



[www.tricountywomenscentre.org](http://www.tricountywomenscentre.org)

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June 9, 2017

Dear Warden Ronnie LeBlanc;

**RE: Housing Needs Assessment**

Housing coalitions and stakeholders across Western Nova Scotia are partnering to develop, assess and implement a comprehensive housing needs assessment with a focus on the supportive housing needs of our citizens.

We are looking forward to the anticipated release of Statistics Canada, Census data for *Families, Households, Income, and Housing* between August and October 2017. This data, along with supportive housing needs assessment data, will assist us to better understand what people need in order to stay successfully housed in their local communities close to their social support networks. Together we can work towards creating a healthy housing sector, making housing more affordable, attracting new comers, keeping our rural communities vibrant, protecting our most vulnerable citizens, creating jobs for the construction sector, laying the foundation for communities that can meet the needs of our aging population and the next generation of families and neighbors.

**We are asking all municipalities and towns across Kings, Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth and Shelburne Counties to provide financial support for data collection and analysis.** A collaborative approach will streamline efforts to maximize effectiveness and reduce overall costs for a comprehensive supportive housing needs assessment. These pooled financial resources will make it possible to hire a consultant to provide primary and secondary analysis and reporting on housing needs and issues. In addition, local housing coalitions will contribute significant in-kind resources to support this initiative. Data analysis and reports will not be generated where funding is not available due to the associated costs.

The funding provided will be used to:

- Increase our knowledge of affordable and supportive housing needs and issues across the overall population,
- Engage the community to better understand the local housing situation to support community planning and growth,
- Generate reports with current data on affordable and supportive housing needs relevant to your municipality or town.

**Based on population ratios outlined in the attached report, we are asking your municipality for a financial contribution of \$1150.00.** Municipalities are asked to contribute a minimum of \$200 to a maximum of \$1,150.00 (See Attached Proposal).

We look forward to discussing this opportunity with you and are available to present to your council. A detailed proposal and budget are attached for your review and consideration.

Sincerely,

Bernadette MacDonald  
Tri-County Women's Centre – Executive Director  
Representative of DAASH and CHOICE Housing Coalitions  
(902) 742-0085

CC: Stéphane Cyr, CAO

## PROPOSED ACTIONS

Communities across Western Nova Scotia have a strong history of working collaboratively on joint projects and in the delivery services across the rural geographic area. A collaborative approach to data collection will streamline efforts between housing coalitions to ensure effective and cost efficient assessments are conducted. In order to address affordable housing needs across Kings, Annapolis, Digby, Yarmouth and Shelburne Counties, the housing coalitions and stakeholders have partnered to propose a collaborative approach to identifying housing needs and creating the conditions for increasing affordable housing stocks in our communities. This would complete the geographic representation of housing needs across the Western Zone.

To accomplish this, we will identify available resources, understand the demand for the types of units and supports required to effectively form relationships with the private and not-for-profit sectors willing to expand, renovate or create additional affordable housing infrastructure that meets minimum housing standards and addresses non-market housing gaps.

An identified proponent (Tri-County Women's Center), on behalf of our local partners, will hire Acadia Entrepreneurship Centre to digitize and design the survey, provide primary and secondary research, analysis and reporting.

### WHAT WE NEED TO KNOW:

- Current and emerging supportive and affordable housing needs across the overall population of our rural communities.
- The supportive housing needs of vulnerable populations including; women requiring second stage housing, persons with mental health and addiction issues, youth, seniors and persons with disabilities, low-income home owners with homes requiring major repair.

### EXPECTED RESULTS – SHORT TERM

- Enhanced knowledge of affordable and supportive housing needs and issues.
- A description of the local housing situation to support community planning and growth.
- Comprehensive and current data on affordable and supportive housing.
- Understanding of the supports needed for vulnerable populations to be successfully housed in their community of choice.
- Recommendations for collaborative action on affordable and supportive housing issues as identified by the needs assessment.

