



CITY OF HAMILTON
HEALTHY & SAFE COMMUNITIES DEPARTMENT
Housing Services Division

TO:	Chair and Members Healthy & Safe Communities Committee
COMMITTEE DATE:	June 25, 2018
SUBJECT/REPORT NO:	Fiscal Reporting for Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI), Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) and Home For Good (HFG) (HSC18030) (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
PREPARED BY:	Rob Mastroianni (905) 546-2424 Ext. 8035
SUBMITTED BY:	Vicki Woodcox Acting Director, Housing Services Division Healthy & Safe Communities Department
SIGNATURE:	

RECOMMENDATION

- (a) That the 2018-2019 Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative budget in the amount of \$19,455,174, 100% funded by the Ministry of Housing, be approved;
- (b) That the 2018-2019 Homelessness Partnering Strategy budget in the amount of \$5,285,318, 100% funded by Employment and Social Development Canada be approved;
- (c) That the 2018-2019 Home for Good homelessness program budget in the amount of \$1,000,000, 100% funded by the Ministry of Housing, be approved; and,
- (d) That the General Manager of Healthy and Safe Communities or designate be authorized and directed to receive, utilize and report on the use of these funds within approved fiscal budgets based on program priorities and strategies identified in the Homelessness Programs.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Housing Services Division within the Healthy and Safe Communities Department, delivers and administers three senior government homelessness funding programs: the Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) (Provincial); Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) (Federal); and Home for Good (HFG) (Provincial).

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Funding under each of these three programs are allocated under an annual fiscal reporting cycle from April 1 to March 31. Quarterly outcome and auditing reporting are aligned with the above time periods to meet legislative requirements of each program.

Alternatives for Consideration – Not Applicable

FINANCIAL – STAFFING – LEGAL IMPLICATIONS

Financial:

Funding through the CHPI, HPS and HFG homelessness programs are administered through the Housing Services Division on a fiscal calendar cycle (April-March) at a total budgeted allocation of \$25,740,492 for 2018/2019.

The Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) is a total of \$19,455,174. There are five categories within the CHPI Provincial funding as outlined below.

Program	2018-19
Emergency Shelter Solutions	\$ 8,250,650
Housing with Related Supports	\$ 6,795,900
Other Services and Supports	\$ 570,390
Homelessness Prevention	\$ 3,625,640
Program Administration	\$ 212,594
TOTAL:	\$19,455,174

The Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) budget for 2018-19 is \$5,285,318.

The Home For Good (HFG) budget for the same time period is \$1,000,000.

Staffing:

There are no staffing implications associated with Report HSC18030.

Legal:

There are no legal implications associated with Report HSC18030.

HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

The CHPI program is a provincially funded program and has received an overall 2.0% increase in funding since 2015/16. The federally funded HPS program has received a 25% increase in funding since 2015/16. The HFG program was introduced in 2017 and is funded by the provincial government.

The overall goal of the three programs is to prevent and decrease homelessness. Staff work closely with over 100 key stakeholders and agency partners in Hamilton to help achieve these goals.

POLICY IMPLICATIONS AND LEGISLATED REQUIREMENTS

None

RELEVANT CONSULTATION

Staff consulted with Corporate Services, Financial Planning, Administration, and Policy, Finance & Administration and incorporated their feedback into this report.

ANALYSIS AND RATIONALE FOR RECOMMENDATION

The Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI) is a provincial program that reflects a Housing First approach and focuses on homelessness prevention to reduce reliance on emergency services. This vision reflects a shift towards a system that focuses on proactive and permanent housing solutions rather than reactive responses to homelessness. The province has established two key program outcomes for CHPI which are ensuring people experiencing homelessness obtain and retain housing and that people at risk of homelessness remain housed. Three major components of the CHPI program are Emergency Shelters, Residential Care Facilities and the Housing Stability Benefits which provides financial assistance (e.g. first month rent, utility arrears) for those who are homeless or at risk of becoming homeless.

The Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) is the federal government's primary program to reduce and end homelessness in Canada. The HPS program focus is Housing First. The Housing First approach supports the belief that people are better able to pursue their personal goals towards employment, treatment, health and well-being when they are first placed in stable housing. Service Canada has mandated that 65% of HPS funding must be allocated to Housing First. Further to this, HPS funding must demonstrate a clear and significant reduction in homelessness in local communities.

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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Home for Good (HFG) is a provincial homelessness-focused program that supports the Province's goal of ending chronic homelessness by 2025. The Province recognizes that achieving this goal requires both the housing of people who are currently homeless and also the prevention of additional people becoming chronically homeless. HFG provides housing assistance and support services to people who are homeless or at imminent risk of homelessness.

All programs continue to connect individuals experiencing chronic homelessness to permanent housing placements, through case management support. The programs continue to meet established service level targets within the range set by accountability agreements; however, pressures continue within the programs to provide the intensity of services required in some instances, and the overall number of individuals in the community eligible for the programs exceeds the number of clients they are resourced to support. Both programs continue to engage in quality improvement initiatives to prioritize and accelerate the referrals and housing placements of the most vulnerable individuals experiencing chronic homelessness. It is critical that each program be able to continue to provide service, as they are integral to ensuring that chronic homelessness is reduced in Hamilton and all community members are able to realize their right to housing.

ALTERNATIVES FOR CONSIDERATION

None

ALIGNMENT TO THE 2016 – 2025 STRATEGIC PLAN

Healthy and Safe Communities

Hamilton is a safe and supportive city where people are active, healthy, and have a high quality of life.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

None