

# Homelessness Partnering Strategy Community Plan Annual Update 2016-2017

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Note:

Data submitted by the community during the 2016-2017 Community Plan Annual Update (CPAU) process is included in blue.

Data in **purple** was extracted from previous plans.

Community: [Thunder Bay Aboriginal](#)

Region: [Ontario](#)

Approved on: [2016/08/25](#)

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## Current Situation

Reference Number: 0-13782112

### Housing First Implementation

As part of the 2014-2019 HPS Community Plan, most communities were required to rate their community's readiness to implement Housing First. In the 2016-2017 Community Plan Annual Update, this questionnaire has been reintroduced.

As a community with a Housing First target, you are required to rate your community's implementation of Housing First based on the following questions. Each component of the scale has a rating of one to four with four demonstrating a higher-level of fidelity to the HF model. Use this information to help you consider where to adjust your HF program.

CORE PRINCIPLES	
Rapid Housing with Supports. Program directly helps participants locate and secure permanent housing as rapidly as possible and assists them with moving-in or re-housing if needed.	3 - Program supports participants in locating housing within 1-3 months and offers participants who have lost their housing a new unit if they meet readiness requirements.
Housing Choice. Program participants choose the location and other features of their housing.	2 - Participants have little choice in location and other features of their housing, including the decorating and furnishing of their unit.
Separating housing provision from other services. Extent to which program participants are not required to demonstrate housing readiness.	3 - Participants have access to housing with minimal readiness requirements.
Integrated Housing. Extent to which housing tenure is assumed to be permanent housing with no actual or expected time limits, other than those defined under a standard lease or occupancy agreement.	4 - Participants live in housing with landlord-tenant agreements and there are no time limits on housing tenure other than those defined under a standard lease or occupancy agreement.
Tenancy Rights and Responsibilities. Extent to which program participants have legal rights to the unit.	4 - Participants have a written agreement and it contains no special provisions other than agreeing to meet with staff face-to-face regularly (weekly or biweekly).
Reasonable Cost for Housing. Extent to which participants pay a reasonable	4 - Participants pay 30% or less of their income for housing costs and/or

amount of their income for housing costs and/or program has access to rent supplements or subsidized housing units.	program has ready access to rent supplements or provides subsidized housing units for all participants.
Housing Support. Extent to which program offers services to help participants maintain housing, such as offering assistance with landlord relations and neighborhood orientation.	4 - Program offers ongoing housing support services.
SERVICE PHILOSOPHY	
Service choice. Extent to which program participants choose the type, sequence, and intensity of services such as recovery, medical and other services.	4 - Participants have the right to choose, modify, or refuse services and supports at any time, except regular face-to-face visit with staff.
Participant-Driven Program & Services. Extent to which the program and services are participant-driven.	2 - Program offers few opportunities for input on their individual services or more generally on program services.
Contact with Participants. Extent to which program maintains regular contact with participants.	4 - Program meets with participants at least 2 times a month to ensure participants' safety and well-being.
Continuous Services. Extent to which program participants are not discharged from services even if they lose housing.	4 - Participants continue to receive program services even if they lose housing.
Directly Offers or Brokers Services. Program directly offers or brokers support services to participants, such as recovery, medical and other services.	2 - Program directly offers or brokers some services.
Selection of Vulnerable Populations. Extent to which program focuses on chronic and/or episodically homeless individuals.	3 - Program selects participants who are chronic and/or episodically homeless.
TEAM STRUCTURE/HUMAN RESOURCES	
Low Participant/Staff Ratio. Extent to which program consistently maintains a low participant/staff ratio.	4 - 20 or fewer participants per 1 FTE staff.