## EXPECTED RESULTS – MID to LONG TERM

- Assist in keeping individuals housed in their local communities, close to their social support networks;
- Assist in helping the community to meet the housing needs of seniors, youth, single parents, women requiring second stage housing, persons with accessibility needs, persons with mental health or addiction issues and persons with lower incomes.
- Providing knowledge and research to support a shift from a crisis response to one that emphasizes prevention

## HOUSING COALITIONS & STAKEHOLDERS

### BRIEF HISTORY

Housing coalitions and stakeholders across Western Nova Scotia have been active engaging with service providers, municipal leaders and first voice participants. Over the last few years, several community engagement events have been held to determine the areas of focus that would improve safe, affordable and accessible housing options across the region.

#### *Collaborative Partnerships*

- Public Health Services
- Women's Centre
- Senior's Safety
- Western Regional Housing Authority
- Transition Houses
- Youth Shelters, Outreach and Services
- Community Health Boards
- Community of Volunteers
- Various Towns and Municipalities
- SchoolsPlus
- Four Corners Housing Co-op
- Adult Protection
- Mental Health and Addiction Services
- Family Resource Centers
- Private Developers and Property Owners
- YACRO, SASSY
- Continuing Care
- Poverty Coalition
- Various local community organizations (People First, HOPE Dial-a-Ride, Transport de Clare, )

## BACKGROUND INFORMATION

### HOUSING MATTERS

“Housing is one of the most fundamental needs for Nova Scotians and their families. And its impact goes well beyond our basic requirement for shelter. *Our homes – and the communities they are part of – shape nearly every aspect of our lives:* health, educational achievement, success in the workplace, even the security of our retirement and our dignity in old age.” *(A Housing Strategy for NS, Spring 2013)*

As described in the report “*Housing First in Rural Canada: Rural Homelessness and Housing First Feasibility*,” homelessness in rural areas tends to be invisible and looks different than in urban centers where it is highly visible. It is generally accepted that while some dynamics are similar in both rural and urban areas (mental health, addictions, domestic violence); homelessness tends to be hidden in rural communities. Those in need rely on informal networks to couch surf or double up, they sleep rough in unsafe dwellings, seasonal “cottages” and recreational trailers during all seasons. For these reasons, it is difficult to determine the exact extent to which the existence of homelessness is an issue.

In addition, rural housing tends to be largely single family dwellings, with some multi-unit dwellings available in slightly larger communities. Consequently there are fewer living units available and few developers willing to undertake building low cost affordable housing. Housing is often targeted at the more affluent stream and development of affordable units is extremely limited.

The added demands of living in a rural community impacts housing affordability and suitability and can make rural living more challenging than apartment or condo living, especially for our most vulnerable populations. These added demands include tending to heat and utilities, few available services, snow removal, transportation, access to food and health services. They are the conditions that place residents in core housing need, at risk for homelessness, and homeless.

These challenges are evident in our rural communities; we hear of an increase in the number of youth “couch surfing”, the unavailability of wheel chair accessible rentals, housing stock deteriorating, and housing stock being invested in and reserved as summer accommodations rather than for local citizens, upscale senior housing wait list and very little affordable housing initiatives.

For these reasons, resources are required to assist our rural communities in creating the necessary conditions to encourage builders and not-for-profit groups to develop affordable housing. To accomplish this, assessing the exact need and specific demand is a crucial first step.

The information obtained by conducting a comprehensive needs assessment will also help to frame an integrated approach that will ensure people do not experience homelessness or core housing need in the first place. We know prevention makes sense. “To prevent disease, we vaccinate. To prevent traffic deaths, we install seat belts. While we recognize intuitively that preventing homelessness is a good idea,

there has been little movement in Canada to make that happen on a national scale (A New direction – A Framework for Homelessness Prevention). The results will impact our community’s ability to influence homelessness prevention in 5 areas:

1. STRUCTURAL PREVENTION
2. SYSTEMS PREVENTION
3. EARLY INTERVENTION
4. EJECTION PREVENTION
5. HOUSING STABILITY

## A SUPPORTIVE HOUSING NEEDS ANALYSIS

### PURPOSE

- To understand the current and emerging affordable and supportive housing needs to assist our local housing coalitions and stakeholders (including our municipal governments) in partnership with both the not-for-profit and private sectors to increase safe, accessible and affordable housing options across our rural communities.
- To provide data to Stakeholders and Municipalities for advocacy efforts at the provincial and federal level in order to better meet community housing needs.

