Built for Zero Peterborough (BFZ-Ptbo) is a group of local organizations committed to ending chronic homelessness by December 31st, 2025. We have been a part of the Built for Zero Canada national change movement since its launch in 2019. Each month we will share local statistics on homelessness in our community.

At least 300 people were experiencing homelessness in Peterborough City and County in February. Of those, 156 people had been chronically homeless for six months or more in the last year. In February, there were 17 more people experiencing chronic homelessness than in January.

In February, 24 people moved from homelessness into housing. 29% of them had experienced chronic homelessness.

In 2021, 251 shifts from homelessness to housing happened. 35% of these shifts were from chronic homelessness.

 MONTHLY MYTH BUSTER

MYTH: People Choose to Be Homeless

People who move into housing may have found somewhere to rent, returned to their previous housing, entered long term care, or decided to live with family or friends.

Many factors contribute to people experiencing homelessness, including economic & social issues, failures in systems of care, and individual factors. This can be anything from family breakdown to affordable housing or inadequate supports when exiting other systems.
EMERGENCY SHELTER STATISTICS FOR FEBRUARY 2022

Average Shelter System Occupancy: 92%
Unique Individuals Sheltered this month: 172
Average People Sheltered per Night: 84

For more information on emergency shelter options in the city visit our Emergency Shelter webpage.

UNDERSTANDING CHRONIC HOMELESSNESS

Each month BFZ-Ptbo will share details about the number of people experiencing homelessness in our community. By taking a close look at the data each month, we can start to:

• Focus on the facts (what we know), rather than the narrative (what we think).
• Adjust our services based on current events.
• See what needs to be done to end homelessness.
• Improve the lives of people experiencing homelessness.

Inflow – People Added to our Chronic Homelessness Number

21 People became chronically homeless.
Some have been in our system before and some we met for the first time.

17 People got back in touch.
After having not been heard from in 90 days or more. Some returned to town, or met the definition of chronically homeless again.

2 People lost their housing.
They have been in our homelessness system before, secured housing, and then lost that housing.

Outflow – People Removed from our Chronic Homelessness Number

7 People moved into housing.
These people moved into housing (rental units, living with family, long term care, etc.).

16 People lost touch.
These people have not been heard from in 90 days or more, have left town, no longer meet the definition of chronic homelessness, or have died.

Want to learn more? Visit www.peterborough.ca/roadtozero to find fact sheets about homelessness and past reports.