



**Homelessness  
Reduction**

Innovation Fund



Canadian Alliance to  
**End Homelessness**

**Information Session · July 9, 2025**



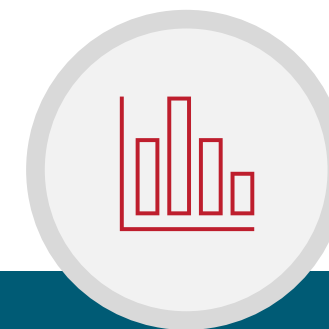
### **Advocacy, Campaigns & Policy**

To end homelessness, we need to change policy and public opinion. We work with communities and governments to develop effective policies, while building public support for ending homelessness.



### **Community Impact**

We partner with and support communities to build local homeless response systems aimed at reducing and ending homelessness. Our approach includes coaching, training, systems development, peer learning, and ongoing tailored community support.



### **Data & Strategy**

We work with local communities and partners to create solutions to reduce homelessness by providing data insights, tracking trends, creating resources and mobilizing knowledge towards ending homelessness.

## **The Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness**

The Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness works to prevent and end homelessness by helping to build effective community response systems and campaigning for the policy changes needed for everyone to have a place to call home.

### **National Conference on Ending Homelessness**

Every year, the National Conference on Ending Homelessness brings together over 2000 people from across the sector to engage and learn from each other, accelerating the end of homelessness in their communities.



# Land Acknowledgement

From coast to coast to coast, we acknowledge the ancestral territory of all the Inuit, Métis, and First Nations people that call this land home. We recognize the historic and ongoing impacts of colonization and are committed to decolonization of our systems and ongoing reconciliation, guided in our work by the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, the TRC Calls to Action, MMIWG Calls to Justice and the principles of empowerment and self-determination.

The Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness is committed to equity, dignity, justice, and belonging. We are dedicated to serving equity-seeking communities as anti-racist, anti-oppressive and inclusive allies.

# Today's Agenda

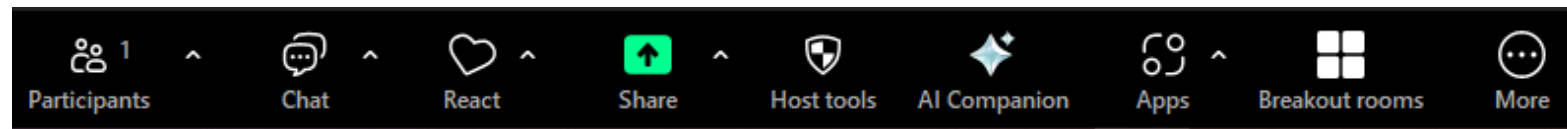
|   |            |
|---|------------|
| HRIF Overview                               | 15 Minutes |
| Answering Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) | 15 Minutes |
| Questions from Participants                 | 30 Minutes |





# Housekeeping

- Session will be recorded and made available afterward
- Everyone is muted
- Use Q&A or chat for questions

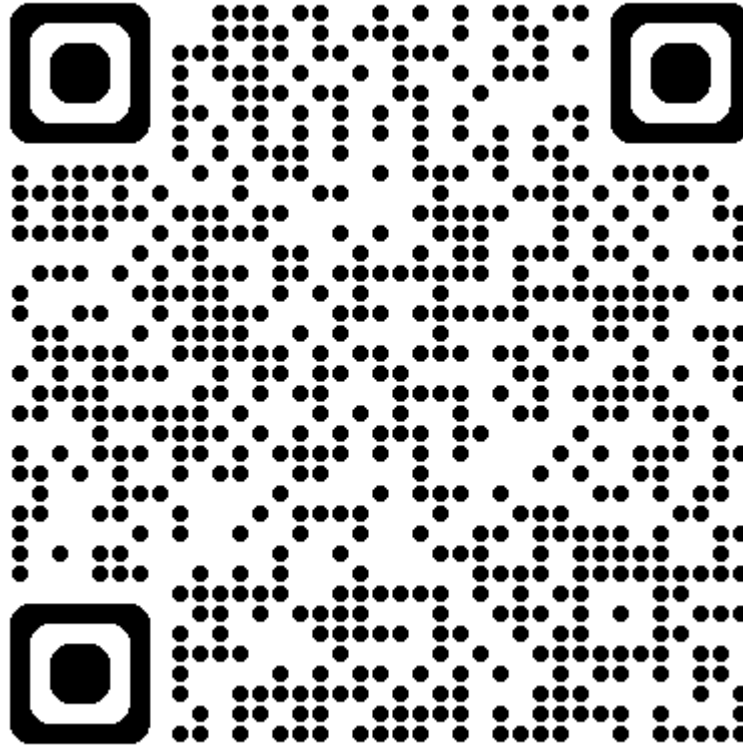


# Info Sessions

- **English:** July 9, 2025 at 2:00PM ET
- **French:** July 10, 2025 at 2:00PM ET
- **Indigenous Homelessness Community Entities:** July 16, 2025 at 2:00 PM ET – [Register here](#)