### SCOPE

- Data on community supportive housing needs will be collected from residents, service providers, stakeholders, developers and property owners in 17 municipal units;
- Survey of the population’s general demographics and supportive housing needs across communities to understand current and emerging conditions.
- Community engagement initiatives will further inform the data.

**PROPOSED ACTIONS AND TIMELINE (Timeline funding dependant)**

	<b>TIMELINE</b>
<b>Survey Development</b> Working Group of existing housing coalitions and stakeholders (Supportive Housing Needs Survey, Service provider Survey, Stakeholder Survey)	January – June 2017
<b>Survey Pilot and Revision</b> Working Group of existing housing coalitions and stakeholders	July-August 2017
<b>Contract Acadia Entrepreneur Centre:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Identify data related outcomes, confirm analysis expectations, refine draft survey questions</li> <li>• Design digital survey, test and approve</li> <li>• Survey is launched live</li> </ul>	Sept 2017
<b>Survey Dissemination:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Host organization and partners work together with community to disseminate and actively engage citizens to complete the survey</li> </ul>	Sept 2017
<b>Community Engagement Plan:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• First Voice, Service Providers &amp; Stakeholders</li> </ul>	Sept-Dec 2017
<b>Data</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Data Monitoring while Live, Manual Paper Data Entry, Data Analysis (Survey Results and Focus Groups)</li> </ul>	Sept 2017
<b>Present Findings and Final Report</b>	Jan – Feb 2018

## **COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN**

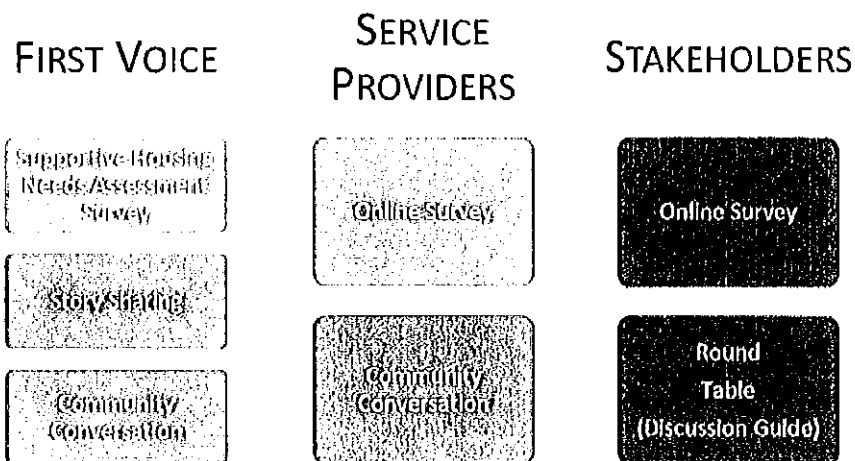
### **METHODS**

We will ensure our needs assessment is user friendly and at the appropriate literacy levels and accessible to vulnerable populations.

Survey – Web and paper version will be available. Use social media to encourage residents to complete and share the Supportive Housing Needs Assessment questionnaire. Online survey completion will allow a range of residents to complete the survey on their own time, is cost effective, and easy to administer. Limitations: requires adequate technology and access to internet. Partners have agreed to assist vulnerable populations to complete paper copies. (See Appendix 1: Housing Needs Assessment Survey)

**Community Engagement** – A community engagement plan will be developed with partners in order to gain first voice stories of the housing needs, successes and challenges faced by those living in our rural communities.

## SAMPLE COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT PLAN



**Community Engagement Target Groups** include:

- First Voice; people in our community who have a housing story to tell.
- Service Providers who work directly with people in our communities that have housing challenges
- Stakeholders are those in our community who have influence on housing issues.

