

## **Backgrounder – Homelessness Partnering Strategy in NL – 2000-2013**

### **St. John’s Community Advisory Committee on Homelessness:**

The following individuals are members of the St. John’s Community Advisory Committee on Homelessness:

- Angela McGrath, Co-Director, Gathering Place
- Annette Breen, Supportive Living Supervisor, NL Housing\*
- Ashley Crocker, Settlement Social Worker, Association for New Canadians NL
- Bob Abbott, City Homelessness Facilitator, Service Canada
- Bob Dillon, Provincial Facilitator, Service Canada
- Bruce Pearce, Community Development Worker, St. John’s Community Advisory Committee on Homelessness
- Colleen Simms, Advisor, Mental Health, HCS\*
- Cynthia King, Regional Director, Avalon Region, Programs & Regional Services, AES\*
- David Penner, Executive Director, St. John’s Native Friendship Centre Association
- Gail Tobin, Executive Director, Iris Kirby House (Transition House Association of NL)
- Glenn Furlong, Corporate Representative, Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
- Hedley Bungay, Executive Director, New Hope Community Centre, Salvation Army, NL Division
- Iris Bussey, Clinical Social Worker, Correctional Services Canada
- Jocelyn Greene, Executive Director, Stella Burry Community Services
- Judy Tobin, Sr. Housing Officer, Nonprofit Housing Division, City of St. John’s\*
- Kelly Heisz, Executive Director, Seniors Resource Centre
- Kelly Hudson, Co-coordinator, Street Reach, Community Youth Network-St. John’s
- Kim Baldwin, Regional Director, Mental Health & Addictions, Eastern Health\*
- Kim Dreddy, HIFIS Partnership Analyst, HPS, HRSDC
- Kimberly Yetman-Dawson, Director, NL Housing & Homelessness Network
- Leslie MacLeod, Executive Director, St. John’s Status of Women Council
- Madonna Walsh, Manager, Affordable Housing, NL Housing\*
- Marie Ryan (Committee Chair)\*
- Mona Hawco, Housing Coordinator, AIDS Committee of NL
- Rick Kelly, Executive Director, Waypoints
- Sheldon Pollett, Executive Director, Choices for Youth

\* Denotes members of the Funding Advisory Committee

HCS Denotes Health & Community Services

AES Denotes Advanced Education & Skills

## **The National Homelessness Initiative & Homelessness Partnering Strategy**

In 1999, the National Homelessness Initiative (NHI) was announced by the Government of Canada to respond to urgent calls to address growing homelessness in Canada – starting with an investment of \$753 million over 3 years (2000-2002). In 2003, the NHI was renewed to 2005, with a further \$405 million in federal funding, and again for one year in 2006 with \$134.8 million.

The \$269.6 million Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) replaced the NHI in 2007-2008, and has been extended through 2009-2010 and 2011-2013 to help governments and communities put in place long-term plans to address homelessness. The HPS focuses on a “housing first” approach, designed to foster structures and supports needed to move homeless and at-risk individuals towards self-sufficiency and full participation in Canadian society.

Between 2000-2013, \$15,417,131 million has been allocated through the NHI and Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) in Newfoundland and Labrador to help address homelessness, part of a total federal HPS investment of \$21.7 million during this period, including \$18.3 million invested in St. John’s, and \$3.4 million in rural NL. Annually, \$697,425 is allocated for St. John’s, and \$543,769 for Rural Newfoundland and Labrador.

This does not include the significant leveraging of other federal, provincial, municipal, private and community resources that have been mobilized through the St. John’s Community Plan to Address Homelessness, and similar plans in rural NL communities. As of March 2011, the St. John’s Plan has generated new shelter and supportive housing units, and sponsored a wide range of projects that have enhanced the capacity and coordination among stakeholders to respond to homelessness – as outlined in the project descriptions on the following pages of this Backgrounder. The program has been a success in Newfoundland and Labrador.

### **Evolution of the Planning and Decision-making Model in St. John’s:**

A shared delivery model was first adopted locally in 2000, under which Service Canada administers the Homelessness Initiative in Newfoundland & Labrador, in consultation with other levels of government and the community, which set priorities under the Community Plan developed by the St. John’s Community Advisory Committee on Homelessness. A Funding Committee comprising Service Canada, the Government of Newfoundland and Labrador and community representatives reviews project proposals and recommends them for approval to the Minister of Human Resources & Skills Development (HRSDC). The St. John’s Community Advisory Committee on Homelessness is shifting to a ‘community entity’ delivery model, through which the City of St. John’s will administer HPS delivery under the 2011-2013 Community Plan.

### **Surplus Federal Real Property for Homelessness Initiative (SFRPHI):**

Between 2000 and 2006, the HPS Surplus Federal Real Property for Homelessness Initiative (SFRPHI) also provided 42 properties worth \$4 million to nonprofit housing providers in St. John’s, Gander and Corner Brook. Recipient organizations include: the Association for New Canadians, NL Housing, City of St. John’s Nonprofit Housing, Stella Burry Community Services, Iris Kirby House, Cabot Habitat for Humanity, Jan Peters Foundation, Cara House and Corner Brook Transition House. In 2009, SFRPHI provided the City of St. John’s a 2 acre, \$2 million parcel of land in Pleasantville for 45 units of new social housing and social enterprises.

## Government of Canada Homelessness Investments in NL (2000-2013)

### National Homelessness Initiative (2000-2006)

2,134,000	2000-2002	Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI)
1,691,000	2000-2002	Youth Homelessness
944,000	2000-2002	Urban Aboriginal Homelessness
625,000	2000-2002	Labrador
<u>35,000</u>	<u>2000-2002</u>	<u>Planning</u>
<b>5,429,000</b>	<b>2000-2002</b>	<b>Subtotal</b>

2,134,000	2003-2005	SCPI (St. John's)
4,000,000	2000-2005	Surplus Federal Real Property for Homelessness (SFRPHI)
50,000	2003-2005	NHI National Research Program
<u>1,164,000</u>	<u>2003-2005</u>	<u>Regional Homelessness Fund (NL outside St. John's)</u>
<b>7,348,000</b>	<b>2003-2005</b>	<b>Subtotal</b>

712,000	2006	SCPI (St. John's)
<u>546,000</u>	<u>2006</u>	<u>Regional Homelessness Fund (NL outside St. John's)</u>
<b>1,258,000</b>	<b>2006</b>	<b>Subtotal</b>

### Homelessness Partnering Strategy (2007-2013)

1,394,850	2007-2008	St. John's
50,000	2008	Homelessness Knowledge Development Program (HKDP)
100,000	2008	Horizontal Pilot Program (HPP)
<u>1,092,000</u>	<u>2007-2008</u>	<u>Outreach Communities<sup>1</sup></u>
<b>2,536,850</b>	<b>2007-2008</b>	<b>Subtotal</b>

1,394,850	2009-2010	St. John's
2,000,000	2009-2010	Surplus Federal Real Property for Homelessness Initiative (SFRPHI)
94,528	2010	Homelessness Knowledge Development Program (HKDP)
<u>1,092,000</u>	<u>2009-2010</u>	<u>HPS Outreach Communities</u>
<b>4,586,850</b>	<b>2009-2010</b>	<b>Subtotal</b>

2,092,275	2011-2013	St. John's
<u>1,604,307</u>	<u>2011-2013</u>	<u>Rural &amp; Remote Communities</u>
<b>3,696,582</b>	<b>2011-2013</b>	<b>Subtotal</b>

<b>15,417,131</b>	<b>HPS Cumulative Annual Federal Allocations to NL (2000-2013)<sup>2</sup></b>
<b>21,711,659</b>	<b>HPS Total Federal Investments in NL (2000-2013)<sup>3</sup></b>

## Other Housing Programs & Resources

### Shelter Enhancement & Residential Rehabilitation Assistance (RRAP) Conversion Programs:

These programs are delivered by Newfoundland & Labrador Housing (NLHC) under a cost-sharing agreement with Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (25% provincial/75% federal).

