



# UPDATE ON YORK REGION'S 2024 - 2027 HOMELESSNESS SERVICE SYSTEM PLAN AND RAPID DEPLOYMENT ACTIONS

Presented to  
Housing and Homelessness  
Committee

Presented by  
Kevin Pal, General Manager,  
Social Services

Presented on  
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# Purpose



Homelessness Service System Plan

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Rapid Deployment Actions

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Temporary Federal and Provincial Funding

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Planned Capital Investments

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Next Steps

# Homelessness Service System Plan Update

## GOAL 1

**End Chronic Homelessness  
in York Region**

## GOAL 2

**Strengthen York Region's  
human rights-based  
approach to addressing  
homelessness**

### PRIORITY 1

#### PREVENTION AND DIVERSION

Actions that reduce likelihood that a person will experience homelessness

### PRIORITY 2

#### INTERVENTION AND HOUSING STABILITY

Supports to help people find permanent housing

### PRIORITY 3

#### SYSTEMS RESPONSE

Aligns actions across system to establish integrated homelessness services

### PRIORITY 4

#### ADVOCACY AND ENGAGEMENT

Identifies opportunities to advocate to other levels of government

# 2024 Homelessness Service System Plan Accomplishments

## Prevention and Diversion

Increased awareness of prevention programs through information presentations  
(Activity 1.2)

Initiated a working group with Southlake Hospital to reduce discharges to homelessness  
(Activity 2.2)

## Intervention and Housing Stability

Implementation of Rapid Deployment Actions  
(Activities 1.1, 1.2, 2.1)

Initiated consultation on encampment response operational policy  
(Activity 1.1)

Enhanced Outreach supports for people who are living unsheltered  
(Activity 1.1)

## Systems Response

Worked with United Way Greater Toronto to complete 2024 Point-in-Time count  
(Activity 1.1)

Supported Lived Experience Advisory Committee  
(Activity 2.2)

## Advocacy and Engagement

Chair's letter to Province advocating for sustained increase in provincial funding  
(Activity 1.1)

Successfully applied and received new one-time Federal and Provincial funding  
(Activity 1.1)

# Homelessness Service System Plan 2025 Actions Underway

## Prevention and Diversion

Develop a homelessness prevention toolkit (Activity 1.2)

Program reviews of key prevention programs (Activity 1.2)

Enhance collaboration with provincial systems, including primary care and mental health supports (Activity 2.2)

## Intervention and Housing Stability

Continue to enhance Outreach supports for people who are living unsheltered (Activity 1.1)

Explore options to enhance the Housing with Supports Program (Activity 1.2)

## Systems Response

Strengthen Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS) data collection and analysis capacity to inform system planning (Activity 2.1)

Implement and expand prioritization for housing programs for people experiencing homelessness (Activity 1.4)

## Advocacy and Engagement

Develop an agenda to guide advocacy to federal and provincial governments to address structural and systemic issues (Activity 1.1)

# Rapid Deployment Actions

01

30 emergency and transitional beds added in existing facilities



02

34 hotel rooms added



03

75 seasonal beds opened



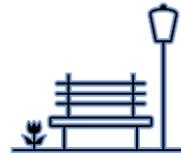
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4 PFT Outreach Workers added to CPORT



05

4 TFT Outreach Workers to expand services in encampments



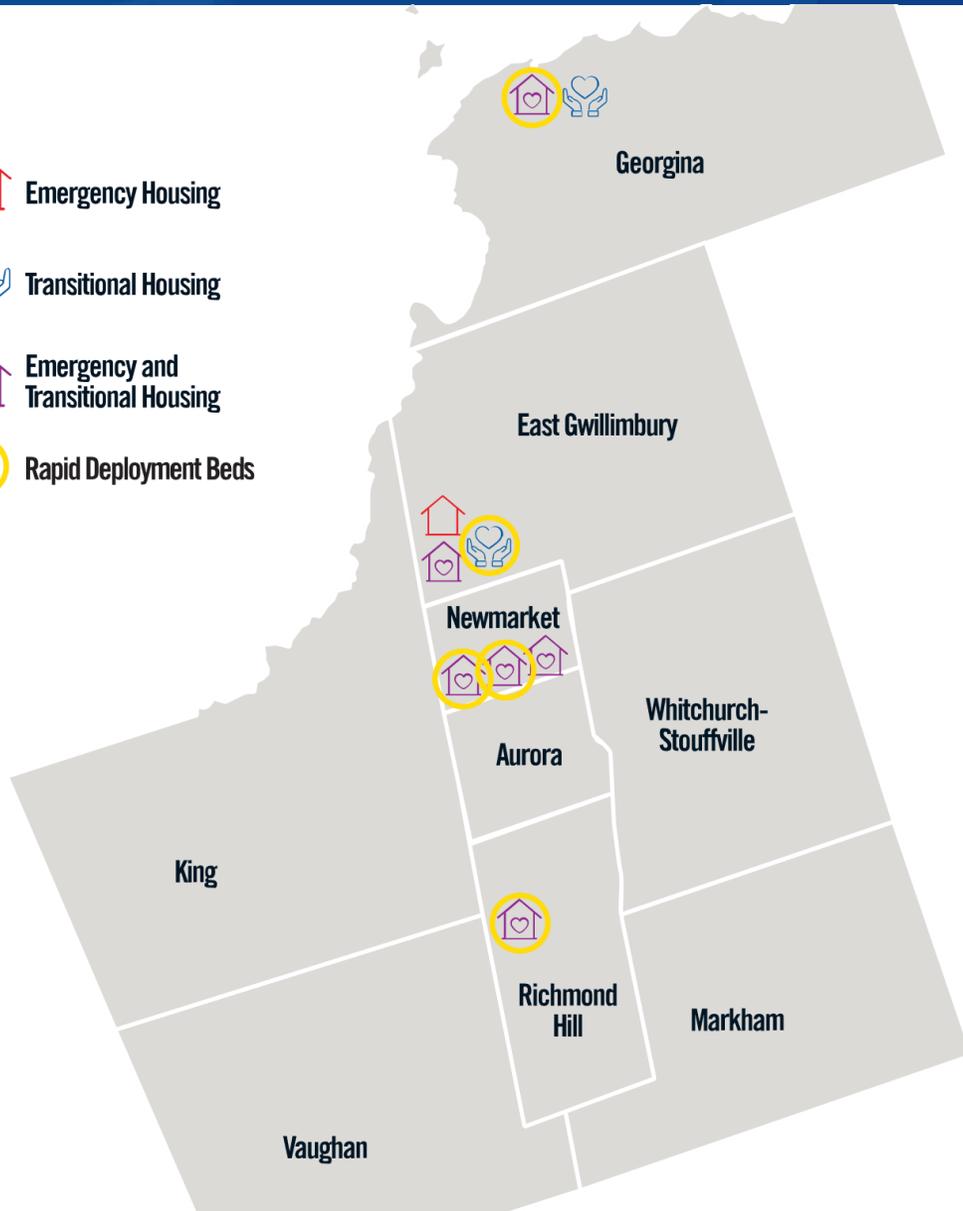
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Expand services for people experiencing chronic homelessness



