

# from homeless to housed





Just as there are many stories as to how someone becomes homeless, there are many paths to becoming housed.

Those journeys into homelessness may or may not include addiction, broken relationships, family violence or job loss. All, however, have a common thread: the path to becoming housed through Housing First programs involves the work of many helping hands along the way.

From a case manager referring a rough sleeper to community resources to prevent long-term homelessness, to a housing support worker helping a client deal with rental discrimination, to supporting someone to increase their income or furnish their home, the “village” that is Red Deer comes together to navigate a smoother road to home.

This is a glimpse into the landscape of the people who need a hand up, and those who so compassionately offer one.

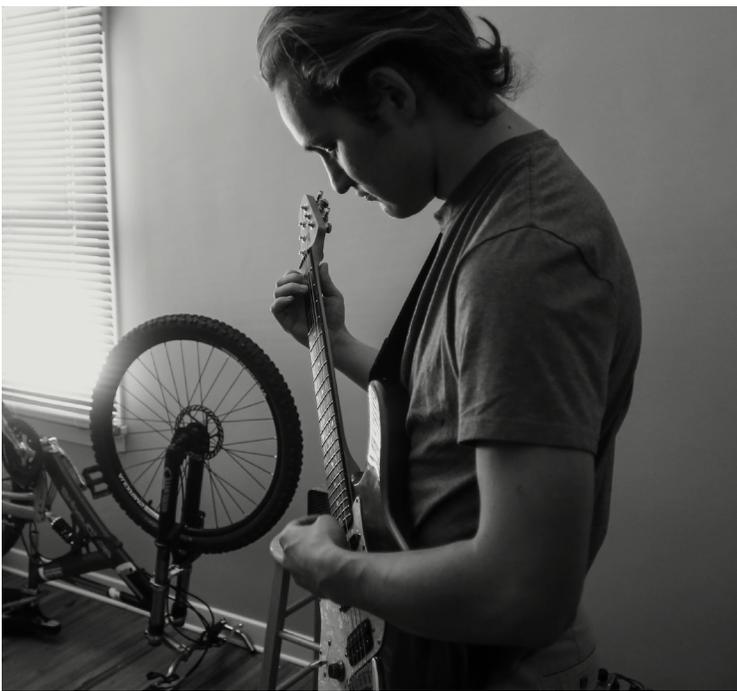
## **A Message from the Mayor**

On behalf of Red Deer City Council and The City of Red Deer, I am proud to share the latest annual report detailing our community’s efforts in helping our citizens navigate their way out of homelessness as a result of *Red Deer’s Five Year Plan to End Homelessness and Red Deer’s System Framework for Housing and Supports*.

While many paths into homelessness are difficult, agencies and their clients are steadfast in their perseverance to achieve the best housing fit for all. We have highlighted some of the local housing successes in *From Homeless to Housed: 2016/2017 Annual Report on Red Deer’s Homelessness Initiatives*, and hope you’ll find this update on the progress achieved to date helpful.

We thank the unwavering individuals in our housing and support agencies who collaborate for the good of their clients and our community. We also commend the hard work of individuals and families in choosing their road home, and we support you in achieving continued success.





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A client came to us after a lifelong struggle with addiction, job loss and homelessness. At the beginning of the program he said he had not felt a sense of home or belonging since he was a child. He has since connected with 12 step groups, attended sweats, learned budgeting and found employment that fits. With the collaboration of many agencies, he finally feels like he is part of the community. It was a proud day for him to have his elderly parents visit him and his new home.”

Rapid Rehousing program case worker

After being housed through McMan’s Arcadia Housing program, 19 year old B completed his first year mechanic apprenticeship but couldn’t find a full time job. We worked together on his resume and he was offered a job as a driver at one of the local car dealerships. Getting up at 5 a.m. and taking buses to his job, B is a hard worker and hasn’t missed a day since being hired. He has worked his way up to being a full time mechanic and is working on his apprenticeship with the dealership that hired him as a driver.

Arcadia, McMan staff member

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Effective July 1, 2016, Red Deer's System Framework for Housing & Supports stemmed from the goals of Red Deer's Five Year Plan to End Homelessness 2014-2018 and was created in consultation with the community to better coordinate local services and serve persons experiencing homelessness.

