

HOUSING AND SUPPORTS FOR HOMELESS ALBERTANS

ENDING HOMELESSNESS BY 2019

Housing First

Housing First provides homeless people with permanent housing and wrap-around supports, which may include intensive medical, psychiatric, and case management services, such as life skills training, landlord liaison assistance or addictions counseling.

Giving people the opportunity to move from the streets into permanent and supported housing is the right thing to do, and it's cost-effective as well.

The cost to support a chronically homeless person who draws on emergency health and social and services is about three times more than it costs to meet their needs under the Housing First approach, which helps them move off the streets and into lives filled with hope and promise.

Alberta is still the only provincial government with a plan to end homelessness.

If you want to save the health-care system money, start by giving the homeless a place to live.

— Dr. Jeffrey Turnbull,
President, Canadian Medical
Association



Roger's and Leta's story

It can be tough raising a family of four—especially if you are homeless. Just ask Roger and Leta.

They lost their home and were homeless for over four months. Thanks to the Inn from the Cold and the Calgary Homeless Foundation, they were able to find permanent affordable housing.

\$8.8 Million Boost Will End Homelessness for Another 500 Albertans

Budget 2011/12 provides a total of \$54 million to help homeless Albertans obtain permanent housing and access outreach supports.

In year three of the 10-year plan, this funding will help 500 more homeless people transition to independence through Housing First programs offered by community-based organizations in the seven major centres in Alberta. 500 formerly homeless clients have already graduated the program and another 500 are expected to do so in 2011/12.

By the numbers

500

The number of formerly homeless Albertans now ready to move from the Housing First to rent support only.

6

Per cent drop in shelter use in Alberta's 7 major cities between 2009/10 and 2010/11

3,995

The number of homeless Albertans housed with supports in 2009/10&2010/11.

500

Number of new Housing First clients to be added in 2011/12.

21

Per cent decrease in Edmonton homeless count.

42

Per cent drop in the Fort McMurray homeless count.

30

Number of shelters in 9 communities – no one is turned away.

1,500

The number of affordable housing units for homeless Albertans funded 2009/10&2010/11.