



Navigating Housing Instability:

Strategies for Supporting Clients with Complex Needs

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**john
howard
society**

Meet your **Speakers**



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Effective.
Just.
Humane.

WELCOME

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 - Program Introduction
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 - Harm Reduction/Managing Stigma
 - Leveraging Networks
 - Creative Approaches to Housing Solutions in York Region
 - Myth Vs Facts
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 - Open discussion

About JHSYR



We work toward effective, just and humane responses to crime and its causes. Through 19 local offices across Ontario, the JHSO delivers more than 80 evidence-based programs and services in support of those affected by the criminal justice system. In doing so, we help build safer, more resilient communities.

We are in neighbourhoods and schools throughout the region, we offer programs that are proven to reduce crime and build protective factors in people's lives.

Our programs help people develop life, relationship and coping skills, and are offered to residents of all ages, regardless of whether or not they have been involved in the justice system.





BACK TO HOME



United Way
Greater Toronto

This project is funded by
the Government of Canada.

Canada 

WHAT IS BACK TO HOME?

- Back 2 Home (B2H) is part of a network of community wraparound resources that aims to provide a collaborative approach to assist those precariously or chronically unhoused.
- Through individual and intensive case management for those 16 years of age or older, B2H uses databases such as HIFIS to coordinate services with partner agencies so clients have one point of access to multiple services.



REDUCE SERVICE GAPS

**PROMOTE HEALTHIER
COMMUNITIES**

PROGRAM GOALS

**INCREASE VISIBILITY FOR
VULNERABLE POPULATIONS**

**EMPOWER THROUGH SKILLS
AND RESOURCES**





ACCESS 2 HOME

Funded by
the Regional
Municipality of York



WHAT IS **ACCESS TO HOME**?

Access to Home is an **intensive case management** program that supports individuals who are at risk of imminent homelessness or precariously housed with goals focused on **stabilizing housing**.

Access to Home will use **multi-sectoral** approaches to support and aid participants in accessing services that improve **wellness** and address **housing barriers**.

