

Simcoe County

Homelessness Coordinated Access System

A **Coordinated Access System** is a community-wide strategy to help prevent homelessness and match individuals and families experiencing homelessness to housing and support resources.

Using a **Housing First approach**, participating agencies in Simcoe County's Homeless Services and Supports System work together to **assess** people's housing-related needs and **connect** them to available supports to find and keep housing.



Serving People Who Are Experiencing Homelessness

This includes individual and families who are:

1. **Unsheltered** (sleeping outside, in vehicle, etc.)
2. **Emergency Sheltered**
3. **Temporarily Sheltered** (couch surfing, motel, etc.)



Community Access Points and Common Assessment

Agencies trained to **identify and assess** people experiencing homelessness, and are working with them to:

1. **Divert** from emergency shelter where possible.
2. Complete a Simcoe County **Common Intake Form**.
3. **Assess needs** and **make connections** to appropriate service provider(s).



Simcoe County By-Name List (BNL)

Once the Common Intake has been completed, people are added to the **By-Name List**: a real-time, up-to-date list of all people experiencing homelessness who have accessed services through Simcoe County's Homeless Services and Supports System. The BNL helps community partners **know every person** experiencing homelessness by name, **understand their unique needs**, and then **prioritize them** for the most appropriate and available housing supports.



Matching to Available Resources

Our BNL matches dedicated **support and housing resources** as they become available, prioritized to meet an individual or family's **depth of need**. These resources can include affordable, supportive, or transitional housing, rent supplements, support workers, financial assistance, housing search support, and more.



Beginning the End of Homelessness.

This resource was adapted from the Kawartha Lakes and County of Haliburton Built For Zero team.

REACHING HOME

Canada's Homelessness Strategy is a community-based program aimed at preventing and reducing homelessness.



As of 2019, the Federal Reaching Home Strategy and Funding replaces the previous Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS). This strategy is community-based, and prioritizes coordinated access. With this new strategy come **two new terms**:

Functional Zero

To measure our progress, Built For Zero communities are working toward **Functional Zero**, defined where **chronic homelessness** accounts for **3 or less** of the people on our **By-Name List**. This definition acknowledges that homelessness will still occur but with the hope that episodes will be infrequent, brief, and non-recurring.

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Chronic Homelessness (Redefined)

Chronic Homelessness is now defined as experiencing homelessness for 180+ days of the last year, **and/or**, 2+ episodes over 18+ of the last 36 months.



As part of the transition from The Homelessness Partnering Strategy to Reaching Home, and as we roll out Coordinated Access as a Built For Zero community, the role of SCATEH is changing.

As of September 2019, the SCATEH Steering Committee is become the Reaching Home Community Advisory Board (CAB) and oversee the rollout of Coordinated Access alongside the Indigenous CAB, and the County of Simcoe in their dual role as Reaching Home Community Entity (CE) and Municipal Service Manager.

The Steering Committee will also provide more steering for the chapters, which will become the primary way to connect to the Alliance.