



City of Peterborough

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Peterborough, ON --

New Homelessness Prevention Opportunities

The Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Program (CHPP) is funded by the Ministry of Community and Social Services to address issues of homelessness. The City of Peterborough, as the Consolidated Municipal Service Manager is responsible for ensuring the CHPP funding is utilized in accordance with the CHPP goals and guidelines. Homelessness prevention programs can focus on any or all of the following objectives to reduce homelessness in the community.

- ❖ To improve access to and connect people that are homeless with the system of community services;
- ❖ To support people experiencing homelessness to obtain and keep longer-term housing and,
- ❖ To assist people at-risk of homelessness to retain their current housing.

The City of Peterborough Social Services Division is pleased to announce four new initiatives that CHPP funding will support:

- 1) Brock Mission will be providing a "Semi-Independent Living Program" out of the Cameron House emergency women's shelter. This program will see the development of eight independent living units in Cameron House. Residents of the emergency shelter will be able to transition from emergency shelter to an independent living space. The resident in the semi-independent living space will be responsible for paying rent each month and will be able to access the supports and services of Cameron House to assist them to transition to independent living. Cameron House is currently undergoing renovations to accommodate this program and temporary arrangements have been made for Cameron House shelter and semi-independent living residents to stay at an alternate location until the renovations are completed. CHPP funds for this program are committed through to December 2011.
- 2) The Community Counselling and Resource Centre will be implementing the "Reducing Rural Poverty and Homelessness Project". The purpose of this program will be to create an emergency assistance fund dedicated to rural residents. The program will develop Outreach Centres to increase access for rural residents and clients of Our Space Drop In Centre. This program will operate until March 2011.

The Community Counselling and Resource Centre will also receive CHPP funding for 2009 to assist with issuing emergency funds for both City and County residents.

- 3) The Rural Outreach Centre will receive CHPP funding for 2009 to assist with crisis calls from rural individuals in need, the cost of running the rural emergency shelter and costs for clients to get to and from Kawartha Food Share and other necessary appointments.

- 4) The Youth Emergency Shelter (YES) will receive CHPP funding for 2009 to provide the Transitional Life Skills program to Ontario Works youth that are staying at the shelter.

We are looking forward to the excellent work our community agencies will be providing to our community. Ending homelessness requires a coordinated effort directed at prevention, emergency relief, re-housing and stabilizing households. These programs will work towards connecting people to existing community resources and assist households at risk of, or currently experiencing homelessness to find and maintain housing.

- 30 -

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