## Your 2015-2016 Priorities

Reference Number: 0-13782192

Report on your 2015-2016 Aboriginal Homelessness Funding Priorities

Priority	Aboriginal Funding Percentage Committed in 2015-2016 CPAU	Aboriginal Funding Percentage Spent	Actual Amount Invested Aboriginal Funding
Housing First	10%	5%	\$11,762
Individualized services	90%	95%	\$213,460
Capital investments	0%	0%	\$0
Coordination of resources and leveraging	0%	0%	\$0
Data collection and use	0%	0%	\$0
Community Entity administration costs			\$41,512
Total Amount Spent			\$266,734
Allocation			\$276,746

From April 1, 2015 to March 31, 2016, the total actual amount of HPS Aboriginal Homelessness funding that was spent on projects for all of your priorities and Community Entity administration costs is different from your HPS funding allocation. Use the back button to update the numbers you just entered or please explain the difference.

Yes...there is a difference of \$9,775 that was not spent in the first contract (April 1, 2015 -September 30/15) from the sub-project. TBIFC was advised that these funds could not be carried over into the second contract (October 1, 2015 - March 31, 2016).

## Report your Community Engagement

### Official Languages Minority Communities

An OLMC is a community whose official language is not the language of the majority community (for example, Canadian English-speaking communities in Quebec, or Canadian French-speaking communities in provinces and territories outside of Quebec).

CABs and CEs are expected to identify OLMCs within their community and ensure that appropriate services and supports are available in both official languages where there is significant demand. More details will be available through an HPS program directive that will be posted on the ESDC website.

Please describe what actions have been taken.

TBIFC clients are Aboriginal and the majority speak English or Ojibway / Oji-Cree. If individuals need an interpreter, TBIFC will engage the appropriate language support services. TBIFC does have staff who speak an Aboriginal language and/or French.

Please describe how the CAB and CE will, in 2016-2017, assess the needs of the OLMC, implement measures that respond to their identified needs, and ensure that the services funded under the HPS address their needs.

The CAB and CE will continue to review and assess the needs of the OLMC on an on-going basis and respond to needs as identified, however, this is not the 'norm' for the Aboriginal community. Both the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal CAB's and CE's support one another when services under the HPS are required.

## Your 2016-2017 Priorities

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*Reference Number:* 0-13782489

The HPS encourages responsive community planning. Communities are encouraged to review their plans to make sure they stay relevant to the changing dynamics of the homelessness situation.

Your HPS 2014-2019 Community Plan was approved some time ago, and recent events may have occurred, which may result in modifying the funding priorities that you identified for 2016-2017. In addition, you may want to change the percentage you are committing to each of your priorities. If each of your priorities will change by less than 10%, there is no need to report any change.

The following table captures the funding priorities you identified and any changes made. If you made no changes, the priority is marked with an “x” followed by the percentage identified in the 2014-2019 HPS Community Plan. If a change was indicated, only the change has been included.

Priorities 2016-2017	Activities selected for funding with the HPS allocation.	Demonstrating Success (Targets for HPS Indicators)	
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin-bottom: 10px;">AH: x (40%)</div> <p><b>To reduce homelessness through a Housing First (HF) approach</b> The Housing First model includes both housing and access to supports primarily for chronically and episodically homeless individuals.</p>	<p><b>The community will be dedicating the following percentage of its Housing First funding to each of the following activities:</b></p> <p>HF readiness: 40%</p> <p>Client intake &amp; assessment: 5%</p> <p>Connecting to and maintaining permanent housing: 45%</p> <p>Accessing services through case management: 10%</p> <p>Data, tracking &amp; monitoring: 0%</p>	<p>40</p> <p>80%</p> <p>80%</p> <p>30</p> <p>30%</p> <p>15%</p> <p>5%</p>	<p>Individuals will be placed in housing through an HF intervention.</p> <p>HF Clients who will remain housed at six months.</p> <p>HF clients who will remain housed at twelve months.</p> <p>Days for HF clients to move into permanent housing after intake.</p> <p>HF clients who will be rehoused.</p> <p>HF clients who will return to homelessness.</p> <p>HF clients who will successfully exit the program to a positive housing situation.</p>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin-bottom: 10px;">AH: x (60%)</div> <p><b>To improve the self-sufficiency of homeless individuals and families and those at imminent risk of homelessness through individualized services</b> for the following populations:</p>	<p><b>In 2016-2017, the community will be implementing the following activities:</b></p> <p>Connecting clients to income support</p> <p>Pre-employment support, and bridging to the labour market</p> <p>Connecting clients to education and supporting success</p>	<p><b>In 2016-2017, the community hopes to achieve the following results:</b></p> <p>5</p> <p>2</p> <p>5</p> <p>2</p>	<p>People will increase their income or income stability</p> <p>People will start part-time or full-time employment</p> <p>People will start or complete a job training program</p> <p>People will start part-time or full-time education</p>

