

Evaluation of the Report Card on Ending Homelessness in Ottawa

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Evaluation Questions

How useful is the Report Card to its target audience?

How can the Report Card be improved to better meet the needs of its target audience?

Alliance to End Homelessness

REPORT CARD ON ENDING HOMELESSNESS IN OTTAWA JAN TO DEC 2011

The Alliance to End Homelessness in Ottawa (ATEH) established targets in 2009 which would, if met for ten years, end homelessness. Increased investment by the Federal, Provincial and Municipal governments in targeted spending can make a difference!

1. REDUCE NUMBER OF PEOPLE IN EMERGENCY SHELTER
Annual target: 500 fewer people a year. Meeting this target for ten years would end homelessness for all but 2000 people¹.

2. SHORTER SHELTER STAYS
Annual target: a 3 day reduction per year in average stays could reduce stays to 30 day stay in 10 years.

3. CREATE HOUSING THAT'S AFFORDABLE
Annual target: 1000 new built units and/or rent supplements. Over 10 years, the community would have 10,000 new units with 4,000 on the social housing wait list.

4. HOUSING IS MORE AFFORDABLE
Annual target: a 10 year goal and constant movement towards it could reach 30% of income spent on rent for a bachelor apartment for a single person on low income.

2010	ATEH Indicator	2011	Grade																					
7,049	INDIVIDUALS AND FAMILY MEMBERS (Total)	7,299	D+																					
<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>SUBGROUPS²</th> <th>2010</th> <th>2011</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Families</td> <td>807</td> <td>841</td> </tr> <tr> <td>-Children³</td> <td>1,362</td> <td>1,499</td> </tr> <tr> <td>-Adults</td> <td>1,069</td> <td>1,137</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth</td> <td>441</td> <td>401</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Single Women</td> <td>1,010</td> <td>1,087</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Single Men</td> <td>3,284</td> <td>3,223</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>				SUBGROUPS ²	2010	2011	Families	807	841	-Children ³	1,362	1,499	-Adults	1,069	1,137	Youth	441	401	Single Women	1,010	1,087	Single Men	3,284	3,223
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63	AVERAGE DAYS STAYED	67	F																					
72 days	Families	82 days																						
36 days	Youth	37 days																						
52 days	Single Women	55 days																						
60 days	Single Men	60 days																						
331	NEW AFFORDABLE UNITS	739	A																					
331 newly created units		203 newly created units & 536 households helped with rent																						
No	HOUSING IS AFFORDABLE (Percent Income to Pay Rent)	No	F																					
44%	Minimum Wage	44%																						
121%	Ontario Works	121%																						
69%	Ontario Disability Support Program	68%																						

Ottawa agencies and volunteers continue to provide services and supports for homeless people by creating innovative new programs and maintaining existing ones. These efforts led to the positive reduction in the number of men!

Affordable Housing Gets 1st Ever A

Community partners met ATEH target for increases in affordable housing!

Notably, the Ottawa Municipal government used a good part of its new \$14 million in 2011 to invest in housing and homelessness and helped 508 of the 536 households assisted with paying rent.

Three levels of government together provided funded the community to create 203 new units.

Why the two F's?
Length of shelter stay and affordability both received an F. Each of the Federal, Provincial and Municipal governments will need to increase investments to create more new affordable housing and to see advances for those with the lowest incomes.

Families in Jeopardy
The Ottawa community saw a 31.6% increase in the number of homeless families between 2004 and 2011!

DATA CENTREFOLD – on pgs. 8 & 9 – see the trends & numbers behind the grades

Download the full Report Card in English or French at www.endhomelessnessottawa.ca



Methodology

Open-ended qualitative interviews with :

2 local politicians
2 members of the local media
2 members of the homelessness services sector
2 members of the broader community
2 experts in the use of performance measurement tools



Key Findings



Report Card Should Be:

Concise	Clear
Specific	Transparent
Balanced	Specific
Objective	Visually Appealing
Solutions-Oriented	Refreshed
Innovative	Actionable