- **RRAP Conversion** assists in the creation of affordable housing for low-income households by providing funding to convert non-residential properties into affordable, self-contained units.

<sup>1</sup> The Regional Homelessness stream was re-named Outreach Communities for 2007-2010, and re-named Rural & Remote Communities for 2011-2014.

<sup>2</sup> This figure excludes the HPS contributions for SFRPHI, HKDP and HPP noted above, which are incremental to NL's annual HPS allocations solely represented in this figure.

<sup>3</sup> This figure includes NL's annual HPS allocations plus all other HPS allocations via SFRPHI, HKDP and HPP noted above. This total includes \$18.3 million invested in St. John's, and \$3.4 million invested in rural NL.

- **Shelter Enhancement** funding assists in renovating/upgrading emergency shelters, and developing additional emergency shelter space and second stage housing;
- **Provincial Home Repair Program** assists low-income homeowners who require repairs to their homes; bring dwellings up to minimum fire and life safety standards, with improvements in basic heating, electrical and plumbing services. For applicants who require accessibility changes, please apply under the Home Modification Program (HMP).

### **Canada-Newfoundland Affordable Housing Program (AHI):**

The Affordable Housing Initiative provides financing for the development of new affordable rental housing in the province. Proponents in the private and non-profit sectors (including HPS projects) may be eligible for capital assistance in the form of a forgivable loan that is earned over a set period. During this time rents must be kept at affordable levels and tenants must be low-to-moderate income under NL Housing guidelines. Funding is also available to upgrade existing social housing stock that no longer receives federal capital subsidy. The Affordable Housing Initiative is funded by 50/50 cost-shared federal/provincial agreements, and is delivered by NL Housing through agreement with Canada Mortgage & Housing Corporation (CMHC). The province's priorities are rental housing for persons living with mental, developmental or physical health needs, who require supports to live independently in the community.

### **Provincial Homelessness Fund:**

Administered by NL Housing, provides up to \$200,000 to assist registered non-profit organizations by providing capital funding for the development of support services space for the provision of on-site and outreach services. These services promote housing stability and greater self reliance for those at risk of homelessness. The space can be developed either through new modest construction or renovation of an existing building. PHF funding is not available for the purchase of a building.

### **Government of Newfoundland & Labrador Operating Investments:**

In addition to the provincial capital investments cited above, the Government of Newfoundland & Labrador plays a critical role in supporting the *sustainability* of projects under the HPS by investing in their human resources, programs and services. These ongoing investments are significant, and have driven innovative approaches, greater collaboration and enhanced outcomes.

### **Supportive Living Community Partnership Program:**

The \$4.8 million Supportive Living Community Partnership Program (SLCPP) – managed by the Department of Advanced Education & Skills – seeks proposals that align with CAB (Community Advisory Board) Community Plan priorities, receive CAB endorsement/support, and are substantiated by data.

The program assists community agencies that support individuals who intersect multiple service provider systems and whose circumstances often result in them continuously cycling through social, correctional, mental health and/or addiction services. This population is often in crisis due to a lack of available affordable housing options and experience reliance on emergency shelter services on a regular basis.

Grants available to non-profit organizations are expected to meet one or more of following objectives:

- Assist individuals with complex service needs to find and remain in safe, affordable, stable housing.
- Support individuals with complex service needs to achieve greater self-determination by supporting

the conditions which promote housing stability and increase skills and/or income to secure an income to live as independently as possible.

- Provide opportunities through a range of supportive living services to complement existing services and/or to help address a gap in services to support the stabilization of persons experiencing homelessness and/or multiple barriers to permanent/long term housing.
- Support community capacity building activities/projects, which will assist in the identification and development of a range of supportive living services necessary to prevent and address homelessness for individuals with complex service needs.

## **Municipal, Corporate & Community Investments:**

Guided by a 10-year Affordable Housing Action Plan adopted in 2011 by the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Affordable Housing (MACAH), municipal government plays a key role by providing support, planning advice and permit approvals for HPS projects. The City of St. John's waives property taxes and permit fees on projects developed by non-profit, charitable organizations, and has also provided municipal land to these initiatives. The City is developing new social housing in Pleasantville on 2 acres of lands provided under the Surplus Federal Real Property for Homelessness Initiative.

Corporations have made significant contributions to homelessness projects, and community-led forums such as the NL Housing & Homelessness Network, and the Mayor's Advisory Committee on Affordable Housing, play a role in engaging the private sector. The Canadian Home Builders Association NL also works with home builders to provide affordable housing.

Service organizations, foundations and charities from St. John's, and across Canada, have made financial and in kind contributions to HPS projects, and several front line homelessness organizations have developed their own foundations in recent years to raise funds for their initiatives. In addition, community-based organizations have developed social enterprises that generate fee-for-service revenues while addressing their organizations' social missions.

## Community Plan Priorities (2000-2002)

The Community Plan for Addressing Homelessness in St. John's was completed in January 2001. The plan was designed to deliver prescribed activities within the parameters of the following key priorities:

- (A) **Increased shelter space overall and alternative options**, in particular, for persons in the following categories: young men (ages 16-21), aboriginal persons, women and children escaping violence, and adults with alcohol and drug dependency, criminal justice and/or mental health issues;
- (B) **Supportive transitional housing** for persons who experience difficulty obtaining or keeping housing because of lack of supports for complex problems;
- (C) **Human resources**, in terms of information and support, to persons experiencing housing crises; and
- (D) **Community development/coordination resources** for the agencies that serve homeless persons, and more research, planning and collaborative approaches among all service providers.

The Plan recommended specific actions be undertaken to address each of the 4 key priorities, and suggested that 80% of the funding be directed toward to the establishment and operation of emergency shelters and supportive transitional housing, with the remaining 20% to be invested in human supports, coordination, research and evaluation.