**Number of proposed Community Engagement sessions:**

- First Voice: 1 per county
- Service Providers: 1 per geographic area (Valley, Tri-County)
- Stakeholders: 1 per geographic area (Valley, Tri-County)
- Round Table Discussions with Guide: multiple options for host partners, not limited to a single number



## PROPOSED BUDGET

*Proponent:* The Tri-County Women’s Centre (TCWC) agrees to act as the proponent, and hold all funds in trust, on behalf of local housing coalitions and stakeholders to administer funds for this project accordingly.

CONTRACT COSTS	Amount	Budget Notes
Contract – Acadia Entrepreneur Centre	\$ 6,500	Data Analysis
<b>ADMIN &amp; OVERHEADS</b>		
Office supplies	\$ 1,000	Printing supplies; reports, maps, concept designs, meeting supplies, publicity, Info graphics
Community Engagement	\$ 3,400	17 Municipalities x \$200
Survey Dissemination	\$500	Social media, Incentives (prizes), Ads
Community Engagement	\$1200	Transportation, stipends to assist with childcare, honorariums, round tables, etc...
<b>TOTAL PROJECT FUNDING REQUIRED</b>	<b>\$ 12,600</b>	
<b>ALTERNATE AND IN KIND CONTRIBUTION ESTIMATE:</b>	<b>\$ 44,600</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Support for data collection and report writing (Public Health Services): 5 Health Promoters across the Western Health Zone over 6 months at 4 hours per week. = <b>\$16,800</b></li> <li>• Coalition Committee Work for survey distribution and community engagement – 30 people across the region, monthly meetings, 3 hours each, combination of volunteer and salary hours. - 30 people x 12 meetings x 3 hours each @ \$25 ===== <b>TOTAL: \$27,000</b></li> <li>• Survey Translation Services = <b>\$ 800</b></li> </ul>

## PROPOSED FUNDING ALLOCATIONS

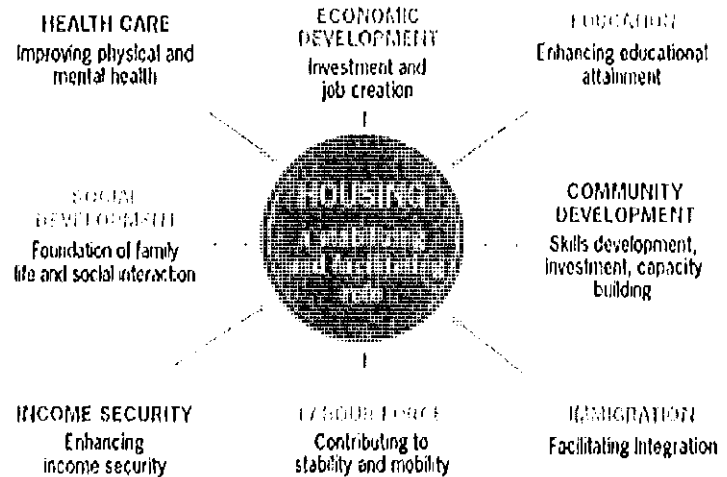
Lunenburg and Queens Counties have completed a comprehensive housing needs assessment. This proposed collaborative partnership will ensure that similar information is made available to the remaining counties across the Western Health Zone. The information gathered will be a powerful tool for both municipalities and community partners in their work towards finding solutions for their housing needs.

### WHY HOUSING MATTERS

#### Housing is connected to everything!

A stable and secure housing market is essential to community and economic growth. Available and affordable housing helps keep people housed in your community, maintaining your tax base.

Housing provides a stable and facilitating role on issues that affect everyone across the life span; from childhood to old age.