Led by the [National Indigenous Homelessness Council](#), this will be an opportunity to learn about the opportunities and implications of being funded through HRIF, including topics related to Quality by-name data (QBND) and data governance, project design and evaluation, as well as narrative sovereignty and knowledge-sharing. This information session is for all Indigenous-led organizations and CEs funded through Reaching Home's Indigenous Homelessness Stream (including those that receive both Indigenous Homelessness and Designated Community funding).

<https://caeh.ca/homelessness-reduction-innovation-fund/>



# What is the Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund (HRIF)?

- Administered by the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness, HRIF provides one-time grants for innovative, data-driven projects aimed at achieving measurable reductions in homelessness.
- CAEH will offer one-on-one guidance and coaching to communities on their initiatives and share successful approaches with other communities across the country.

HRIF is part of the federal government's commitment to Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy, as announced in Budget 2024.



# Eligibility

- An **Expression of Interest (EOI)** will be used to assess eligibility and project suitability for HRIF. Based on EOI responses, communities **may be invited** to complete an application.
- To be eligible for the Homelessness Reduction Innovation Fund (HRIF), communities (outside Quebec\*) must be:
  - the Reaching Home Community Entity (CE) for the Designated Community (DC) stream, and/or
  - the Indigenous Homelessness (IH) stream, and/or
  - the Territorial Homelessness (TH) stream, and/or
  - the community lead organization participating in Built for Zero – Canada (BFZ-C).

# Eligibility

- Communities must also be able to demonstrate:
  - An **improvement project** aimed at reducing homelessness by increasing move-ins to housing or decreasing inflow to homelessness for the chosen target population.
  - **Quality By-Name Data (QBND)** for their project's target population(s) (confirmed by CAEH).
- CAEH will share learnings and successes from funded projects with other communities across the country. Funded projects commit to sharing their learnings, outcomes, and project data with CAEH. Communities must be able and willing to share QBND with CAEH monthly (at minimum).

# Target Populations

- Eligible target populations for the purposes of HRIF projects include:
  - Chronic Homelessness (including single adults, youth, families, Indigenous populations experiencing chronic homelessness)
  - Veteran Homelessness
  - Unsheltered Homelessness
  - All homelessness (including single adults, youth, families, Indigenous populations)



# Key Dates

- **July 14, 2025** – Expression of Interest submission period opens
- **August 15, 2025** – Expression of Interest submission period closes at 4:00 pm ET.
- **September 2, 2025** – Invitations to complete an application will be extended. Communities will also be informed if they were not selected to receive an application
- **September 26, 2025** – Applications are due by 4:00 pm ET.
- **October 24, 2025** – Applicants will be informed of decision.
- **Target of early 2026** – Expression of Interest submission period opens for next round of HRIF.

# Frequently Asked Questions





# How much funding is available to communities through the HRIF?

- Funding for each project is decided on a **case-by-case basis** and depends on factors such as what resources each community requires to achieve their project aim.
- The HRIF is intended to provide **one-time grants** to obtain “proof of concept” for chosen projects. Applicants should consider the sustainability of projects beyond the project end.

# How will projects be selected for funding?

1. Expressions of Interest (EOI) are used to assess eligibility and project suitability. Projects that meet criteria may be invited to apply.
2. CAEH Improvement Advisor(s) will work with successful EOI proponents to develop a full application. The National Indigenous Homelessness Council (NIHC) may also provide support.
3. Applications will be reviewed by a committee of representatives from CAEH with support from NIHC and outside experts.
4. Final approval will be made by CAEH.

# Eligible Expenses

- Projects are expected to last up to 12 months
- Projects may target any activity eligible under Reaching Home but must focus on system-level interventions that are sustainable beyond HRIF's funding
- This project will not support capital expenses such as property acquisitions or new builds; however, smaller capital expenses (e.g., renovations) may be considered on a case-by-case basis.

# Eligible Projects

## **Can my project target more than one population?**

- Yes, projects may target more than one population. Communities will be asked to specify the target population(s) of your improvement project as part of the Expression of Interest.

## **Can my project target more than one inflow or outflow data point?**

- Only pick one data point per project. If your project aims to address more than one data point through the same intervention or change, pick the data point that it primarily aims to address.

# Can a community that received funding in a previous round of HRIIF apply again?

- Communities may apply for a project aimed at reducing homelessness for a different target population, through improving a different inflow or outflow data point, or by scaling a project to test a new approach or change.
- However, communities cannot apply for additional funding to sustain an existing project.