## Actions Recommended by the 2000-2002 Community Plan

Specific actions recommended under the Community Plan for Addressing Homelessness included:

- The establishment of a separate shelter for young men, with a physical facility, human resources, and operating expenses;
- The establishment of a shelter in st. John's to provide housing for urban aboriginal persons experiencing homelessness, with accompanying human resources and operating expenses;
- An increase in shelter and second stage capacity for women and their children escaping violence, through space, operating expenses and human resources;
- Enhance and appropriately resource existing adult shelter space, including upgrading of facilities, recruitment and hiring/training of staff, and operating expenses;
- Enhancement of existing supportive housing alternatives, and support for related initiatives, creating additional spaces and support resources, and covering operating expenses;
- Creation of a coordinated direct service response to assist persons in homeless circumstances with information and support/advocacy;
- Establishment of an assertive case management approach as outlined in stella burry corporation's 1999 report for correctional services, to assist persons with significant barriers through a variety of inter-related supports;

- Enhancing collateral agencies which provide services to persons experiencing homelessness in their work with individual support/advocacy (i.e. Food banks, soup kitchens, community kitchens, food buying clubs, day programs);
- Creation of a community development position to serve as a community catalyst in promoting collaboration and assisting with research/proposals;
- A process whereby the key stakeholders involved in scpi can work together to envision a model for effectively addressing homelessness and housing concerns in st. John's; and
- Research to better understand homelessness in the city, and ways and means to address it.



## Actions Taken Under Community Plan (2000-2002)

### Community Plan Priorities:

- (A) Increased shelter space overall and alternative options
- (B) Supportive transitional housing
- (C) Human resources
- (D) Community development/coordination resources

The following actions have been undertaken to address the priorities of the Community Plan (2000-2002):

- A **Community Plan for Addressing Homelessness** was completed in January 2001 (\$36,000);
- The St. John's Native Friendship Centre Association constructed a **shelter for aboriginal persons** with capital funds from the NHI (\$943,731) and the Government of Newfoundland & Labrador through a partnership between CMHC and NLHC (\$185,000). The 20-bed shelter began operating during the summer of 2003 (Addressing Priority 'A');
- A proposal by Choices for Youth to create a 9-bed **shelter for young men (ages 16-21)** co-located with a **multi-agency youth services site**, and linked to new **supportive housing for youth** was approved under the NHI (\$1,691,000) with funding from Natural Resources Canada's Commercial Building Incentive Program (\$13,968) and the Government of Newfoundland & Labrador (\$162,000) through a partnership between CMHC and NLHC, and an in kind donation of land from the City of St. John's (\$50,000). The new facility opened in 2004 (Addressing Priority 'A', 'B', 'C' and 'D');
- New **transitional housing for women and children** escaping violence was approved under the NHI (\$264,359) for Iris Kirby House, with additional funds (\$78,000) from the Government of Newfoundland & Labrador through a partnership between CMHC and NLHC (Addressing Priority 'B');
- **Improved transitional housing for men and women** who have histories of mental illness, addictions or imprisonment, was approved for the 14-unit Carew Lodge, Stella Burry Community Services. The facility includes an on-site community development office and was nominated in 2002 for a CMHC Affordable Housing Innovation award for excellence in the Process category. The project received funding from the NHI (\$665,917), and CMHC/NLHC Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (\$252,000) (Addressing Priority 'B' and 'C');
- New **transitional housing** for community housing providers under the **Surplus Federal Real Property for Homelessness Initiative** – see NHI Phase II Projects for further details (Addressing Priority 'B');
- A proposal to complete **accessibility upgrades** to Emmanuel House, Stella Burry Community Services has been approved under the NHI (\$640,750) so that persons with disabilities can live at

Emmanuel House and fully participate in its community programs (Addressing Priority ‘A’ and ‘B’);

- Phase I of a **supportive community integration** project called Stella’s Circle, offering supportive housing and services for persons with complex mental health needs has been approved under the NHI (\$334,736) for Stella Burry Community Services in collaboration with other government and community partners, and a further proposal to expand this approach under NHI Phase II has also been approved (see NHI Phase II Projects), along with approval of funding by NLHC under the Canada-NL Affordable Rental Housing Program, for the construction of 6 supportive housing units (Addressing Priority ‘A’, ‘B’, ‘C’ and ‘D’);
- A **new shelter for women and children** in Labrador City developed by the Family Crisis Shelter Association was approved under NHI (\$625,000) with additional funding (\$125,000) from the Government of Newfoundland & Labrador through a partnership between CMHC and NLHC. The shelter is currently under construction (Addressing Priority ‘B’);
- A **community development worker** was hired by the Advisory Committee in January 2002 under the NHI (\$114,250) to develop NHI proposals and help coordinate long term planning and cross-sectoral commitment to address homelessness in St. John’s. The Advisory Committee recommended extending this position under NHI Phase II (Addressing Priority ‘D’);
- A **conference to bring together NL stakeholders** to begin developing a long term plan to address homelessness in St. John’s (“Collaborative Approaches to Addressing Homelessness”) was hosted by the Advisory Committee on November 20-21, 2002, attracting 100 delegates. The conference included workshops on community economic development, financing strategies for housing & homelessness projects, and strategies for overcoming community opposition to new residential development. The conference budget (\$39,170) was sponsored by HRDC (\$33,000), the Community Economic Development Technical Assistance Program or CEDTAP (\$3,720) and the City of St. John’s (\$1,500) (Addressing Priority ‘D’);
- A **24-page newspaper supplement** titled “Growing Homes: Working Together to Address Affordable Housing & Homelessness in Our Community” was published by the Advisory Committee in January 2003 and circulated to 50,000 households and partner organizations, with the objective of raising awareness about homelessness and profiling efforts to address it. The Growing Homes budget (\$17,967) was provided through the sale of advertising (\$14,885) and a contribution from HRDC (\$3,082) (Addressing Priority ‘D’);
- Training and equipment required to utilize the national **Homeless Individuals and Families Information System** (HIFIS) within sheltering facilities was provided under the NHI.

## Community Plan Update Priorities (2003-2006):

The following Community Plan Update priorities for 2003-2006 were developed in 2003 by the Committee in view of the objectives, assets and gaps identified by the community. They are flexible and broad in order to be able to respond to changing community conditions, and are ranked in order of priority. (SCPI = Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative, a component of the NHI.)

Community Priority	Proposed Activities	Community Objective(s)	Expected Outcomes	% of SC PI
<b>(1) Research housing needs in St. John's in order to lay the foundation for a long term approach to addressing homelessness.</b>	Conduct research regarding vulnerable populations at risk of becoming homeless (living in substandard housing), identifying needs and areas for action.	To ensure that SCPI in St. John's addresses needs along the continuum of supports.  To act as a catalyst for a comprehensive, sustainable, long term housing strategy for vulnerable populations in St. John's.	Ensuring evidence-based responses that better fit identified needs.  Identify elements of a long term strategy to address homelessness.	5%
<b>(2) Enhance housing options for vulnerable populations (homeless or at risk), including persons with complex needs.</b>	Invest in alternative housing options and supports for people with complex needs and vulnerable populations at risk of becoming homeless.	To increase housing opportunities for vulnerable populations in the city, in response to need and providing consumer choice.  To address the most serious situations of persons who rely repeatedly on temporary shelter as their primary source of housing, and who have complex needs.	Increase community capacity to serve the shelter/housing needs of vulnerable populations.  Increase housing options and supports for persons with complex needs.	75%
<b>(3) Community development, coordination and partnerships (I).</b>	Community development worker to: Develop proposals, partnerships, leverage resources; Assist with research, planning and coordination; Support outreach, inclusion, communications, capacity-building.	To ensure SCPI is a community-driven initiative, with transparent processes and accountability to the community.  To engage stakeholders who have not yet been part of the SCPI initiative.  To foster collaboration among partners to improve service coordination and access.	Ensuring SCPI is community-driven and inclusive.  Added value to SCPI and related projects through partnerships.  Greater collaboration among partners to better address identified community needs.	10%
<b>(4) Community development, coordination and partnerships</b>	Committee members/partners to: Explore expanding existing housing	To use SCPI as a catalyst to bring key stakeholders together for long-term planning and development of a housing strategy for	Evidence-base and options developed for implementing a long term strategy to address	

