



Overview of Homelessness Initiatives

- Oversee and lead the implementation of Starting at Home in Medicine Hat: Our 5 Year Plan to End Homelessness, which is in alignment with Alberta's 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness
- The foundation of the plan and service delivery is based on a housing first philosophy and approach, meaning that everyone has a right to a home with no preconditions
- Homelessness initiatives in the community are funded via the MHCHS Homeless & Housing Development Department (HHDD) through outcomes based grants provided by provincial/federal governments and donors
- Funding recommendations are vetted through the Community Council on Homelessness (CCH)
- \$3.4m annual grant funding to community (\$2.3m Provincial and \$319k Federal)
- Appointment to the Alberta Interagency Council on Homelessness, established by Premier Alison Redford in February 2013
- Services are provided in the community focused on advocacy and building community capacity of end homelessness
- 1036 formerly homeless individuals have been housed, including 309 children since April 1st 2009
- Community partners funded through provincial dollars include the Canadian Mental Health Association, Medicine Hat Women's Shelter Society, the MHCHS outreach department and McMan
- Community Partners funded through federal dollars include the Canadian Mental Health Association, McMan, MHCHS Outreach Department and the Miywasin Society of Aboriginal Services
- Graduate Rental Assistance Initiative (GRAI) provides financial supports to participants that have graduated from the Housing First and Rapid Re-Housing Programs
- Interim housing introduced in 2013 to ensure that participants of housing first programs are not returning to shelter inappropriately

