



COMMUNICATION UPDATE

TO:	Mayor and Members City Council
DATE:	November 13, 2024
SUBJECT:	Reaching Home Federal Homelessness Funding Allocation (City Wide)
WARD(S) AFFECTED:	City Wide
SUBMITTED BY:	Michelle Baird, Director Housing Services Division Healthy and Safe Communities Department
SIGNATURE:	<i>Michelle Baird</i>

The City of Hamilton Housing Services Division serves as Designated Community Entity for administering Federal homelessness funding through the Reaching Home Strategy. Reaching Home was launched April 1, 2019, with the goal to reduce chronic homelessness by 50% by fiscal year 2027-28. The City of Hamilton funds a number of initiatives and program with this funding to prevent homelessness and support individuals and families experiencing homelessness – such as shelter diversion, early intervention programs, and housing focused case management for people experiencing chronic homelessness.

On November 13, 2024, Housing Infrastructure and Communities Canada (HICC) informed staff in Housing Services Division that federal Reaching Home funding allocations for 2024-25 to 2027-28 will be increased. Funding allocations for this period were originally provided by HICC in November 2023 and represented significant reductions from the 2023-24 budget allocation. The increases communicated today represent a significant investment to stabilize Reaching Home funding in Hamilton.

Fiscal Year	Original Funding Allocation	Increased Funding Allocation	Total Reaching Home Allocation
2024-25	\$9,569,020	\$1,142,114	\$10,711,134
2025-26	\$9,569,020	\$1,142,114	\$10,711,134
2026-27	\$6,174,669	\$4,744,004	\$10,918,673
2027-28	\$6,174,669	\$4,744,004	\$10,918,673

OUR Vision: To be the best place to raise a child and age successfully.

OUR Mission: To provide high quality cost conscious public services that contribute to a healthy, safe and prosperous community, in a sustainable manner.

OUR Culture: Collective Ownership, Steadfast Integrity, Courageous Change, Sensational Service, Engaged Empowered Employees.

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- Page 2 of 2

Housing Services Division will work with HICC to amend the existing Reaching Home funding agreement to receive the above increased allocations.

Housing Services Division is also in the process of preparing the City of Hamilton's Community Plan which will outline the actions and investments that will be undertaken during the funding period. The City of Hamilton dedicates 20% of Federal homelessness program dollars to Indigenous-led services. Through Reaching Home, the Designated Communities are required to work toward the following community-level outcomes: chronic homelessness is reduced, homelessness in the community is reduced overall and for specific populations, new inflows into homelessness are reduced, and returns to homelessness are reduced.

For more information about Reaching Home please contact Shannon Honsberger, Manager, Homelessness Policy and Programs, Housing Services Division by email at Shannon.Honsberger@hamilton.ca.

APPENDICES AND SCHEDULES ATTACHED

None