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EMERGENCY AND COMMUNITY SERVICES  
COMMITTEE

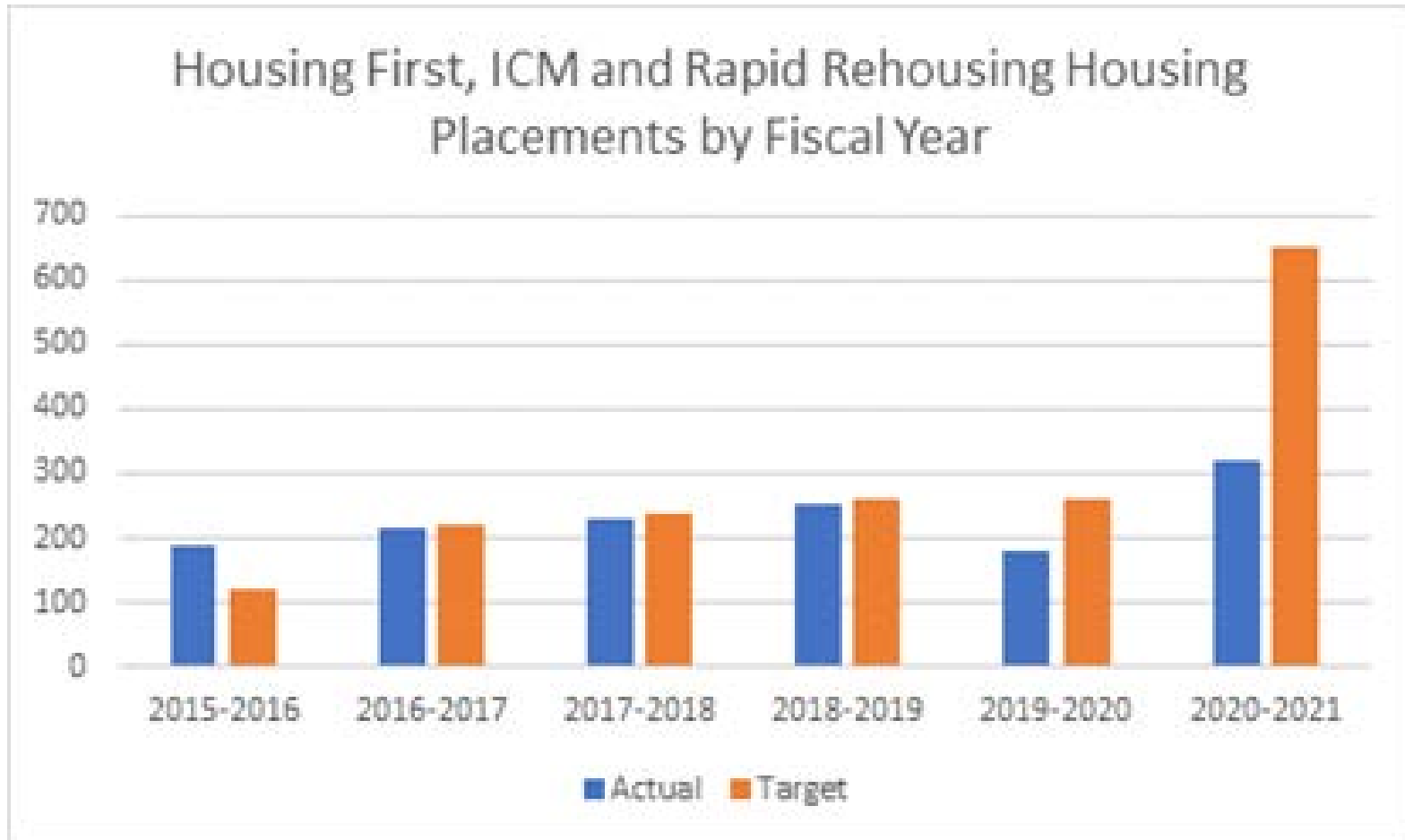
**Adaptation and Transformation of Services for  
People Experiencing Homelessness Update 3**

June 3, 2021

## COVID-19 Response Framework (June 2020)

Immediate Actions	Mid-Term Actions	Long Term Actions
<p><b>Unsheltered</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Negotiate extensions to emergency funding to drop-ins and day centres to ensure continued access to hygiene and support opportunities.</li> </ul> <p><b>Shelters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Strengthen shelter diversion and rapid rehousing initiatives</li> <li>✓ Plan for decommissioning of First Ontario Centre as temporary shelter.</li> <li>✓ Reconfigure space within existing shelters to maximise capacity and promote social distancing.</li> <li>✓ Secure leases with hotels to ensure existing capacity is maintained.</li> <li>✓ Determine need for alternative shelter sites.</li> </ul> <p><b>Isolation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Plan for decommissioning of Bennetto Recreation Centre.</li> <li>✓ Identify sustainable model for isolation services and appropriate location.</li> </ul> <p><b>Permanent Housing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Maximise capacity of municipally-funded Intensive Case Management Programs to help house people from streets, shelters and hotels.</li> <li>✓ Coordinate available housing subsidies to support access to permanent housing.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Shelters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Decommission First Ontario centre.</li> <li>✓ Implement plans to maintain existing number of shelter beds.</li> </ul> <p><b>Isolation</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Decommission Bennetto Recreation Centre (by end of June 2021).</li> <li>✓ Implement new isolation service model.</li> </ul> <p><b>Permanent Housing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>✓ Explore opportunities to use any affordable housing projects under construction to serve this population.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Shelters</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Assistance with the planning and development process for those shelters looking to significantly and permanently establish facilities that are supportive and resilient to both the housing and health needs of the population.</li> </ul> <p><b>Permanent Housing</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Maximise the amount and design of permanent low barrier supportive housing to significantly increase the availability and suitability of units.</li> <li>• Ensure the coordination and comprehensive integration of housing and health funding to promote effective, resilient and supportive housing forms.</li> </ul>