(II)	policy and structures to better address the full continuum of housing needs for vulnerable populations.	vulnerable populations in St. John's.	homelessness.	10 %
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## NHI Phase II Projects Approved 2003-2006:

- **Stella Burry Community Services: Stella's Circle** – completion of Phase II of a **supportive community integration** project called Stella's Circle at 140-142 Military Road, offering supportive housing and services for persons with complex mental health needs was approved under the NHI (\$868,750) for Stella Burry Community Services (SBCS). NLHC also provided funding under the Canada-NL Affordable Rental Housing Program (\$450,000) and RRAP (\$144,000) for the construction of 6 supportive housing units; and energy efficiency funding was provided under Natural Resources Canada's Commercial Building Incentive Program (CBIP). SBCS received donations from: the United Church (\$21,500) for furniture; the Imperial Oil Foundation (\$10,000), F.K. Morrow Foundation (\$10,000), and the Co-operators CED Fund (\$20,000) for kitchen equipment; and the United Way of Avalon (\$10,000) for Stella's Café furnishings and equipment. The project was completed in October 2006 (Addressing Priority 2);
- **Salvation Army: Wiseman Centre** – upgrading, partial demolition and expansion of the Wiseman Centre shelter for homeless men (formerly owned by NLHC) to provide 20 shelter units, 10 supportive housing units, and new on-site programs and services to support residents. The NHI provided \$1,397,500, NLHC provided funds under the Canada-NL Affordable Rental Housing Program \$750,000 and RRAP (\$240,000), the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment will provide mortgage financing over 15 years amounting to \$575,000, while the Salvation Army Advisory Board fundraised \$95,000 for the project. The facility opened in March 2007 (Addressing Priority 2);
- **AIDS Committee of NL: Tommy Sexton Centre** – construction of the new Tommy Sexton Centre in Pleasantville, to provide 4 shelter units and 6 supportive housing units (including two family units) for people living with, or at risk of, HIV/AIDS. The Centre is also the main program office for the ACNL. The NHI provided \$682,500 from the Regional Homelessness Fund and \$187,500 from the Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative, and NLHC contributed funds under the Canada-NL Affordable Rental Housing Program (\$450,000) and RRAP (\$144,000), while Natural Resources Canada provided Commercial Building Incentive Program funding. The Department of Transportation & Works provided 1.5 acres of land. In kind contributions were also received from the Tommy Sexton Foundation (\$10,000) and Tom Woodford Motors (\$30,000). The Centre opened in September 2006 (Addressing Priority 2);
- **City of St. John's: Housing Study** – completion of a \$50,000 study of housing /homelessness in the City which will include recommendations for a 10-year municipal strategy to address affordable housing needs within the City. The study committee is chaired by Councillor Shannie Duff and includes representatives from CMHC, NLHC, the City of St. John's, the NL Home Builders, and the St. John's Community Advisory Committee on Homelessness. Funding for the study was provided by the NHI's National Research Program (\$20,000), the City of St. John's (\$20,000) and the Canada

Mortgage and Housing Corporation (\$10,000). The project will be completed by Spring 2007 (Addressing Priority 1);

- **St John's Status of Women Council: Marguerite's Place** – completion of pre-development feasibility work and preliminary drawings for Marguerite's Place, a proposed shelter, affordable housing and support services centre for women. The NHI provided \$22,000 for this work to be completed by Spring 2007 (Addressing Priorities 2 and 3);
- **Salvation Army: Springdale Street Properties** – completion of pre-development work and preliminary drawings for the Salvation Army's Springdale Street properties (former Harbour Light and Catherine Booth House) to assist in guiding their redevelopment for supportive housing for adults with complex needs, as well as the provision of primary health care and outreach services for low-income households in the downtown, and a community centre/hub for Salvation Army programs serving the target populations. The NHI provided \$40,000 for this work to be completed by Spring 2007 (Addressing Priorities 2 and 3);
- **Stella Burry Community Services: Carew Lodge Expansion** – completion of pre-development work and preliminary drawings for an expansion of Carew Lodge to include up to 10 additional units of supportive housing for adults with complex mental health needs. The NHI provided \$20,000 for this work to be completed by Spring 2007 (Addressing Priorities 2 and 3);
- **Stella Burry Community Services: 135 Military Road** – conversion of commercial/office space on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of 135 Military Road to provide supportive housing, housing development services and education services for SBCS clients. The NHI's Regional Homelessness Fund provided \$176,400 to upgrade this floor. The upper two floors of the building, and the adjacent property at 84-86 Prescott Street, will be developed to provide 18 units of affordable housing with funds sought from NLHC under the Canada-NL Affordable Rental Housing Program (\$1,200,000) and RRAP (\$384,000), along with \$250,000 from the United Church of Canada's Ina Grafton Gage Trust Fund. The 1<sup>st</sup> floor renovations will be completed by Spring 2007, and the housing construction will be completed before 2008 (Addressing Priority 2);
- **St. Francis Foundation: Banyan Tree** – relocation and expansion of the Banyan Program for teen males ages 12-18 at a new location in the Goulds, housing up to 4 young males and providing agricultural and equine-related therapy programs for youth. The NHI's Regional Homelessness Fund provided \$107,087 towards the capital costs for the house and buildings, and the St. Francis Foundation secured a \$220,000 mortgage including renovation costs. The project will be completed during 2007 (Addressing Priority 2);
- **Choices For Youth: Affordable Housing & Employment** – acquisition of downtown St. John's properties at 52-54 and 56-58 Bond Street which will be renovated to provide 12 units of supportive, affordable housing for 12-15 youth ages 16-25 (1-2 bedroom apartments). A new construction trades pre-employment program and the existing Youth at Promise literacy/math skills program will operate from the site. The NHI's Regional Homelessness Fund provided \$250,000 to help Choices acquire the property by March 2007. Choices also secured a \$180,000 mortgage on the property (Addressing Priority 2);
- **St John's Community Advisory Committee on Homelessness: Beyond The Street** – hosting Canada's first national conference on youth homelessness in St. John's, September 27-29, 2006, titled *Beyond the Street – Youth and Communities Taking Action on Homelessness*. The conference brought together 244 delegates in both Official Languages from 13 provinces/territories to explore challenges, best practices and future actions needed to address youth homelessness. Over 75 youth participated in

the conference, which generated extensive national media coverage, and led to the unanimous endorsement by delegates of the National Homeless Youth Action Agenda and the creation of a new 31-member National Youth Homelessness Network to sustain efforts to address this issue. *Beyond The Street* (administered by Stella Burry Community Services) received funding from delegate fees (\$55,699), Raising the Roof (\$10,000), the Urban Core Support Network (\$10,000), Service Canada (\$39,000), the National Research Program of the National Homelessness Initiative (\$30,000), Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (\$7,000), the Department of Human Resources, Labour and Employment (\$5,000), the Department of Health & Community Services (\$5,000), Newfoundland and Labrador Housing Corporation (\$5,000), VOCM Cares Foundation (\$5,000), the City of St. John's (\$3,635), the Canadian Labour Congress (\$1,500), and Ron Fougere & Associates (\$500) – (Addressing Priorities 1, 3 and 4);