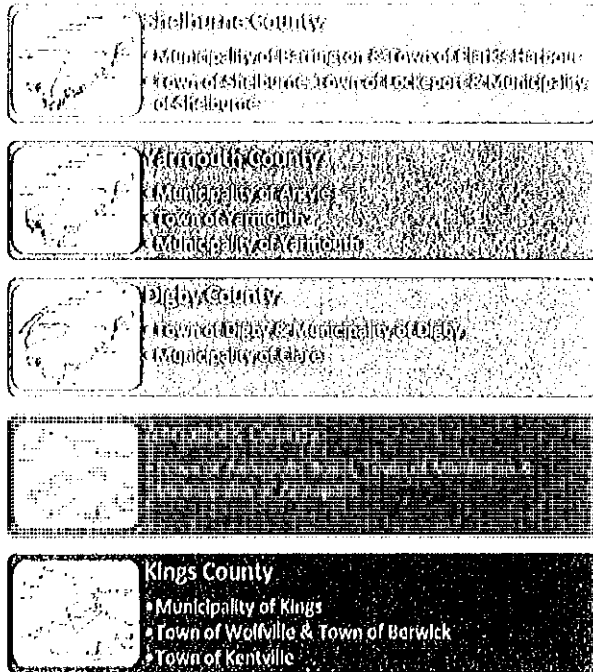
REFERENCE: HomeWorks! A housing strategy and policy framework for Manitoba. Manitoba Housing, June 2009

### FUNDING DIVISIONS

For statistical analysis purposes, some of our rural municipalities and towns do not have the necessary population base to provide valid and reliable statistical data without surveying a large percentage of the total population. For example, the Town of Annapolis Royal has a population of 491 and would have to survey 216 people for a confidence interval of 95%. As such, it is proposed that some municipal units be included together with neighboring municipalities to share costs and meet a minimum population base of 6000, determined by the housing coalitions. The minimum contribution requested will be \$200, the maximum contribution is \$1150.00. These amounts collectively, will allow us to meet our budget commitments for data analysis and reporting.

If a municipality does not want to be paired with a neighboring municipality, in order to gather and collect their own data, the maximum contribution of \$1150.00 will be required. Additional efforts may be necessary to obtain sufficient completed surveys for reliable data. Data collection, analysis and reports will not be generated where funding is not available due to the associated costs.

**GEOGRAPHIC PARTNERSHIPS BY POPULATION**



It is proposed that some municipal units be included together with neighboring municipalities to share costs and meet a minimum population base – these are the “geographic partnerships” by which reports will be generated.

**FUNDING ALLOCATIONS BY MUNICIPAL UNIT**

<b>SHELBURNE COUNTY</b>	<b>APPROXIMATE POPULATION (CENSUS CANADA 2016)</b>	<b>COMBINED POPULATION TOTAL</b>	<b>NUMBER OF SURVEYS REQUIRED</b>	<b>FUNDING CONTRIBUTION REQUEST (BY POPULATION RATIO APPROX.)</b>
Municipality of Barrington	6,646	7404	366	\$950
Town of Clark's Harbour	758			\$200
Town of Shelburne	1743	6562	363	\$250
Town of Lockeport	531			\$200
Municipality of Shelburne	4288			\$700

<b>YARMOUTH COUNTY</b>	<b>APPROXIMATE POPULATION (CENSUS CANADA 2016)</b>	<b>COMBINED POPULATION TOTAL</b>	<b>NUMBER OF SURVEYS REQUIRED</b>	<b>FUNDING CONTRIBUTION REQUEST (BY POPULATION RATIO APPROX.)</b>
Municipality of Argyle	7899	7899	367	\$1150
Town of Yarmouth	6518	6518	363	\$1150
Municipality of Yarmouth	9845	9845	370	\$1150

<b>DIGBY COUNTY</b>	<b>APPROXIMATE POPULATION (CENSUS CANADA 2016)</b>	<b>COMBINED POPULATION TOTAL</b>	<b>NUMBER OF SURVEYS REQUIRED</b>	<b>FUNDING CONTRIBUTION REQUEST (BY POPULATION RATIO APPROX.)</b>
Town of Digby	2060	9167	369	\$250
Municipality of Digby	7107			\$900
Municipality of Clare	8018	8018	367	\$1150

<b>ANNAPOLIS COUNTY</b>	<b>APPROXIMATE POPULATION (CENSUS CANADA 2016)</b>	<b>COMBINED POPULATION TOTAL</b>	<b>NUMBER OF SURVEYS REQUIRED</b>	<b>FUNDING CONTRIBUTION REQUEST (BY POPULATION RATIO APPROX.)</b>
Town of Annapolis Royal	491	20575	378	\$200
Town of Middleton	1832			\$200
Municipality of Annapolis, Subd. A,B,C,D	18252			\$750