**HOUSING
STABILIZATION AND
VULNERABILITY
REDUCTION**

**ENHANCE ACCESS TO
SERVICES**

**PROGRAM
GOALS**

**PROMOTE COMMUNITY
INTEGRATION**

**EMPOWER THROUGH
EDUCATION AND SKILLS**

A2H PROGRAM STAGES

BASIC NEEDS



HOUSING VULNERABILITY



LIFE SKILLS



FINANCIAL & SOCIAL
ASSISTANCE



EMPLOYMENT
SUPPORT



STABLE
HOUSING



ACCESS TO HOME



A2H

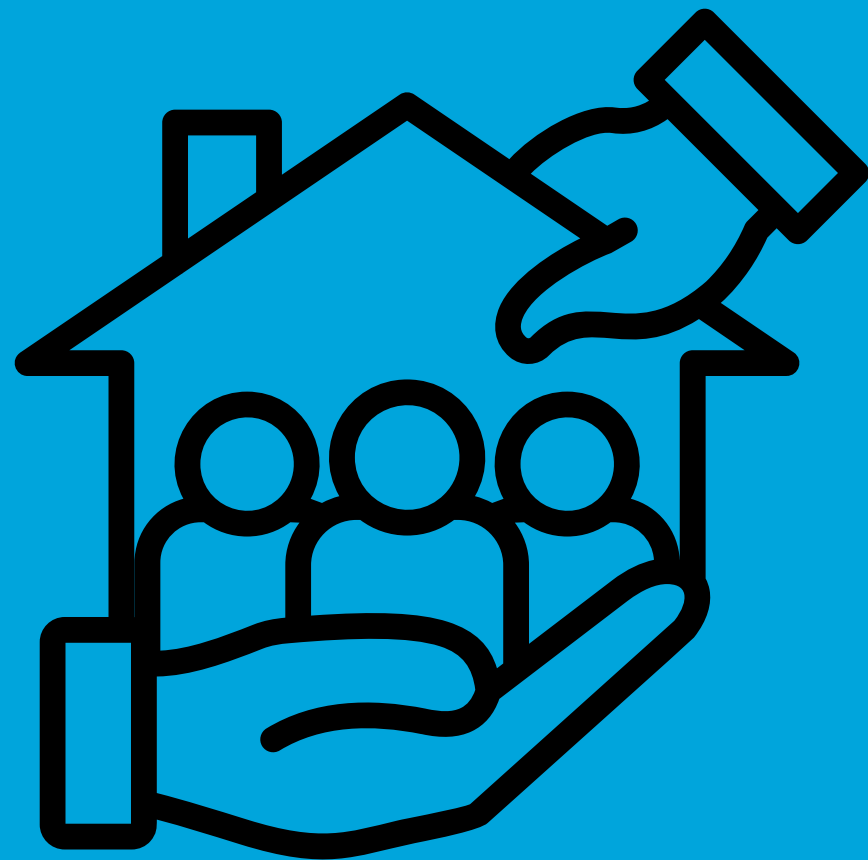
BUDGETING



MENTAL HEALTH



HOW DOES OUR PROGRAM DIFFER FROM OTHER HOUSING INITIATIVES?



1. Leveraging multidisciplinary collaboration
2. Creative solutions to the housing crisis in York Region
3. Managing stigma through a harm reduction lens

Harm Reduction and Managing Stigma

- **Practical, compassionate approach**
- **Flexible, client-centered approach**
- **Peer workers**
- **Low barrier and non judgmental housing support**



MYTH VS. FACTS

- PEOPLE BECOME HOMELESS BECAUSE OF BAD CHOICES OR LAZINESS.
- HOMELESSNESS ONLY AFFECTS SINGLE ADULTS.
- SHELTERS AND EMERGENCY HOUSING SOLVE HOMELESSNESS.
- HOUSING PEOPLE WHO ARE HOMELESS IS TOO EXPENSIVE.
- MENTAL ILLNESS AND ADDICTION ARE THE MAIN CAUSES OF HOMELESSNESS.
- ONCE HOUSED, PEOPLE NO LONGER NEED SUPPORT.



CASE STUDY





These cases represent real scenarios supported through our A2H and B2H programs. To protect client privacy, pseudonyms have been used and certain identifying details have been modified. All client information is strictly confidential and safeguarded in accordance with applicable privacy laws. This case is presented solely for training purposes to demonstrate the application of JHSYR housing programs.



Join at [menti.com](https://www.menti.com)
Use code 7737 8752

Client Details

Name: SMITH, Jackson , Age: 32 years old, Location: Newmarket

Client Profile:

Client Overview:

Jackson is an individual who has experienced homelessness for the past two years. During the day, he accesses services at the Emergency Housing Help Center, while at night, he resides in a local encampment.

Presenting Challenges:

Jackson has a limited income, occasionally earning through informal, cash-based employment, and is actively seeking more stable work opportunities. He faces ongoing mental health challenges, compounded by prolonged periods of incarceration throughout his adult life, which has also led to institutionalization.

Barriers to Support:

Jackson is reluctant to use emergency shelters due to past negative experiences and a general mistrust of these environments. He has demonstrated resistance and defiance in interactions with service providers. A past incident involving a physical altercation with a provider who declined to serve him resulted in additional criminal charges and contributed to his most recent incarceration.

Motivation and Goals:

Despite these challenges, Jackson has expressed a strong desire to improve his situation. He acknowledges the importance of consistent, structured support to address both his housing and mental health needs effectively.



Join at menti.com
Use code 4232 7584

Client Details

Name: RONALD, Maria

Age: 27 years old

Location: Newmarket

Client Profile:

Maria is a 27-year-old individual currently experiencing housing instability. For the past month, she has been precariously housed, staying intermittently with friends. Recently, she has resorted to sleeping in a local park due to a lack of safe, stable alternatives.

Presenting Challenges:

Maria is unemployed and experiencing financial insecurity, making it difficult to meet her basic needs. She has a history of substance use and ongoing mental health challenges, including diagnosed anxiety and depression. Following a recent eviction, Maria reports feeling overwhelmed and emotionally unwell.

Barriers to Support:

Maria has expressed that she is reluctant to access shelter services due to previous traumatic experiences in those settings. This has further limited her options and increased her risk of harm.