- **St. John's Community Advisory Committee on Homelessness: Community Development** – employing a Community Development Worker to serve the Committee and the community in addressing its priorities under the Community Plan for Addressing Homelessness, including proposal development, project development assistance, partnership development and collaboration, outreach, communications and awareness, training and education, and shaping policy. The position is administered by Stella Burry Community Services. NHI provided \$277,920 for this project during Phase II (2004-2006), which includes \$15,000 for Committee capacity-building and \$5,000 for the Committee's Growing Homes publication during 2006 (Addressing Priorities 3 and 4);
- **St. John's Native Friendship Centre Association: Capacity-building Action Plan** – engaging a consultant to work with the organization and its partners to map out a plan that: (a) identifies opportunities to strengthen existing partnerships and build new ones to support its sustainability; while (b) recommending options for modifying the organization and its services to improve sustainability and better serve aboriginals requiring shelter and related supports. The NHI provided \$25,000 for this project which will be completed by March 2007 (Addressing Priorities 3 and 4);
- **Surplus Federal Real Property for Homelessness Initiative (SFRPHI): New transitional and supportive housing for community-based housing providers** – since 2002, 42 properties across Newfoundland, valued at approximately \$4,000,000, were transferred by the federal government under SFRPHI to community-based housing providers (Addressing Priority 2), including:
  - **St. John's (26 properties)** – Association for New Canadians, Cabot Habitat for Humanity, City of St. John's Non-Profit Housing, Iris Kirby House, Jan Peters Foundation, NL Housing Corporation, Stella Burry Community Services;
  - **Gander (2 properties)** – Cara House, NL Housing Corporation;
  - **Corner Brook (1 property)** – Corner Brook Transition House.
- **St. John's Community Advisory Committee on Homelessness: Community Plan Assessment** – completion of a CPA project to engage the community and key stakeholders in assessing progress under the 2003-2006 St. John's Community Plan for Addressing Homelessness. The project activities include: hosting, professional facilitation and reporting of a special **CPA Input Day** with the 35-member St. John's Housing & Homelessness Network (March 2, 2007); hosting, professional facilitation and reporting of a **Community Plan Assessment Day** with the 30-member St. John's Community Advisory Committee on Homelessness (March 15, 2007); and **Homelessness Data Collection and Analysis** for the Community Plan Assessment, through a contract with the

Newfoundland & Labrador Statistics Agency. The project results will be used to guide the development of the new 2007-2009 Community Plan for Addressing Homelessness. The NHI provided \$30,166 for this project, which is administered by Stella Burry Community Services (under the direction of the Community Advisory Committee's Community Development Worker). The project will be completed during Spring 2007 (Addressing Priorities 1, 3 and 4);

- **St. John's Community Advisory Committee on Homelessness: *Growing Homes* Publication** – production of a 24-page, full-colour newsmagazine to be circulated to 49,000 households and businesses (and 5,000 additional copies for partner organizations), with the objective of raising awareness about homelessness and profiling efforts to address it. The *Growing Homes* budget was provided through the sale of advertising (\$13,000 estimated) and \$5,000 from the Committee's Community Development Worker budget. The project will be completed during April 2007 (Addressing Priority 3);
- **St. John's Community Advisory Committee on Homelessness: *Making A Difference* DVD** – the production of a 15-20 minute DVD to raise awareness about homelessness and profile efforts to address it. The DVD will convey frontline stories from community-based housing organizations and the people who have benefited from their projects. A distribution plan will be pursued to disseminate 130 copies of the DVD during 2007 to reach out, educate and engage key stakeholders and the general public in understanding and addressing homelessness. Service Canada provided \$4,685 for this project which will be completed during April 2007 (Addressing Priority 3);
- **Raising The Roof Campaign (RTR)** – a volunteer-driven initiative to raise funds and awareness to address homelessness in partnership with Canada's only national homelessness charity. Every winter, the sale of RTR toques and scarves raises \$15,000-20,000 through local individuals, organizations and businesses (Royal Bank, Scotia Bank, The Home Depot, CBC, Auntie Crae's), while community, corporate and government partners are engaged in awareness-raising activities, including ministerial statements, municipal proclamations, media conferences and events. Since 2005, the CBC Morning Show in St. John's has co-sponsored Raising The Roof's annual Community Pancake Breakfast at the Battery Hotel, attracting 600 participants and reaching listeners across the St. John's Region through a live radio broadcast profiling local efforts to address homelessness. Proceeds from the 2007 RTR campaign will support the AIDS Committee of NL, the Salvation Army, the St. John's Native Friendship Centre Association and Stella Burry Community Services (Addressing Priority 3);
- **Happy Valley-Goose Bay: Community Plan for Addressing Homelessness** – During 2006, the Town of Happy Valley-Goose Bay agreed to sponsor and administer the development of a local community plan to address homelessness, led by a multi-stakeholder Homelessness & Transitional Housing Committee. This is the first such plan in this Labrador community. The NHI's Regional Homelessness Fund provided \$25,000 for the project, which will be completed during Spring 2007;
- **Nain Transition House: Furniture & Equipment for Expanded Shelter** – During 2004-2005, the NL Housing Corporation provided \$235,000 in capital funding to renovate, expand (from 3 to 4 bedrooms) and enhance accessibility and security for the Nain Transition House in Nain, Labrador. Subsequently, in 2006 the NHI's Regional Homelessness Fund provided \$20,000 to help furnish and equip the upgraded facility, including items required to improve accessibility;
- **Provincial Association Against family Violence** – \$16,340 was provided by the NHI to provide training and equipment required for 7 shelters throughout Newfoundland and Labrador to utilize the Homelessness Individuals & Families Information System (HIFIS);



- **Cara Transition House, Gander** – \$232,341 was provided by the NHI to renovate the shelter to improve security and add a 612 square foot extension to the building to make it accessible for women and children with mobility impairments;
- **Corner Brook Transition House** – \$167,374 was provided by the NHI to acquire a property for use a second stage housing unit for single women and women with children.

