

Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Local groups receive \$4.9 million for homelessness programs in Hamilton

HAMILTON, ONTARIO—The Community Advisory Board on Homelessness in Hamilton is pleased to announce funding for 17 projects in Hamilton totaling close to \$4.9 million to address and alleviate homelessness. Funding for these projects comes from the Government of Canada's Supporting Communities Partnership Initiative (SCPI).

All of the funded projects are recommended in the Community Action Plan on Homelessness, which guides the administration of the SCPI funds. Six projects will provide services that support people who are at risk of becoming homeless. Five others will help in construction and repairs at five shelters that serve people who are homeless in this community. Funding has also been provided to support the Emergency Shelter Foundation of Hamilton-Wentworth (Second Stage Services).

"We are pleased to be able to support prevention initiatives as well as emergency shelter services," stated Lindsey George, Chair of the Community Advisory Board on Homelessness. "In the long run, the community will be better off if we can effectively help people avoid becoming homeless."

"No one level of government can deal with homelessness on their own," said the Honourable Sheila Copps, Minister of Canadian Heritage and Member of Parliament for Hamilton East, on behalf of the Honourable Claudette Bradshaw, Minister of Labour and Federal Co-ordinator on Homelessness. "I am very pleased that community groups in Hamilton are so committed to this issue."

The SCPI is part of a \$753 million investment by the federal government, announced in December 1999, to help alleviate and prevent homelessness across Canada. In total, \$12.9 million is available for initiatives in Hamilton to March 31, 2003. In 2000, \$432,000 in funding was approved to increase services for the homeless in Hamilton to meet urgent winter safety needs.

Another request for applications is planned for the fall. The timing of this request will be announced in August.

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BACKGROUNDER

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Federal Riding	Project Type Agency, Project Title, Description	Amount
	Urgent Need	
Hamilton West	Emergency Shelter Foundation of Hamilton-Wentworth: Second Stage Services Nine months of funding to allow the agency to deliver services and develop a plan for longer term sustainability.	\$108,000
	Prevention	
Hamilton West	Salvation Army: Health Service Nurse practitioner on site at Booth Centre during evening hours.	\$123,164
Hamilton West	Salvation Army: Soup Van Van providing food and contact to people on the streets.	\$89,485
Hamilton West	Salvation Army: Share the Warmth Assistance to residents who are applying for the Share the Warmth program, which helps low-income families and individuals pay utility bills.	\$18,350
Hamilton West	Salvation Army: Moving and Storage Storage area and moving service for low-income individuals and families.	\$216,617
Hamilton East	Food Share: Resource Development Staff to expand food raising capacity of agency.	\$63,050
Hamilton East	Housing Emergency Loan Program Funding to further develop the loan service to low-income families and individuals to help them avoid eviction.	\$120,000
	Innovation	
Hamilton West	Freedom House Feasibility study for independent living housing project for people with disabilities.	\$19,550

Federal Riding	Project Type Agency, Project Title, Description	Amount
Hamilton West	<p>Capital</p> <p>Native Women: New Women's Shelter Capital contribution toward acquisition of new site and construction of new shelter.</p>	\$500,000
Hamilton West	<p>Mission Services Renovation of program space, kitchen and dining facilities at men's residence.</p>	\$575,000
Hamilton West	<p>Salvation Army Fees for preparation of architectural drawings for repairs to shelter.</p>	\$60,000
Hamilton West	<p>Mary Ellis House Basic repairs to maintain safety of residents and staff.</p>	\$50,700
Hamilton West	<p>The Bridge: Bridge House Purchase and renovation of building to provide transitional housing and programming to people who are discharged from prison.</p>	\$114,825
Hamilton West	<p>Wesley Urban Ministries Construction to upgrade indoor ventilation system to improve the air quality at the Wesley Centre.</p>	\$114,000
Hamilton West	<p>Good Shepherd: Women's Centre Funding towards new shelter for homeless single women.</p>	\$2,500,000

Federal Riding	Project Type Agency, Project Title, Description	Amount
Hamilton West	General Wesley (24-hour drop in) Funding to maintain a 24-hour drop-in service for the homeless who attend the Wesley Centre.	\$140,000
Hamilton West	Urban Core: Expanded ID Clinic Expansion of ID clinic services to help individuals obtain identification required to receive service and to provide safe storage for same.	\$68,500
	Total	\$4,881,241