# Housing Programs Update



# Homelessness Systems Planning

- In 2020, Hamilton's emergency shelter system saw an 18% increase in length of stay.
- Hamilton's emergency shelter system also saw a 7% decrease in unique individuals served in 2020, with increased length of stay primarily driving occupancy pressures.
- In 2021, the ongoing impacts of COVID-19 will require continued flexibility to meet the needs of individuals accessing services, including through prevention and housing programs.
- The recommendations recognize the need for continued flexibility over a period of 1 to 2 years to support the transition from COVID-19 emergency supports to a more responsive, resilient, sustainable and housing-focused homeless-serving system aligned with Hamilton's Housing and Homelessness Action Plan.

# Continuation of temporary COVID-19 emergency supports to support transition planning

- Operation of 378 Main Street East (the former Cathedral Boys School) as a temporary shelter for men to no later than December 31, 2021
- Rental of hotel rooms for expanded temporary housing, staffing and additional supports/services up to March 31, 2022
  - Plan to gradually decrease additional rooms over time while enhancing prevention and permanent housing solutions
- Operation of COVID-19 isolation services for people experiencing homelessness up to March 31, 2022
  - Fully decommission temporary isolation spaces over time
  - Explore viability of ongoing isolation spaces in shelters where possible
- Enhanced drop-in services including but not limited to Living Rock Ministries, Mission Services, Wesley and the YWCA Hamilton up to March 31, 2022
  - Will include an evaluation to assess long-term strategic alignment and contributions to systems level outcomes

# Transition planning for the emergency shelter system

## **Adaptation of emergency responses:**

- Shifting away from hotel usage toward more sustainable emergency shelter and permanent housing solutions required to meet long term needs
- Temporarily increase the women's emergency shelter system capacity, while leveraging the approved recommendations through the Women's Shelter and Support Investment Options (2020 RFP) for long-term solutions
- Investigate transitional adaptations to the emergency shelter system through COVID-19 recovery in the men's and family emergency shelter system including a needs assessment for ongoing support for couples

# Permanent Housing Solutions

- Further direct support through the expansion of targeted housing allowances, serving up to 93 individuals or households over 4 years
- Continued support of permanent housing placements/retention and in-home case management supports approved through the 2019 CFA (ICM & Rapid Re-housing)
- Build on strategic engagement and remain in talks with the province, health sector partners and community agencies to explore further partnerships for the development of permanent housing solutions
- Over time, we incrementally reduce our expanded emergency system, concurrently focusing on prevention and permanent housing solutions

# Vaccination Progress

## **Vaccine prioritization for people experiencing homelessness:**

- 24 first dose clinics, February - May 2021; approximately 450 individuals experiencing homelessness received a vaccination
- Second dose clinic plans: 8 clinics from June 19-22



# Financial Implications

In 000's	Forecast July 2021 to December 2021	Forecast January 2022 to March 2022	Total
Recommendation (a)(i)	\$1,500	-	\$1,500
Recommendation (a)(ii)	7,100	3,600	10,700
Recommendation (a)(iii)	2,000	1,000	3,000
Recommendation (a)(iv)	1,100	540	1,640
Recommendation (a)(v)	1,500	740	2,240
Recommendation (b)(i)(1)	710	744	1,454
Other Costs	200	-	200
Costs committed April - June	7,300	-	7,200
<b>Total Forecasted Expenditures</b>	<b>\$21,410</b>	<b>\$6,624</b>	<b>\$28,034</b>
Total SSRF Funding Available	(\$12,302)	-	(\$12,302)
Municipal Safe Restart 2021 Approved Budget	(4,637)	-	(4,637)
<b>Levy Pressure</b>	<b>(\$4,471)</b>	<b>(\$6,624)</b>	<b>(\$11,095)</b>

- Expected additional COVID-19 related costs from April 2021 to December 2021 exceed current approved funding by \$4.5 M.
- COVID-19 related costs up to March 2022 do not have an approved funding source. The total unfunded COVID-19 costs from July 2021 to March 2022 are \$11 M.

## ▶ Moving out of the COVID-19 pandemic...

Our response will continue to shift from this...



...TO THIS!



Adapted from The Homeless Hub (<https://www.rondpointdelitinerance.ca/blog/solutions-prevention>)



Hamilton

QUESTIONS?