## Community Plan Priorities and Investments (2007-2008)

Under the Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS), the St. John's Community Advisory Committee on Homelessness adopted a new Community Plan on October 23, 2007 including the following priorities for investment during 2007-2008. A Call for Proposals to address the Plan's priorities was conducted by Service Canada during December 2007-January 2008, and the Funding Committee of the Community Advisory Committee met on January 28, 2008 to make project funding recommendations to the federal minister. The resulting projects are described on the following pages.

St. John's, NL	HPS Designated Communities	
	(\$)	(%)
<b>HPS funding to be distributed to projects</b>	1,394,850	100.00%
<b>Priorities funded under the HPS</b>		
<b>Priority #1:</b> <i>Affordable and supportive housing continues to be a need for seniors, women, youth, families and single adults with complex needs.</i>	697,425	50%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Objective:</u> <i>To provide new supportive housing linked to inclusive and encompassing services for any of the following homeless or hidden homeless populations: youth, women, and single adults with complex needs.</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Priority #2:</b> <i>An emergency shelter for homeless women, linked to a continuum of housing and supports is needed.</i>	209,227	15%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Objective:</u> <i>To provide a new emergency shelter for women over the age of 30 – including women with complex needs – linked to a continuum of housing and supports.</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Priority #3:</b> <i>Innovative outreach services linking homeless persons to housing and supports are needed.</i>	209,227	15%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Objective:</u> <i>To support innovative, community-based outreach services that link homeless persons to housing and individualized supports (health, education, employment).</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Priority #4:</b> <i>Community development is needed to build the capacity of supportive housing providers, homeless services and their partners in St. John's.</i>	278,970	20%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <u>Objective:</u> <i>To build the capacity of supportive housing and homeless service providers and their partners, through skill building/training designed to enhance service planning and delivery, coordination and partnerships, communication, innovation and quality.</i></li> </ul>		

## Homelessness Partnering Strategy Projects Approved (2007-2008):

- **Choices For Youth: Supportive Housing, Employment & Education** – renovation of downtown St. John’s properties at 52-54 and 56-58 Bond Street to provide 12 units of supportive, affordable housing for 14 youth ages 16-25 (1-2 bedroom apartments). A new construction trades pre-employment program and the existing Youth at Promise literacy/math skills program will operate from the site. The HPS provided \$344,500 in capital funds and \$100,000 under the HPS Horizontal Pilot Projects Program to support CFY’s innovative Training for Trades program which employs youth alongside construction trades during the building renovations. NL Housing provided \$1,410,000 through the Canada-NL Affordable Housing Initiative and \$336,000 through the Canada-NL Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program. NL’s Green Fund provided \$400,000 through the Department of Environment & Conservation to maximize the building’s energy efficiency. The project was completed in 2010 (Addressing Priorities 1 and 3);
- **Stella Burry Community Services: Brian Martin Housing & Resource Centre** – conversion of commercial/office space on the 1<sup>st</sup> floor of 84 Prescott Street to provide a Housing Resource Centre, with 18 units of supportive housing for people with complex needs on the 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> floors. HPS provided \$172,000, while NL Housing provided funding under the Canada-NL Affordable Rental Housing Program (\$1,800,000) and RRAP (\$384,000), and NL’s Green Fund provided \$400,000 through the Department of Environment & Conservation to maximize the building’s energy efficiency. SBCS also secured \$250,000 from the United Church of Canada’s Ina Grafton Gage Trust Fund. The project was completed in 2009 (Addressing Priorities 1 and 3);
- **St John’s Status of Women Council: Marguerite’s Place** – construction of Marguerite’s Place, which will provide 8 units of supportive, affordable housing for women over 30, together with an on-site support services centre for women, together with a support services centre for women, including the main offices of the SJSWC. The HPS approved \$200,000 (although all project capital funds were carried over to 2009-2010 to align with delayed development of the initiative). NL Housing also conditionally-approved \$810,000 under the Canada-NL Affordable Housing Initiative, and agreed to provide land for the project at 170 Cashin Avenue Extension. The Rotary Club of St. John’s provided \$25,000, and the Canadian Alternative Investment Co-operative approved a \$500,000 low-interest construction loan. The NL Credit Union considered further financing based on existing equity from SJSWC’s affordable housing property at 83 Military Road. The project was completed in 2011 (Addressing Priorities 2 and 3);
- **Stella Burry Community Services: Kool-Rite Building** – purchase 9½ Mullock Street (a 3000 square foot building formerly used as refrigeration repair shop) to further establish the long term goals of SBCS’s New Beginnings pre-employment program serving people with complex needs. The redevelopment of this property will be completed in two phases: Phase I (2008) involved the purchase of the property and initial renovations; Phase II will involve the complete redevelopment of the property including 8 units of affordable housing. New Beginnings is an employment-readiness training program, originally developed in the 1980s and transferred by the provincial government to Stella Burry Community Services in 2003. Its target group is individuals with significant employment barriers, including people with social, educational and mental health needs and no (or limited) labour market attachment. The HPS provided \$150,000 towards the purchase of the property (Addressing Priority 3);

- **Salvation Army: New Hope Community Centre** – for Phase I upgrades to the Salvation Army’s property at 18 Springdale Street to provide drop-in, outreach, meal services and a new Building Service Worker training program (in partnership with HRLE and College of the North Atlantic) for adults at risk of homelessness. The HPS provided \$72,925 towards Phase I during 2008, part of a conditionally-approved \$250,000 contribution including Phase II, which would have provided a Primary Health Care centre in partnership with Eastern Health, mental health and addictions services, and the possible relocation of the Salvation Army’s community services to this site from Adams Avenue. Phase II would have also included conversion of the neighbouring Harbour Light property (12 Springdale Street) to provide 13 units of supportive, affordable housing for adults with complex needs. During 2008, NL Housing conditionally-approved \$1,200,000 under the Canada-NL Affordable Housing Initiative and \$312,000 under the Canada-NL Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program, while the Salvation Army planned to contribute \$250,000 along with the value of the properties, estimated at \$1,000,000. However, the 2008 economic recession resulted in a Salvation Army capital development freeze across Canada, which suspended Phase II (Addressing Priorities 1 and 3);
- **Community Youth Network St. John’s: Street Reach** – to engage a Coordinator to expand outreach support to assist youth in finding long term solutions to homelessness. The Coordinator provided human resources to carry out follow up supports for individuals met primarily through the Street Reach Program. Youth 16-29 were encouraged to connect with the Outreach Support Facilitator during daytime hours for individualized supports. Street Reach is an innovative outreach service established in 2005 in downtown St. John’s. It operates from a harm reduction approach and provides individualized support and services to youth and adults who are street entrenched. Since the inception of Street Reach, the service has provided 4,997 services to 2,534 individual contacts. The HPS provided \$45,867 for this project (Addressing Priority 3);
- **St. John’ Community Advisory Committee on Homelessness: Community Development** – employing a Community Development Worker to serve the Committee and the community in addressing its priorities under the Community Plan for Addressing Homelessness, including proposal development, project development assistance, partnership development and collaboration, outreach, communications and awareness, training and education, and shaping policy. The position is administered by Stella Burry Community Services. HPS provided \$281,060 for this project during 2007-2008, which includes \$40,000 for Committee capacity-building, \$19,000 for coordination of the new St. John’s Housing & Homelessness Network and \$15,000 for the Committee’s Growing Homes publication during 2008 (Addressing Priority 4);
- **Stella Burry Community Services: NL Regional Data Coordination** – the NL Statistics Agency (NLSA) worked closely with the St. John’s CAB, the Transition House Association of NL (THANL) and the St. John’s Housing & Homelessness Network during 2008-2009 to complete this \$95,350 HPS Homelessness Knowledge Development Program (HKDP) project. HPS provided \$50,000, and the NLSA provided \$45,350 in kind. Through the project, the NLSA directed data coordination and data development among CAB and THANL community groups who utilize the Homeless Individuals & Families Information System (HIFIS). Specifically, NLSA helped all stakeholders improve data collection techniques, create consistency among existing variables, and create new surveys, data systems and data frameworks that support the research and analysis of homeless and at-risk populations (Addressing Priority 4).