## Entrance into the system starts with Coordinated Entry:

### COORDINATED ENTRY SAFE HARBOUR SOCIETY

# 523

INDIVIDUALS COMPLETED AN INTAKE ASSESSMENT

*\*On the journey from homelessness to housing, individuals may not continue in our Housing First system for various reasons: Some people move away or choose not to continue in the system, some are referred to other programs, some wait to find an appropriate program and others find housing on their own.*

### COORDINATED ACCESS PROCESS CENTRAL ALBERTA WOMEN'S OUTREACH SOCIETY

# 415

INDIVIDUALS ELIGIBLE TO BE MATCHED TO HOUSING FIRST PROGRAMS

OF THAT, PEOPLE WERE HOUSED THROUGH

### OUTREACH & SUPPORT SERVICES INITIATIVE (OSSI) PROVINCIAL GRANT PROGRAMS

# 261

NEWLY HOUSED AND SUPPORTED TO MAINTAIN HOUSING

PROGRAM TYPE: SERVICE PROVIDER, PROGRAM NAME	CASELOAD IN 2016/17
Intensive Case Management: Canadian Mental Health Association, Homelinks	96
Permanent Supportive Housing: Canadian Mental Health Association, The Buffalo	47
Permanent Supportive Housing: Safe Harbour Society, Harbour House	12
Rapid Rehousing: Central Alberta Women's Outreach Society, Red Deer Housing Team	77
Supported Housing: Safe Harbour Society, Supported Recovery Housing	21
Transitional Housing for Youth: McMan Central, Arcadia Housing	12

### HOMELESSNESS PARTNERING STRATEGY (HPS) FEDERAL GRANT PROGRAMS

# 175

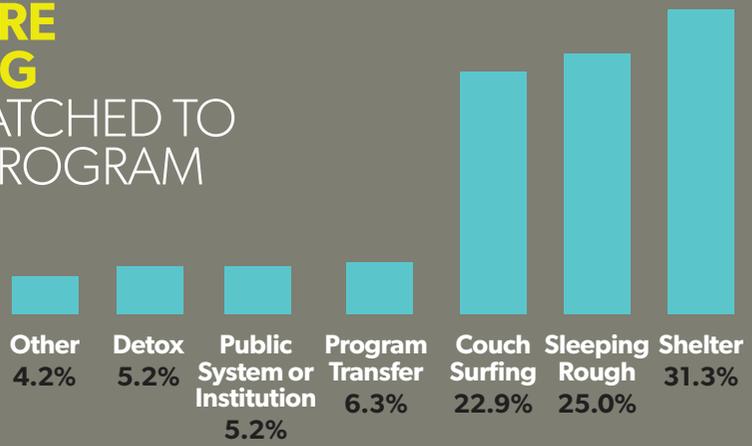
NEWLY HOUSED AND SUPPORTED TO MAINTAIN HOUSING

PROGRAM TYPE: SERVICE PROVIDER, PROGRAM NAME	CASELOAD IN 2016/17
HPS Housing First - Aboriginal: Red Deer Native Friendship Society, Aboriginal Housing Team	3
HPS Housing First - Designated: Central Alberta Women's Outreach Society, Red Deer Housing Team	58
HPS Prevention - Aboriginal: Red Deer Native Friendship Society, Aboriginal Housing Outreach Team	24
HPS Prevention - Designated: Bredin Centre for Learning, PATH	90
Coordination of Resources: Shining Mountains, Aboriginal Voices on Housing Network	Research Funding

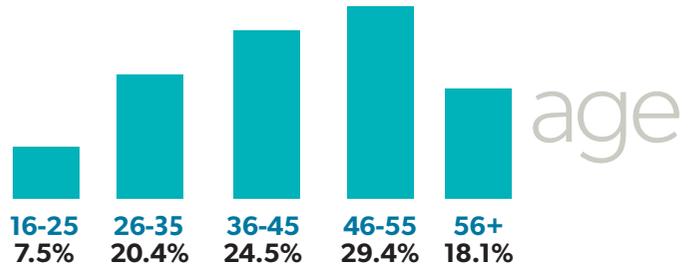
\* Not all numbers will add up. Some clients were already enrolled prior to the reporting period, and some clients were in multiple programs.

# WHERE CLIENTS ARE PRIMARYLY STAYING PRIOR TO BEING MATCHED TO A HOUSING FIRST PROGRAM

The System Framework for Housing & Supports prioritizes housing the longest-term shelter stayers and rough sleepers. Those who couch surf often move between the street and shelters but stay with family and friends in extreme weather.