<b>KINGS COUNTY</b>	<b>APPROXIMATE POPULATION (CENSUS CANADA 2016)</b>	<b>COMBINED POPULATION TOTAL</b>	<b>NUMBER OF SURVEYS REQUIRED</b>	<b>FUNDING CONTRIBUTION REQUEST (BY POPULATION RATIO APPROX.)</b>
Municipality of Kings, Subd. A,B,C,D	47404	47404	382	\$1150
Town of Wolfville	4195	6704	364	\$700
Town of Berwick	2509			\$450
Town of Kentville	6271	6271	363	\$1150

## DELIVERABLES

Each *geographic partnership* as previously defined will receive one complete report outlining the specific findings for their area. Data analysis and related outcomes will be generated by Acadia Entrepreneur Center. Findings, including community engagement results, will be presented in a complete report for use by community coalitions and municipal units.

Acadia Entrepreneurship Centre will provide weekly updates while the survey is live; allowing communities to take necessary efforts to ensure their citizens participate in the survey.

## PART A: Tell Us About Yourself

1. Where do you live?

- Shelburne County
  - Municipality of Shelburne
  - Town of Shelburne
  - Town of Lockeport
  - Municipality of Barrington
  - Town of Clark's Harbour
- Yarmouth County
  - Municipality of Argyle
  - Municipality of Yarmouth
  - Town of Yarmouth
- Digby County
  - Municipality of Digby
  - Town of Digby
  - Municipality of Clare
- Annapolis County
  - Town of Annapolis
  - Town of Middleton
  - Municipality of Annapolis
- Kings County
  - Municipality of Kings
  - Town of Wolfville
  - Town of Berwick
  - Town of Kentville

2. What is your postal code?

- \_\_\_\_\_
- If you are unsure, just write as much of it as you know.
- Not sure.

3. Please tell us if you belong to any of the following groups? (Check all that apply)

- Youth (Under 25 years)
- Senior (65+)
- Non-Elderly (50-64 years)
- Person with a disability
- Single parent
- LGBTQ
- Living with mental health challenges
- Living with an addiction
- Leaving or living in an abusive relationship

- First nations person (on reserve, off reserve)
- African Nova Scotian
- Other visible minority

4. What year were you born? \_\_\_\_\_

5. Are you?

- Female
- Male
- Transgender Male
- Transgender Female
- Gender Variant/Non-Conforming
- Prefer to self-describe \_\_\_\_\_
- Prefer not to say

6. What is your monthly household income after taxes?

- No Income
- \$0 - \$800 per month
- \$801 – \$1,250 per month
- \$1,251 – \$1,800 per month
- \$1,801 - \$2,500 per month
- \$2,501 - \$4,200 per month
- \$4,201 - \$7,100
- More than \$7,101
- I Don't Know
- Prefer not say

7. Where do you get most of your money from?

- No income
- Full time job
- Part time job
- Work for myself
- Seasonal job
- Government Support (e.g. Income assistance-welfare, disability pension, veterans pension, CPP, Old Age Security, workers compensation)
- Retirement Income (Pension, RRSPs, other )

- Financial Support from Family or Friends
- Child Support
- Canada Child Tax Benefit
- Other

## **PART B: Tell Us About Where You Are Living**

8. Where are you living right now?

- In a house or apartment I rent
- In my own home (no mortgage)
- In my own home (with mortgage)
- In supportive housing (e.g., SHYFT, Juniper House, Chrysalis House)
- I am sleeping rough on the street/homeless
- For now, I am living with someone else (couch surfing)
- I am living in my family's home (i.e., rent free)
- I am boarding with family, friends or in a boarding house.
- I have another arrangement (please list): \_\_\_\_\_

9. Why are you living there?

- No other options
- It's my family home
- I've always lived here
- I like where I live
- It's close to my job
- It's close to my family and friends
- It's close to services (shopping, medical, grocery)
- It's all inclusive
- I could no longer do the care and maintenance of my home or did not want the responsibility
- Medical reasons
- Widowed
- Other:
- None of the above



10. How many people, counting yourself, live in your home?

- 1
- 2
- 3
- 4
- 5+
- Group housing

11. Do you have dependants (check all that apply)

- I do not have dependants living with me
- Children living with me (Under 18 years) How many \_\_\_\_\_?
- Adult(s) living with me that rely on me for support (18-64 years). How many \_\_\_\_\_?
- Senior(s) living with me that rely on me for support (65 year +) How many \_\_\_\_\_?