## Community Plan Priorities & Investments (2009-2010):

The Community Advisory Committee approved a February 2009 recommendation by its Funding Committee to extend the Community Plan's 2007-2008 priorities for the 2009-2010 HPS program renewal timeframe. Based on the priorities below, an HPS Call for Proposals was advertised June 6/09 in *The Telegram*, with proposals due July 6/09. The resulting projects are described on the following pages.

St. John's, NL	HPS Designated Communities	
	(\$)	(%)
<b>HPS funding to be distributed to projects</b>	1,394,850	100.00%
<b>Priorities funded under the HPS</b>		
<b>Priority #1:</b> <i>Affordable and supportive housing continues to be a need for seniors, women, youth, families and single adults with complex needs.</i>	697,425	50%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Objective:</u> <i>To provide new supportive housing linked to inclusive and encompassing services for any of the following homeless or hidden homeless populations: youth, women, and single adults with complex needs.</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Priority #2:</b> <i>An emergency shelter for homeless women, linked to a continuum of housing and supports is needed.</i>	209,227	15%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Objective:</u> <i>To provide a new emergency shelter for women over the age of 30 – including women with complex needs – linked to a continuum of housing and supports.</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Priority #3:</b> <i>Innovative outreach services linking homeless persons to housing and supports are needed.</i>	209,227	15%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Objective:</u> <i>To support innovative, community-based outreach services that link homeless persons to housing and individualized supports (health, education, employment).</i></li> </ul>		
<b>Priority #4:</b> <i>Community development is needed to build the capacity of supportive housing providers, homeless services and their partners in St. John's.</i>	278,970	20%
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li><u>Objective:</u> <i>To build the capacity of supportive housing and homeless service providers and their partners, through skill building/training designed to enhance service planning and delivery, coordination and partnerships, communication, innovation and quality.</i></li> </ul>		

## Homelessness Partnering Strategy Projects Approved (2009-2010):

- **St. John' Community Advisory Committee on Homelessness: Community Development** – employing a Community Development Worker to serve the Committee and the community in addressing its priorities under the Community Plan for Addressing Homelessness, including proposal development, project development assistance, partnership development and collaboration, outreach, communications and awareness, training and education, and shaping policy. The position is administered by Stella Burry Community Services. HPS provided \$501,735 for this project during 2009-2010, which includes \$224,638 for the following activities: \$93,638 for special projects of CAB members (see below for details), \$82,000 for CAB capacity-building (training, service enhancement, coordination), \$30,000 for Growing Homes (homelessness communications and data development), and \$19,000 for coordination of the St. John's Housing & Homelessness Network during 2009 (Addressing Priority 4);
- **Community Development: Special Projects** – providing a total of \$93,638 in funding to the following CAB member projects during 2010 (Addressing Priority 4):
  - ✓ **Complex Needs Cost Analysis (Eastern Health): \$10,000 HPS funding** to assist NavNet (Eastern Health) with the completion of a cost analysis that measured how much it costs service delivery systems to offer supports to a group of individuals in the St. John's area with multiple and complex needs. These individuals use multiple systems on a regular and frequent basis, and are not being served well by various government departments and community organizations. Eastern Health contributed \$13,000 towards the analysis, completed during Summer 2010, under the guidance of the NavNet Committee;
  - ✓ **Home-Sharing Phase I Development (Seniors Resource Centre): \$10,000 HPS funding** to assist the Seniors Resource Centre NL (SRC) to develop an implementation framework and tools for a proposed Home Sharing initiative to engage, match and support seniors and student/young adults who wish to maintain or acquire stable and affordable housing in the St. John's area. During Summer-Fall 2010, the SRC and its partners completed a feasibility study of Home-Sharing. SRC secured \$40,000 to complete this work, undertaken under the guidance of the Home-Sharing steering committee. The HPS funds will support the SRC in implementing the initiative once the feasibility report is completed;
  - ✓ **Wiseman Centre Shelter Kitchen Renovations (Salvation Army): \$17,030 HPS funding** for the Salvation Army (Downtown Core Ministries, St. John's) to complete kitchen renovations in its Wiseman Centre men's shelter. Elements of the renovation included the following costs,: a \$5,730 stove, a \$4,300 two-door cooler, and a \$7,000 kitchen counter-top. The renovations were completed during Summer-Fall 2010;
  - ✓ **Shawnadithit Shelter Appliances (St. John's Native Friendship Centre): \$7,400 HPS funding** for the St. John's Native Friendship Centre Association to acquire appliances for its Shawnadithit shelter. The purchased appliances included: a \$1,300 clothes washer, a \$600 clothes dryer, a \$2,500 dish-washer, and \$3,000 two-door cooler. The appliances were acquired during Summer-Fall 2010;