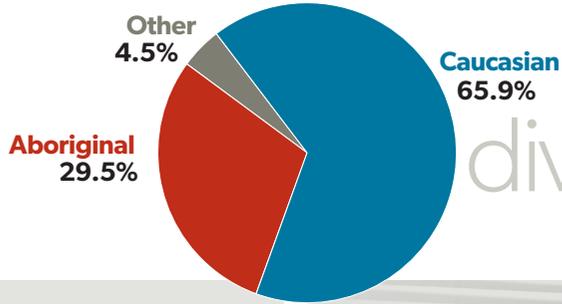


# DEMOGRAPHICS OF CLIENTS IN OSSI HOUSING FIRST PROGRAMS



# gender

**Female** 33.3%    **Transgender** 1.5%    **Male** 65.2%



# diversity

# OTHER PROGRAMS TO SUPPORT INDIVIDUALS

## INDIGENOUS CULTURAL SUPPORTS

56 9

Individuals accessed Aboriginal cultural supports to help them maintain housing through cultural reconnection.

Blanket Exercises were offered to educate Housing First program staff about Aboriginal awareness.

## HOUSEHOLD AMENITIES WAREHOUSE

94

Requests for furniture and household items were made to the Shoestring Depot from individuals transitioning out of homelessness and into housing.





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See [www.reddeer.ca](http://www.reddeer.ca) for digital copy.

Read more personal stories at  
[www.reddeer.ca/homelessness](http://www.reddeer.ca/homelessness)



J.C. was couch surfing at her daughter's at the end of August when she came to us, struggling with depression after separating from her husband after 20 years of marriage. She was working almost full time at a grocery store but couldn't put the money together for a new place to live. She applied for a job at the hospital and cried with joy when she got it! She started work and took extra shifts to save for her new home. By the end of October, she moved into her own place – close enough to the hospital to walk to work. She received a donation of furniture and has set up her home very nicely. She talks to her children regularly and her daughter remains a big support in her life. Her sleep issues and stress have been much improved.

Red Deer Housing Team case worker



### FINANCIAL INFORMATION 2016-2017

ORGANIZATION	PROGRAM	AMOUNT
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#### Government of Alberta - \$3,747,202 (OSSI Grant)

Allocation of OSSI Grant from the Province of Alberta for July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2017

Safe Harbour Society	Coordinated Entry	\$279,333
Central Alberta Women's Outreach Society	Coordinated Access Process	\$20,000
Canadian Mental Health Association	Buffalo Housing First	\$792,712
Safe Harbour Society	Harbour House	\$543,288
Safe Harbour Society	Supported Housing	\$90,808
Central Alberta Women's Outreach Society	Red Deer Housing Team	\$318,400
Canadian Mental Health Association	HomeLinks	\$1,000,000
Brett Capital Corporation	Landlord Engagement Services	\$75,000
Central Alberta Women's Outreach Society	Shoestring Depot	\$67,953
Red Deer Native Friendship Society	Cultural Connections	\$100,108
McMan Central	Arcadia	\$180,000
City of Red Deer	Administration	\$279,600

#### Government of Canada - \$693,268 (HPS Grant)

Allocation of HPS Grant from the Government of Canada for April 1, 2016 to March 31, 2017

#### Designated Funding - \$449,364

Bredin Centre for Learning	PATH Program (Prevention)	\$193,981
Central Alberta Women's Outreach Society	Red Deer Housing Team (HPS Housing First)	\$170,681
Safe Harbour Society	Coordinated Entry	\$51,000
City of Red Deer	Administration	\$33,702

#### Aboriginal Funding - \$243,904

Red Deer Native Friendship Society	Prevention & Housing First	\$193,476
Shining Mountains Living Community Society	Aboriginal Voices on Housing Network	\$38,232
City of Red Deer	Administration	\$12,196

## Looking forward

The housing realm comes with both successes and challenges. On the success front, a new Aboriginal Intensive Case Management program has been funded from October 1, 2017 – June 30, 2019 with Red Deer Native Friendship Society. It will connect clients with ceremony, traditional practice, community and culture in support of their healing journey and housing stability.

And though we've had success increasing the number of people who have moved into housing, we have to ask ourselves: What does ending homelessness look like? In the near future we will be working with the community to define what follows *EveryOne's Home Red Deer's Vision and Framework on Ending Homelessness by 2018* and *Red Deer's Five Year Plan to End Homelessness 2014 to 2018*.