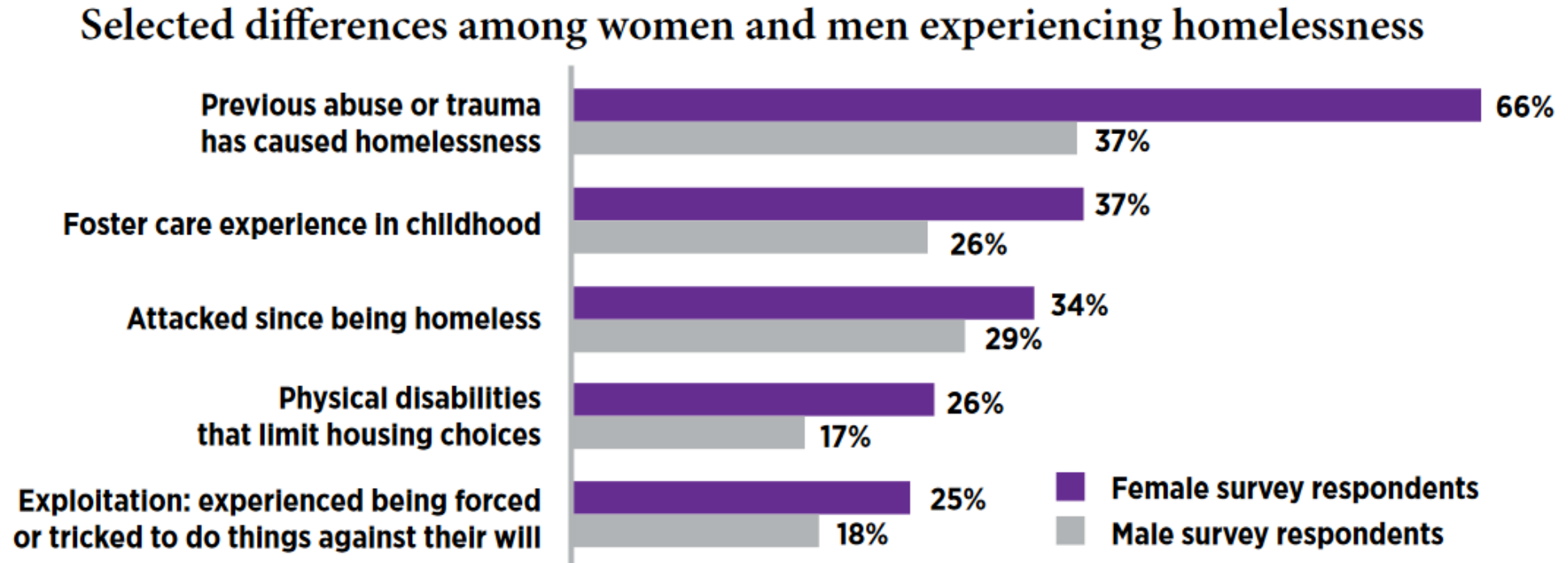




# Why do we need a gender lens on homelessness?



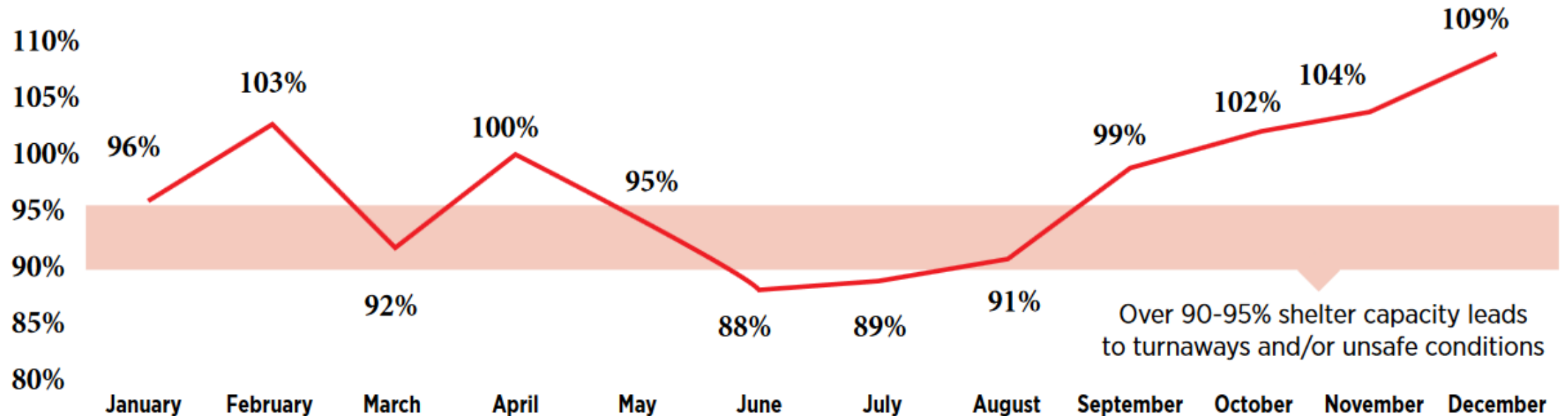
# Why do we need a gender lens on homelessness?



