



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

Presented to
Housing and Homelessness
Committee

Presented by
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Purpose



Homelessness Service System Plan



Rapid Deployment Actions



Temporary Federal and Provincial Funding



Planned Capital Investments



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



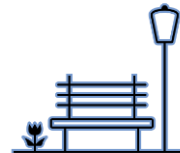
04

4 PFT Outreach Workers added to CPORT



05

4 TFT Outreach Workers to expand services in encampments

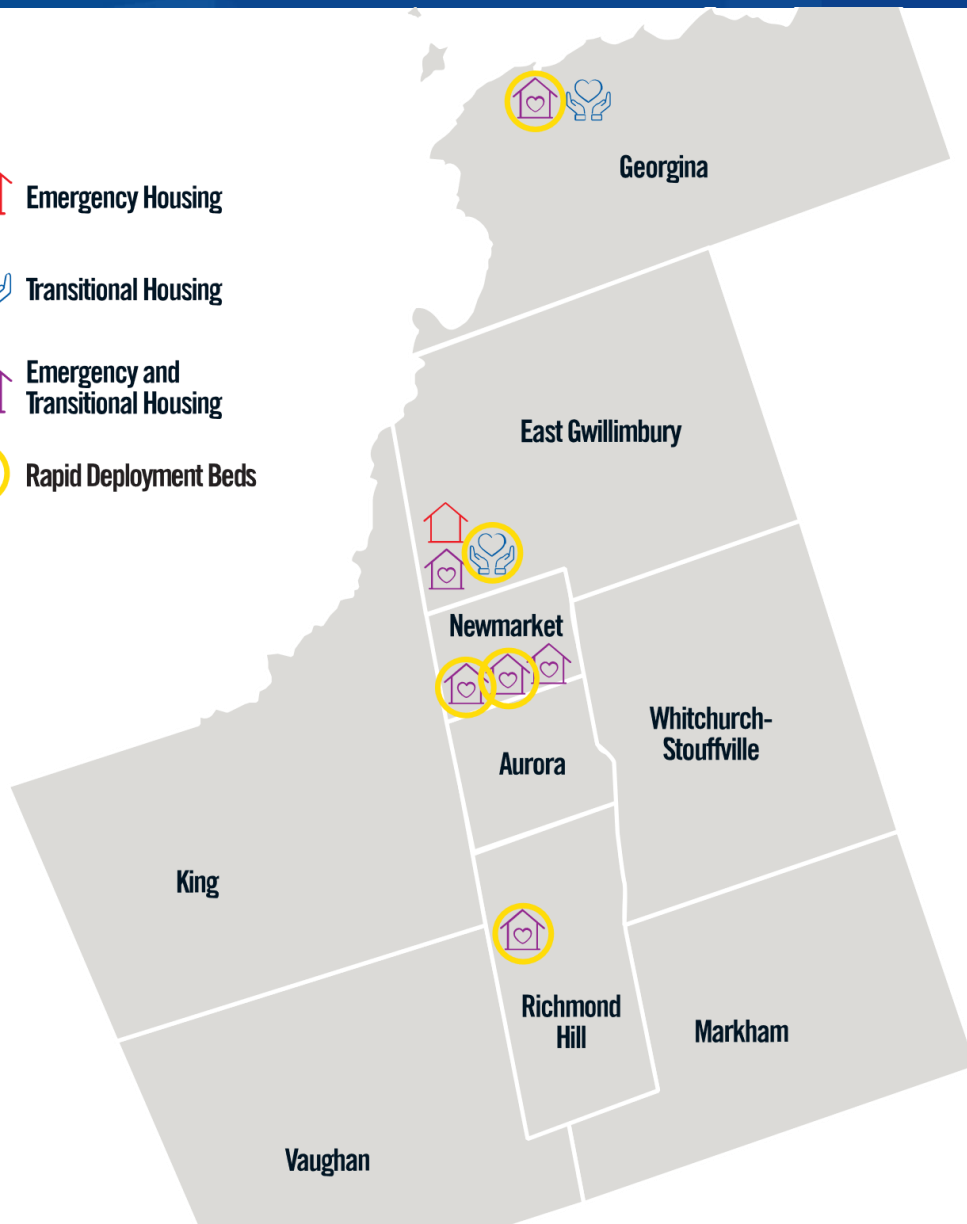











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Expand services for people experiencing chronic homelessness



Current Emergency and Transitional Housing Capacity



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

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		
Project	Amount	Beds
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
Total	\$130M	Up to 287 beds

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

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