12. Does anyone living in your home have a disability?       YES       NO

13. How do you feel about your living situation?

Really Good/Good/Not Sure/Not Very Good/Awful



14. This is a list of things that people say they like or dislike about where they live. Thinking about where you are living, please tell us how you feel about

Very satisfied/Satisfied/Neither/Dissatisfied/Very dissatisfied



- The amount of room or space you have
- The condition (need for maintenance or repair)
- It's location
- The people you live with
- The manager (landlady, landlord, superintendant)
- The amount of privacy
- The distance from services (stores, medical, grocery, laundry)
- The price or cost
- Safety

- How accessible it is for your needs
- Getting where you need to go (transportation)
- Neighborhood
- Other

15. How much do you pay for rent/mortgage/boarding each month?

- RENT: \$\_\_\_\_\_
- MORTGAGE : \$\_\_\_\_\_
- BOARDING: \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Does not apply

16. Roughly, how much are heat, lights, water and taxes each month?

- Heat \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Lights \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Heat and lights are one bill \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Water \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Property Taxes \$\_\_\_\_\_
- Everything is included in what I pay
- Does not apply

17. Does someone else (not living with you) help you pay your rent or mortgage in order for you to afford it?

- YES       NO

18. Does someone else (not living with you) help you pay for food, oil, heat, etc in order for you to afford your rent or mortgage?

- YES       NO

19. Are you sharing your house or apartment with someone else in order for you to afford it?

- YES       NO

20. In your home, do you have : (Check all that apply)

- Stove and fridge that work
- Washer and dryer that work
- Enough heat to keep you warm
- A way to cool your home down (windows that open, air conditioner)
- Enough hot water for your needs
- A safe power supply
- A connection to sewage/ sewage system
- Enough water for your needs
- Safe drinking water
- Internet access

## PART C: Tell Us About Your Housing Needs

21. Have you been able to find housing that meets your needs? It has been...

Very Easy/Easy/Neutral/Difficult/Very Difficult



22. If you need safety and accessibility features, what would they be?

- I don't need any
- I need a fully accessible unit (low light switches, roll under stove, wall oven, low cupboards, roll in shower)
- I need a few features (check all that apply)

### Bathroom Features

- Bathroom large enough for a wheel chair or walker
- Grab bars (shower, tub or toilet)
- Walk or roll in shower (with seat or for a wheelchair)

### Design Features

- One-story (bedroom room on 1st floor)
- Minimal step up to get into house/apartment
- Wide hallways and doorways
- Ramp

### Safety Features

- Room for a caregiver
- Life line system
- Security System

23. What other supports do you need in order to stay in your home?

- I do not need other supports
- Help with daily living (shopping, cleaning , cooking)
- A drive to do errands or get to appointments (transportation)
- Snow removal and lawn care
- A chance to get out and be around people
- Being close to childcare
- Being close to family or friends
- Help with basic home repair
- Other:

24. Many people have told us that they have had trouble finding a place to live and being able to stay there. If this has happened to you, please tell us if there is anything on this list that would have made it easier for you to stay? Check all that apply.

