



Ontario Alliance to
End Homelessness



HOUSING-FOCUSED RESPONSES BUILD STRONGER COMMUNITIES

When people move from encampments into housing, it benefits everyone—reducing visible homelessness, improving public safety, and relieving pressure on local services.

Homelessness is a housing issue, not a policing issue.

Enforcement-focused responses displace people without solving the root problem, and increase costs in healthcare, justice, and emergency services. **Supportive housing is the fiscally and morally responsible solution.**



1 month in hospital: \$30,000



1 month in prison: \$13,000



1 month in shelter: \$6,500



1 month in supportive housing: \$4,000

HOMELESSNESS SOLUTIONS



Invest now in supportive and deeply affordable housing
It works and we need more of it.



Increase outreach funding
Give municipalities the resources to connect with people in encampments and link them to housing and support.

Municipalities cannot solve homelessness alone. Ontario must lead with funding, policy, and coordination to support housing-focused solutions.

Everyone deserves a safe and affordable place to call home.



HOMELESSNESS PREVENTION

Divert people from emergency shelter to prevent long-term trauma



Communities that practice diversion see dramatic decreases in homelessness.

Raise income and housing benefits + reduce housing loss



Close the gap between income and rent. Keeping renters stably housed is one of the most effective ways to prevent homelessness.



UNDERSTANDING THE NEED



Between 2015-2021, **housing prices in Canada doubled** while **income increased just 7%.**

(Parliamentary Budget Office, Statistics Canada)



This puts **pressure on the rental market**, which is loosely regulated, meaning housing can be precarious. The average 1-bdrm apartment in Ontario in April 2025 was \$2113/month.

(rentals.ca)



This, along with other factors, has led to an **increase in homelessness**. Shelters are at or above capacity, and encampments have become commonplace.



The longer people experience homelessness, the more trauma they experience, and the more **supports** they will require to recover.



Many people became chronically (long-term) homeless in shelters during the pandemic and now **require significant supports** to transition into housing in a sustainable way.



Multiple recent reports have noted that the **lack of supportive housing options** makes it very difficult for people to exit our homeless system once they are in it.



Safe, affordable, supportive housing is needed!