Data source: City of Hamilton Point in Time 20,000 Homes survey among persons experiencing homelessness, 2016

# Why do we need a gender lens on homelessness?

Shelter usage (% of funded beds in use), women's emergency shelters, city of Hamilton, 2017



# No wrong door

## Service responses

**Housing First - Supporting our Sisters**  
goodshepherdcentres.ca



**Staying Home - Eviction Prevention**  
goodshepherdcentres.ca



**Willow's Place**  
mission-services.com



**Carol Anne's Place with  
Womankind Addiction Service**  
ywcahamilton.org | stjoes.ca



**Mountain View Program**  
nativewomenscentre.com



**Transitional Living Program**  
ywcahamilton.org



## Policy responses

### **Support private market affordable rental housing**

- Advocacy for stronger tenant protections (municipal and provincial)
- Inclusionary zoning bylaw
- Tax incentives for new below market rental units

### **Promote choice in housing**

- Housing allowances
- National Portable Housing Benefit

### **Promote new and existing social housing and other non-profit affordable housing**

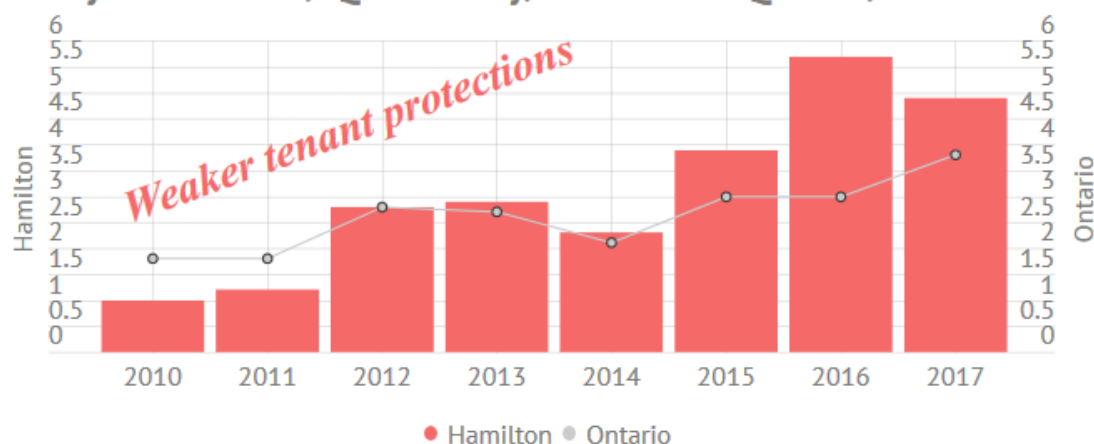
- Land Trusts, land grants and land banks, including using surplus LRT lands for affordable housing
- Energy efficiency retrofits
- Tower Renewal



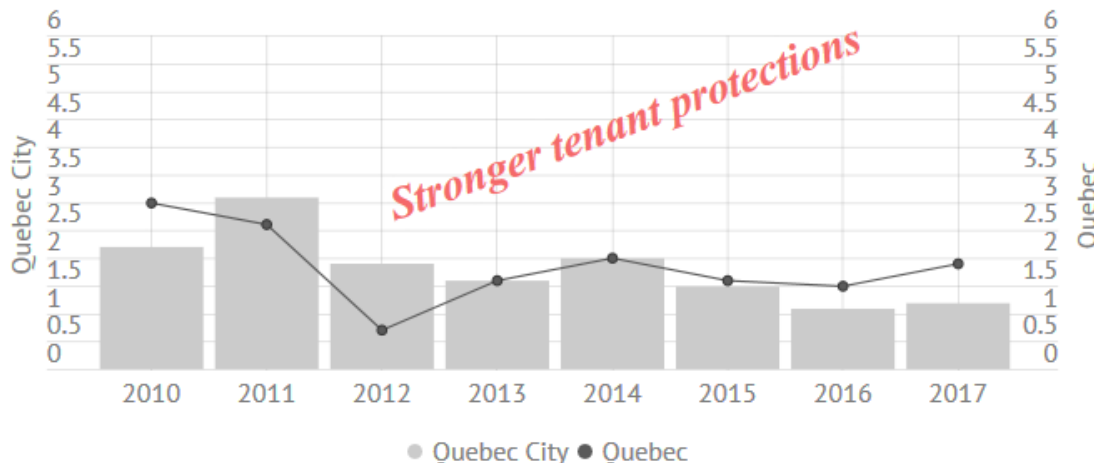
# Out of Control Housing report: Stronger tenant protections needed in Hamilton

Annual increase in average rents (% change),

City of Hamilton, Quebec City, Ontario and Quebec, 2010-2017



Download data



Myth  
Busting

Evidence from Quebec indicates that stronger tenant protection policies have *not* deterred development of new rental housing, a myth often put forward by landlords. More than 12,000 private primary rental market units have been added in Quebec City since 2011, compared to fewer than 700 in Hamilton in the same time period.

Net change in private primary rental market units each year,  
City of Hamilton and Quebec City, 2011-2017