- Does not apply
- Being able to paying my bills
- Making friends or feeling at home in the community
- Getting along with people
- Help with my medication
- Help with budgeting
- Someone to check in on me once in a while
- Feeling safe
- Some to call when I need help
- A drive to appointments
- Legal Services (Legal aid, advice)
- Help with daily living (shopping, cleaning, cooking, bathing, laundry)
- Help finding a place to live
- Help getting to know and trust my landlord
- A job / reliable income

- Access to employment training programs
- Help finding what I need for my apartment/house (furniture, dishes, etc)
- Help with damage deposits
- Help with a mortgage down payment.
- Help to avoid getting evicted or losing my home
- Someone to help me fill out forms or apply for grants (income tax, income assistance, repair grants, medical, pension, etc)
- A rent supplement
- Help connecting with support I might need (Mental Health, Addiction Services, VON, Senior Safety, Outreach, Continuing Care)
- Being closer to services or work
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_

25. Please tell us if there is anything on this list that makes it hard for you to stay where you are or to find other housing.

**Financial**

- Rent is too expensive
- Heat, lights are too expensive
- Don't have enough money for a down payment on a house.
- Don't have enough money for house repairs
- I would like to own a home, but I can't get a mortgage
- Finding housing that is both accessible for my disability and that I can pay for
- My property taxes keep going up.

**General**

- My house needs a lot of expensive repairs.
- I don't like the neighborhood
- It's hard for me to get a drive to where I need to go.
- Too crowded
- Too large
- Too many stairs
- My lease is not stable (week to week, month to month, building is for sale, I will have to move)

**Availability**

- There isn't enough of the kind of housing I need (accessible, seniors, co-op, assisted living, etc)
- There are not enough rentals available that I can afford.
- There are not enough homes for sale that I can afford.

26. Have you been refused a place to live because of:

- My age
- My race or ethnicity
- I am receiving social assistance (welfare)
- I am LGBTQ
- I am unmarried, single, living common law (marital status)
- I have children
- I have a disability
- I hoard
- I have a mental illness
- I have an addiction
- I have a criminal record
- I have poor landlord references
- I have pets
- My reputation (your name)
- Other: \_\_\_\_\_
- Does not apply

27. Can you keep living where you are or will you have to move?

- Yes, I can stay
- No, I will have to move
- Not sure

## **PART C: Tell Us About Where You Would Like To Live In The Future**

28. If you are planning to move, when would that be?

- I am not planning to move
- In less than 1 year
- In 1 to 5 years
- In 5 or more years

What community would you like to move to? \_\_\_\_\_

What are the main reasons you would want to move? (check all that apply)

- My age
- My health
- To save money
- For my work
- To live with family or friends
- To live closer to family or friends
- To be closer medical supports (doctors' offices or medical centers)
- To be closer to the hospital
- For my safety (get away from sexual, physical or emotional abuse)
- To be closer to services (recreational facilities, grocery stores, child care, pharmacy)
- To be in a safe place to live.
- I require more accessible housing
- Access to high speed internet
- Other
- None of the above

29. If you have already moved (in the last 2 years), what were the main reasons? (check all that apply)

- My age
- My health
- To save money
- For my work
- To live with family or friends
- To live closer to family or friends
- To be closer medical supports (doctors' offices or medical centers)
- To be closer to the hospital
- To be closer to services (recreational facilities, grocery stores, child care, pharmacy)
- For my safety (get away from sexual, physical or emotional abuse)
- To be in a safe place to live.
- I require more accessible housing
- Access to high speed internet
- Other
- None of the above

30. If at one point you had to move, how important is it for you to stay close to where you live now?

Very Important/No Preference/Not Important



31. If you had to move, what kind of place would be best for you?

- House (mobile home, single home, duplex)
- Apartment (Rental)
- Co-op
- Social Housing (Low rentals)
- Condominiums
- Independent living
- Assisted living
- Shared accommodations (Room in a house, granny suite, two people in an apartment, cooperative housing)
- Group Home (e.g., YACRO, SASI, Maison Jerome , valley locations)
- Senior's Housing
- Rooming or Boarding House
- Nursing Home
- Other:

32. If you were planning to rent, how important is "all-inclusive".

Very Important/No Preference/Not Important





33. If you are planning to rent what other features do you need to have included?

- Washing machine and dryer
- Dishwasher
- Pets Allowed
- Area for gardening
- Attached garage
- High Speed Internet
- Walking paths/outdoor area
- Storage space
- Playground
- Clothesline
- Other:

34. Do you have anything else you would like to tell us about your housing?

**Contact Information:**

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