Priorities 2016-2017	Activities selected for funding with the HPS allocation.	Demonstrating Success (Targets for HPS Indicators)
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Aboriginal people</li> </ul>	<p>Housing loss prevention (only for individuals and families at imminent risk of homelessness)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Housing Placement (outside of Housing First)</li> <li>Life skills development (e.g. budgeting, cooking)</li> <li>Supports to improve social integration</li> <li>Culturally relevant responses to help Aboriginal clients</li> <li>Liaise and refer to appropriate resources</li> <li>Basic or urgent needs</li> </ul>	<p>10 People will remain housed at three months after receiving a housing loss prevention intervention</p> <p>These services require communities to set no HPS targets at this time.</p>
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin-bottom: 10px;">AH: x (0%)</div> <p><b>To preserve or increase the capacity of facilities (Capital investments) for the following populations:</b></p>		
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin-bottom: 10px;">AH: x (0%)</div> <p><b>To ensure coordination of resources and leveraging</b></p>		
<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin-bottom: 10px;">AH: x (0%)</div> <p><b>To improve data collection and use</b></p>		

## Information About Your Housing First Priority

Please describe your Housing First approach and provide a timeline for HF implementation.

- \* Sub-projects will offer rent subsidies / top-ups to assist clients identified as HF to provide for the long-term stability of HF clients.

- \* Sub-project will work with landlords to strike partnerships to provide more opportunity for housing to be provided to HF clients.

- \* Continue to work with the City of Thunder Bay in securing housing.

- \* Engage with Native People of Thunder Bay Development Corporation (Aboriginal Housing) to leverage housing for HF clients.

- \*Continue partnership with the mainstream CAB and CE.

- \*Pursue training opportunities that provide information about housing first and about engaging the community.

- \*Continue engagement / communication with the DSSAB.

- \*Engage other service providers that are not housing service providers to support HF clients with support services ie. mental health, addictions, domestic violence, justice services, healthy living opportunities and access to culturally appropriate services.

HF implementation in the City of Thunder Bay is a long-term strategy given that the homeless population is primarily Aboriginal. The recent Point in Time Count confirms this, and thus; many years will need to be devoted to address HF clients. 2016-17 is the first year for implementing HF.

Please describe in more detail the group(s) this Housing First priority will address:

Both chronically and episodically homeless individuals

The Housing First Approach requires access to a range of client supports. How will you engage (or how are you engaging) provincial or territorial programs to facilitate access to provincial/territorial services for Housing First clients?

The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board is an ex-officio member of the CAB with non-voting rights. TBIFC will continue to engage with DSSAB through CAB meetings. DSSAB provide information and/or responds to requests for

information about services and funding so that both the Aboriginal and non-Aboriginal CAB's / CE's are kept up-to-date about change and to avoid duplication of services.

What other resources can you leverage to contribute to your HF efforts?

HF Readiness Resources:

TBIFC will work with the sub-project ONWA to build partnerships with landlords and/or other housing service providers to leverage housing for HF clients.

Client Intake & Assessment Resources:

Clients are assessed for HF / and supports as part of the intake system. The implementation of HIFIS will streamline services and provide access to a resource that documents the ongoing case management of a client. This will certainly assist in monitoring client progress and in identifying other resources required to ensure that HF clients remain housed.

## **Community Advisory Board**

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*Reference Number:* 0-13782882

Name of the Community Advisory Board:

Thunder Bay Urban Aboriginal Advisory Committee

Note: Information removed to maintain the privacy of the individuals on the CAB. To validate, or update this information, please contact your Service Canada representative.