- ✓ **Young Parents' Supportive Housing Design Concept (Choices for Youth): \$10,000 HPS funding** to assist Choices for Youth (CFY) with the completion of a physical design concept for a proposed young parents' supportive housing project. CFY engaged an architect to complete the work during Fall 2010, drawing from the results of program design and physical design charrettes convened by CFY in February and June 2010, respectively;
  - ✓ **Streets to Homes Model Development – Street-Reach (Community Youth Network): \$11,000 HPS funding** for the Community Youth Network (St. John's) to engage a consultant to interview stakeholders and facilitate a community forum to explore the application of elements of Toronto's Streets to Homes model, identified by local partners during Winter 2010 CYN consultations; including the provision of I.D. services and the establishment of a furniture bank for homeless and at risk individuals. The consultant will prepare a report based on the interviews and community forum. The proposed activities will be completed by March 2011;
  - ✓ **Specialized Supportive Housing Model for Women Offenders Returning to St. John's (Stella Burry Community Services): \$14,163 HPS funding** for Stella Burry Community Services (SBCS) to assist with the completion of a specialized supportive housing model for with correctional histories returning to St. John's. SBCS is partnering with Correctional Services Canada to host a facilitated forum of stakeholders in February 2011 to delineate a model for housing, supports and partnerships/resources required to provide long-term housing stability in the St. John's community for the target population. The proposed work will be completed by March 2011.
- **Community Youth Network St. John's: Street Reach** – to employ a Coordinator to expand outreach support to assist youth in finding long term solutions to homelessness. The Coordinator provides human resources to carry out follow up supports for individuals met primarily through the Street Reach Program. Youth 16-29 are encouraged to connect with the Outreach Support Facilitator during daytime hours for individualized supports. Street Reach is an innovative outreach service established in 2005 in downtown St. John's. It operates from a harm reduction approach and provides individualized support and services to youth and adults who are street entrenched. Since the inception of Street Reach, the service has provided 4,997 services to 2,534 individual contacts. The HPS provided \$100,355 for this project (Addressing Priority 3);
  - **Salvation Army: New Hope Community Centre** – Redevelop the New Hope Community Centre at 18 Springdale Street by March 2011 to provide a staffing model, offices and program space to offer services, in partnership with other agencies. The Centre will enhance supportive, wrap-around and outreach services for single adults 30-64, living in downtown St. John's. HPS provided \$36,199 and \$20,482 in 2009 and 2010, respectively (Addressing Priority 3);
  - **St John's Status of Women Council: Marguerite's Place** – construction of Marguerite's Place, which provides 8 units of supportive, affordable housing for women over 30, together with an on-site support services centre for women, including the main offices of the SJSWC. The HPS provided \$403,125 in 2009-2010 (including \$200,000 approved in 2008), while NL Housing approved \$810,000 under the Canada-NL Affordable Housing Initiative, and provided land for the project at 170 Cashin Avenue Extension. NL's Green Fund provided \$140,000 through the Department of Environment & Conservation to maximize the building's energy efficiency. The Rotary Club of St. John's Northwest provided an additional \$25,000 (total of \$50,000); the United Way of Avalon contributed \$47,500; and VOCM Cares contributed \$10,000. The previously-approved low-interest

construction loan of \$500,000 from the Canadian Alternative Investment Co-operative is in place to cover any project capital shortfall. The NL Credit Union approved a smaller amount of financing based on existing equity from SJSWC's affordable housing property at 83 Military Road, which will also be directed towards the project. Marguerite's Place was completed in 2011 (Addressing Priorities 1, 2 and 3);

- **Seniors Resource Centre: Seniors in Crisis: Identification and Implementation of Services for Newfoundland and Labrador** – To complete a need and demand analysis during 2010 of existing services and facilities for seniors in housing crisis (both genders), to identify gaps within these services and make recommendations for needed services and facilities. It is anticipated that the comprehensive study will reveal the need to provide coordinated services as well as emergency and secondary housing for seniors who are in crisis. HPS provided \$25,000 for this project, which also received CMHC Seed Funding (Addressing Priority 1, 3 and 4);
- **Choices for Youth: Housing & Homelessness Network** – To support the coordination and expansion of the St. John's Housing and Homelessness Network (SJHNN), with the goal of establishing a provincial network – a goal which was achieved in October 2009. The St. John's Housing and Homelessness Network was formed in 2007 and its successor, the NL Housing & Homelessness Network, has a membership of 150 representatives from community and government organizations working collaboratively and creatively to address housing and homelessness issues in NL. Choices for Youth received \$95,450 from the HPS for this initiative. The Network employs a Director, Coordinator and Administrator, and provides members the opportunity for knowledge enhancement, capacity development and connectivity among key stakeholders (Addressing Priority 4);
- **Choices for Youth: NL Housing & Homelessness Network, Pleasantville Social Enterprise** – To provide capital funds for a 5,000 square foot space in a new City of St. John's social housing development on Surplus Federal Property for Homelessness Initiative lands, in partnership with NL Housing, Cabot Habitat for Humanity, and the Easter Seals Society of NL. The new space will house the NL Housing & Homelessness Network, a new provincial training coordination centre for the supportive housing and homelessness service sector (and the broader non-profit sector), and social enterprise space to serve local residents in the new affordable housing community. HPS is providing \$100,000 towards this project (Addressing Priorities 2 and 4);
- **Choices for Youth: Purchase of 261 Duckworth Street** – To acquire an existing office building to provide critically required program space for a number of new initiatives which are designed to have a substantial impact on the needs of youth struggling with housing and homelessness issues in our community due to their complex needs. The primary focus of all of these initiatives is to impact on the ability of those served to achieve greater success in finding and maintaining long term sustainable housing options, through a combination of *intensive supportive programming* focusing on the areas of mental health, addictions, and the employment and training needs of youth. Programs operating at this new location include the Moving Forward Program, the NL Housing and Homelessness Network, an Addictions Focused Outreach Team, and the Train for Trades Program. There is also an administrative team at this site. HPS provided \$400,000 for this project (Addressing Priorities 3 and 4);
- **Choices for Youth: Young Parents Supportive Housing Charrettes** – To partner with Daybreak Parent Child Centre and other community partners to complete a multi-faceted planning process for a new model of housing and supports for pregnant and parenting young women. As a first step, the



proponents sent a delegation of partners to visit similar existing programs in the greater Toronto area during Fall 2009. The proponents then facilitated a two-phase charrette process: the first focused on the final program elements of the new facility (Feb 2010), followed by a second charrette on the physical design requirements. (Spring 2010). HPS provided \$40,000 for this project (Addressing Priorities 1, 3 and 4);

- **Choices for Youth: Forging a Community of Practice – A Sustainable Homelessness Data System for NL** – Flowing directly from the recommendations of the 2008-2009 HPS Homelessness Knowledge Development Program-funded NL Regional Data Coordination project, the NL Housing & Homelessness Network (NLHHN) engaged the NLSA to create a data communications and engagement strategy involving data users, managers and developers; and continued to direct data coordination among these Newfoundland and Labrador partners using HIFIS (Homeless Individuals & Families Information System). The NLSA worked with these partners to improve data collection techniques, create consistency among existing variables, and create new surveys and frameworks that support the research and analysis of homeless and at-risk populations. Most importantly, the NLSA and NLHHN worked together through the HKDP project to forge a community of practice to sustain an ongoing homelessness data development system for Newfoundland & Labrador. The project was conducted through online and face to face workshops with data users. This \$170,814 project received \$94,528 from the HPS HKDP, and \$76,286 in kind from the NLSA (Addressing Priority 4).

## Community Plan Priorities & Investments (2011-2013)

In January 2011, the Community Advisory Committee approved a new Community Plan for 2011-2013. Based on the priorities below, an HPS Call for Proposals was advertised October 15/11 in *The Telegram*, with proposals due December 2/11. The resulting projects are described on the following pages.

Priority #	Priority	% of HPS Funding
1	A continuum of appropriate supportive housing for the following homeless or hidden homeless populations: seniors, women, youth, single-parent families, and single adults with multiple and complex needs, including people with disabilities.	55%
2	Enhanced access to appropriate housing for those who are homeless or at-risk of homelessness who face discrimination, including but not limited to: Aboriginals, youth, single-parent families, and people with disabilities, complex needs, or HIV/AIDS.	10%
3	Outreach and engagement services that link homeless and at-risk persons to housing and individualized employment, education and health supports.	15%
4	Community development to enhance knowledge, awareness, planning, partnerships, coordination, resources and services among the private, public and community sectors, to prevent and reduce homelessness.	20%