# Current Emergency and Transitional Housing Capacity

-  Emergency Housing
-  Transitional Housing
-  Emergency and Transitional Housing
-  Rapid Deployment Beds



Site	Partner	# Beds Pre-RDA	# Beds Added	Current Total Beds
<b>East Gwillimbury</b>				
<b>Porter Place</b> <i>Men</i>	 Blue Door	30	--	30
<b>Leeder Place</b> <i>Families</i>	 Blue Door	Up to 60 (15 rooms)	--	Up to 60 (15 rooms)
<b>Passage House</b> <i>Men</i>	 Blue Door	18	9	Up to 27 (18 rooms)
<b>Georgina</b>				
<b>Sutton Youth Services</b> <i>Youth</i>	 Salvation Army	26	8	34
<b>The Bridge</b> <i>Families, Youth, Couples</i>	 Salvation Army	Up to 26 (10 rooms)	--	Up to 26 (10 rooms)
<b>Newmarket</b>				
<b>Belinda's Place</b> <i>Women</i>	 Salvation Army	37	6	43
<b>Kevin's Place</b> <i>Men</i>	 Salvation Army	10	--	10
<b>Inn From the Cold</b> <i>Age 15 and over</i>	 Inn From the Cold	30	5	35
<b>Richmond Hill</b>				
<b>The Youth Hub</b> <i>Youth</i>	 360kids	25	3	28
<b>Total</b>		<b>262</b>	<b>31</b>	<b>293</b>

# New Temporary Funding from the Federal and Provincial Governments

- In December 2024, Region was successful in securing **Federal Unsheltered Homelessness Encampment Initiative (UHEI)** funding
- In January 2025, Region was successful in securing **Provincial Encampment Response Initiative (ERI)** and **Last Mile** funding
- Funding will support capital and operational investments in Region's Homelessness Service System, including:
  - Expansion of emergency, transitional and seasonal shelter beds
  - Expansion of drop-in programs
  - Creation of financial assistance programs to support transitions to more permanent housing, family reconnection, pet boarding, storage of belongings, arrears, and moving costs
  - Expediting shovel-ready affordable housing projects

**\$10.8M**  
(**\$5.4M/fiscal year**)  
**UHEI**

**\$1.4M**  
**ERI**

**\$3.98M**  
**Last Mile**

# Planned Capital Investments

## Emergency and Transitional Housing Capital Planning

<b>Project</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Beds</b>
Redevelopment of 3 facilities - Porter Place, Leeder Place, Sutton Youth Services	\$58,000,000	Up to 152 new beds
New Emergency and Transitional Housing at 2 facilities	\$72,000,000	Up to 135 new beds
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$130M</b>	<b>Up to 287 beds</b>

# Summary and Next Steps

- Staff are continuing to implement Homelessness Service System Plan
- Majority of Rapid Deployment Actions were completed in 2024; work is underway to expand access to supports for people experiencing chronic homelessness
- With Council approval in February 2025, staff are moving forward to flow funding under the Provincial Encampment Response Initiative and federal Unsheltered Homelessness and Encampments Initiative
- Staff are working on development of next 10-year housing and homelessness plan, targeted for 2025
- Two new and Two redevelopment/replacement sites for Emergency and Transitional Housing



# Thank You

Kevin Pal, General Manager Social Services

Kevin.Pal@york.ca

