

## Affordable Housing

### At Home and Beyond: John Howard Society of Fredericton (Nov 2014)

The John Howard Society of Fredericton, in partnership with the UNB Community Nursing program and TD Financial, delivered a ten week group-based training program to help formerly chronic and episodically homeless individuals develop the skill sets required to maintain long-term housing. This program, *At Home and Beyond Program* (AHBP), aims to reduce evictions and rejections of housing, by supporting recently housed individuals transitioning from situations of homelessness.

JHS provided training to individuals who are at medium to high risk of housing loss. Included in this 40 hour training program is practical information on essential topics, including:

- Tenant and Landlord Rights and Obligations
- Home Maintenance
- Nutrition and Food Production
- Chronic Health Issues and Care
- Communicating Skills: problem solving and negotiations
- Financial Planning and Management
- Social Inclusion and Participation

To further build a sense of belonging in their broader communities, participants were assisted in engaging in participatory activities such as, volunteerism, employment, and involvement in community activities. Handout materials, developed with input from participants, have since been shared with other service organizations and included as inserts in Community Food Smart bulk food produce bags.



### 20,000 Homes Campaign: Fredericton's Registry Week: Capital Region Mental Health & Addictions Association ( March 2015)

Inspired by the successful [100,000 Homes Campaign](#) in the United States, the 20,000 [Homes Campaign](#) is being launched this year as a national movement to permanently house 20,000 of Canada's most vulnerable homeless people by July 1, 2018. Fredericton will be participating in this campaign beginning in June 2015.



Enrolling in the 20,000 Homes Campaign serves to achieve many outcomes, including:

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- capturing important point of time date on the state of homelessness in Fredericton
- engaging a wide variety of related agencies in creating a common database on homelessness upon which to refer
- training volunteers in interviewing skills, some of whom will have had past personal experience with homelessness
- raising awareness of the issues and reality of homelessness, for volunteers, agencies and the general public
- creating a base of documented personal stories and film footage to support future awareness campaigns and fund raising efforts of the CAGH
- focusing energies on uncovering the extent of “hidden homelessness”, particularly for youth

Teams of trained volunteers will canvass the community to complete voluntary surveys with homeless individuals (e.g. staying in shelters or transitional housing, sleeping outdoors). This is done in order to learn the names of everyone who is homeless and to connect people to housing and supports. Results are then input into a national data base and local results are analyzed.

Throughout the week, the CAGH will engage media partners to share highlights of the campaign which will inform the community about the issues and reality of homelessness in our community.