

Sole Source - Housing First Intensive Case Management Services

Presented To:	Community and Emergency Services Committee
Meeting Date:	March 17, 2025
Type:	Managers' Reports
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Recommended by:	General Manager of Community Development

Report Summary

This report provides a recommendation regarding entering into a sole source agreement with Centre de Santé Communautaire du Grand Sudbury for the continued delivery of Housing First Intensive Case Management Services for one year.

Resolution

THAT the City of Greater Sudbury authorizes staff to enter into a sole source agreement with Centre de Santé Communautaire du Grand Sudbury for the continued delivery of the Housing First Intensive Case Management Program from April 1, 2025 to March 31, 2026, as outlined in the report entitled "Sole Source – Housing First Intensive Case Management Services" from the General Manager of Community Development, presented at the Community and Emergency Services Committee meeting on March 17, 2025.

Relationship to the Strategic Plan, Health Impact Assessment and Climate Action Plans

This report supports Council's Strategic Plan in the area of Quality of Life and Place as it aligns with the Population Health Priorities of Indigenous Youth, Mental Health, Housing, and Healthy Streets by delivering Housing First supports to persons who have experienced chronic homelessness. This report has no relationship to the Community Energy and Emissions Plan.

Financial Implications

There are no financial implications associated with this report. This contract is funded through the existing operating budget.

Background

The City of Greater Sudbury (City) is the Community Entity (CE) for the Federal Reaching Home funding and a Service Manager pursuant to the Housing Services Act, 2011, and as such is responsible, in accordance with its housing and homelessness plan, to carry out measures to meet the objectives and targets relating to housing needs within the City.

A Community Advisory Board (CAB) is required under the Reaching Home funding; made up of representatives from community sectors, the CAB recommends policy and service delivery to the Community Entity that prioritizes housing and support services for individuals and families experiencing or at risk of homelessness. The City administers and funds housing and homelessness programs and services, such as Housing First Intensive Case Management Services, also partnering with community service providers to provide Housing First programs and other programs intended to meet the needs of persons who are experiencing homelessness.

Housing First Intensive Case Management Services

Housing First Intensive Case Management Services are currently provided through a funding agreement with Centre de Santé Communautaire du Grand Sudbury (CSC), which is scheduled to end on March 31st, 2025. This funding agreement was implemented on January 1st, 2021, following a Request for Proposal procurement process. The funding flows from the Federal Reaching Home program and is recommended by the Community Advisory Board. The current funding allocation is \$190,000 annually.

This agreement provides for two additional Housing First Intensive Case Managers to provide more intensive support for a caseload of persons who have experienced chronic homelessness and require a higher level of support to achieve housing stability. This program is integrated with the larger Housing First program that CSC administers for the City of Greater Sudbury through a partnership of agencies called the Homelessness Network. Also integrated within these services are Housing Allowances to provide affordability in the private market, landlord engagement services, homelessness prevention program and a Veteran's homelessness program.

Intensive Case managers each carry caseloads of 7 individuals, for a total 14 receiving support. Of the overall total, 7 individuals are housed, while 7 remain unhoused, receiving support to find housing. Individuals are matched to this program through the City's By-Name List and are identified as experiencing chronic homelessness with very high acuity.

Of those housed, 5 have reached a benchmark of twelve-months of continuous housing, while 1 has reached a benchmark of six months of continuous housing. These are important benchmarks to predict ongoing housing stability and reduce the likelihood of returning to homelessness. Further, of those housed, 1 was assisted to access community housing, while 5 were assisted to find housing in the private market, supported by a housing allowance. The positive benefits of the Housing First Intensive Case Management program to the community include a reduction in hospital and emergency department visits and reduced interactions with the criminal justice system.

Where the funding agreement for Housing First Intensive Care Management Services is set to expire on March 31, 2025, this report recommends that staff enter a one (1) year agreement for continued services in the community. As a fully funded service, which is part of a larger system of supports to those experiencing homelessness, ensuring uninterrupted services for those that depend on the program helps them acquire and maintain stable housing, thus improving their overall quality of life.

Homelessness System Review

In 2025, Social Services staff intend to conduct a complete review of the network of homelessness services funded through Federal, Provincial and Municipal envelopes to ensure a coordinated, outcome-based system that follows recommendations of the Roadmap to End Homelessness by 2030, approved by Council in May

2024. This review will include outreach services, warming centres, emergency shelters, Housing First program, housing allowances, and homelessness prevention, with a focus on shifting away from emergency services to longer term housing support. A report to Committee can be anticipated by Q4 2025/2026.

Resources Cited

Roadmap to End Homelessness by 2030

<https://pub-greatersudbury.escribemeetings.com/filestream.ashx?DocumentId=53564>