

Report

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Subject: 10-year Housing and Homelessness Plan Annual Update for 2024

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Overview: The County of Dufferin has continued its efforts to address housing and homelessness in Dufferin County. This document provides highlights of Dufferin’s efforts in 2024.

Key Initiatives: In 2024, County of Dufferin and its community partners sought to plan and create additional housing units and integrate health and human service delivery. The following initiatives directly and indirectly address housing and homelessness in Dufferin County:

Dufferin County Master Housing Strategy - [Final-Dufferin-County-Master-Housing-Strategy.pdf](#)

- A comprehensive plan designed to address the evolving housing needs of Dufferin’s residents.

236 First St, Orangeville – Services and Housing in the Province

- The newly developed site that opened in May 2024 provides a crucial response to housing and homelessness. The 27-unit building includes 25 studio units for individuals and 2 two-bedroom units for families. The residents have access to onsite services designed to support stability and well-being through collaboration between SHIP, County of Dufferin and Family Transition Place (FTP).

Dufferin Housing and Homelessness Task Force

- In late 2024, County Council adopted a motion for the creation of the Dufferin County Homelessness Task Force. The mandate of the Dufferin County Homelessness Task Force is to identify innovative and sustainable options that will provide housing and support services to the unhoused in Dufferin County.

HART Hub – Services and Housing in the Province (SHIP)

- Homeless and Addiction Recovery Treatment hubs are designed to connect individuals experiencing homelessness, addiction, and/or mental health issues with comprehensive services. Led by SHIP, a hub was proposed in 2024.
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Data Highlights:

Housing Benefits and Allowances

- 92 clients were assisted through OPHI in 2024 vs. 72 in 2023.
- 1 new client received COHB.
- 2 households were assisted by the Home Ownership Program.
- HPP financial assistance was provided to 166 clients vs. 123 in 2023.

Centralized Waitlist

- The average number of applicants on the waitlist was 667 in 2024 vs. 748 in 2023.
- 51 individuals were housed off the waitlist in both 2024 and 2023.

By-Name Data and PiT Count

- 35 individuals were on the By-Name Data List (Monthly Average) vs. 34 in 2023. Numbers will likely increase with the use of HIFIS as it provides a more comprehensive and accurate picture of those experiencing homelessness.
 - 106 individuals were housed off the By-Name Data List vs. 90 in 2023.
 - During the PiT Count on November 27 and 28, 61 individuals were experiencing homelessness.
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Looking Forward to 2025: The County is making progress on 2024 initiatives and work began on additional initiatives to address housing and homelessness.

Master Housing Strategy

- 3 sites have been identified for development. The sites have been approved by Council.

HART Hub

- Opening is proposed for 2025.

YWHO Hub

- High-quality integrated youth services that support the well-being of young people aged 12 to 25, including mental health and substance use supports, primary health care, community and social supports, and more. Led by Dufferin Child and Family Services, a hub is proposed at the Edelbrock Centre in 2025.

Health and Human Services Hub

- Dufferin County is working with the Hills of Headwaters Collaborative Ontario Health Team and other partners to create a Health and Human Services Hub at the Edelbrock Centre in 2025. This initiative aims to enhance the community's well-being by providing integrated, equitable and accessible social, human and health care services for Dufferin residents.