

# Food and Shelter Advisory Committee

**Presentation to  
Emergency and Community  
Services Committee**

**June 11<sup>th</sup> 2012**

# Food and Shelter Advisory Committee

## Mandate

- **Identify the urgent needs of citizens**
- **Provide advice and information to E & CS Committee.**
- **Agencies take immediate action to address issues where appropriate**
- **Opportunity to liaise and collaborate**

## A Committee Goal

**Increased use of Food & Shelter Advisory Committee as a resource to inform Council's decision making**

## **Key Committee Learnings:**

- Existing Homelessness/Shelter Services (*Out of the Cold, Women & Men's Shelter Services*)
- Bed Bugs
- Direct linkages and knowledge members have in the food & shelter system

**Collaboration with Mayor Bratina on letters to the Provincial and Federal Governments**

## Key Issues of Concern to FSAC:

- Ongoing sustainability of women's homelessness services, because there has been a crisis and current interventions do not have sustainable funding.
- Increasing demand on emergency food and lack of sustainable system resources.
- Impacts to the young women living in Lynwood/Charlton Hall resulting from the public discussion regarding location of their home. FSAC asks Council to:
  - Reconsider the existing bylaw and
  - Use the expertise within the relevant City departments to develop a coordinated and cohesive approach to resolving the Lynwood/Charlton Hall issue.
- Need for increased bed bug education and response programs because every person in Hamilton can be affected by bed bugs and current programs do not have sufficient resources.

# Who Food & Shelter Is

## **5 citizen representatives**

Alexander Ramirez (vice chair), Anne Wilson, Fernando Forero,  
Maria Cristina Pelaez and Thyra Marting

## **10 service sector representatives**

|                      |                                                                     |
|----------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Don Jaffray (chair)  | Social Planning & Research Council, Collaborative for Adult Justice |
| Denise Arkell        | Emergency Food Action Committee                                     |
| Larry Huibers        | Affordable Housing Flagship, H & H Planning Group                   |
| Carmen Salciccioli   | Hamilton Emergency Shelters Integration & Coordination Committee    |
| Karen Brown          | Street Youth Planning Collaborative                                 |
| Medora Uppal         | Woman Abuse Working Group                                           |
| Robert Foster        | Hamilton Addiction & Mental Health Coalition                        |
| Linda Ense           | Hamilton Executive Director's Aboriginal Coalition                  |
| Katherine Kalinowski | Women's Housing Collaborative                                       |
| Scott Jones          | Housing Services for Newcomers                                      |

# A Committee Goal

Important & Challenging Issues before Council

## **Investment of Remaining OMPF funding**

*Current Initiatives in Women's Homelessness Need Sustainable Funding*

*Demand for Emergency Food is high*

## **Social Assistance Discretionary Benefits**

*Compliments to E&CS for supporting funding to end of 2012*

*Funding is required for 2013 and beyond*

**We invite E&CS to engage Food & Shelter Advisory Committee as a helpful resource in your decision making processes**

**THANK YOU**