# What is an improvement project aimed at reducing homelessness?

- HRIF is for projects that aim to reduce homelessness by **increasing outflow** to housing or **decreasing inflow** into homelessness.
- Communities are encouraged to lead projects that:
  - ✓ set Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant, and Time-Bound (SMART) aims
  - ✓ use data to drive project design and measure outcomes, support identification and/or solutions of system inequities
  - ✓ Follow short, iterative Plan-Do-Study-Act (PDSA) cycles
  - ✓ are innovative in their community or across approaches to reduce homelessness
  - ✓ present opportunities to share findings to spread reductions across the country

# What is By-Name Data?

- By-Name Data is real-time data of all known people experiencing homelessness in a community.
- It includes a robust set of data points that support coordinated access, prioritization at a household level, and an understanding of homeless inflow and outflow at a systems level. This real-time actionable data supports triage to services, system performance evaluation, and advocacy (for the policies and resources necessary to end homelessness).
- Further information and resources can be found on the [By-Name Data](#) page under “Resources” on the Built for Zero Canada website at [www.bfzcanada.ca](http://www.bfzcanada.ca).

# How are communities confirmed for having Quality By-Name Data?

CAEH reviews a community's By-Name Data Scorecard and monthly aggregate inflow and outflow data to confirm Quality By-Name Data (BND)

# What is the By-Name Data Scorecard?

- [The By-Name Data \(BND\) Scorecard](#) sets out a framework with 13 key elements for building the necessary data management and systems coordination practices to understand the movement of everyone experiencing homelessness in your community (those identified and consenting).
- The BND Scorecard is part of the Scorecards and Tools Workbook Version 4.0, released November 2024.
- For an overview, see the Scorecards and Tools Workbook 4.0 Launch ([Recording](#) and [PDF](#)), or review the [By-Name Data Scorecard Guide](#).

# How can my community be confirmed for having Quality By-Name Data (BND) on the project's target population?

- The QBND Scorecard (Version 4) addresses the components of quality data for all homelessness generally, with additional elements related to certain populations, including Veterans and those experiencing chronic and unsheltered homelessness.
- In addition to the items noted under “How are communities confirmed for having ‘Quality’ By-Name Data”, a community must complete the Scorecard elements relevant to each population to be confirmed as having Quality BND for that population (see next slide).



| Population                      | Requirements to Confirm   |
|---------------------------------|---|
| <b>Chronic homelessness</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Basic Quality BND under Version 3.0* or</li> <li>• Foundations Quality BND under <a href="#">Version 4.0</a></li> </ul>  |
| <b>Veteran homelessness</b>     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Veteran Quality BND under Version 3.0* or</li> <li>• Veteran Quality BND under Version 4.0</li> </ul>  |
| <b>Unsheltered homelessness</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Quality BND under Scorecard Version 4.0, including completion of the <i>“Additional Foundations Elements for Quality Data on Unsheltered Homelessness”</i> checklist in the Outreach Coverage &amp; Coordination Tool, and</li> <li>• At least 3 months of reliable <b>unsheltered</b> data</li> </ul> |
| <b>All homelessness</b>         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Foundations Quality By-Name Data under <a href="#">Scorecard Version 4.0</a></li> </ul>  |

# What if my community does not yet have Quality By-Name Data?

- Communities that do not yet meet the eligibility criteria outlined above are still invited to complete the Expression of Interest.
- The intention of the HRIF is to support communities' efforts to make **measurable** reductions in homelessness.
- Where eligibility criteria are not yet met, applicants are encouraged to provide context in the Expression of Interest. **While applicants must meet eligibility to receive funding, projects that don't yet qualify may receive support to strengthen future applications.**

# What if my community does not yet have Quality By-Name Data?

- If you are an IH CE that does not have QBND confirmed by CAEH but are interested in applying, please indicate that in the Expression of Interest when prompted to share more or specify.
- **Indigenous-led Community Organizations & IH CEs – July 16, 2025 at 2 PM EST – [Register here](#)**
  - This info session is for all Indigenous-led organizations and CEs funded through Reaching Home's IH-stream (including CEs that receive both IH & DC funding). Led by the [National Indigenous Homelessness Council](#), this will be an opportunity to learn about the opportunities and implications of being funded through HRIF, including topics related to QBND and data governance, project design and evaluation, as well as narrative sovereignty and knowledge sharing. Please bring your questions!

# What is meant by “increasing move-ins” and “decreasing inflow” in terms of the project aim?

- CAEH uses six data points to measure inflows and outflows to and from homelessness:
  - **Actively Homeless:** The total number of people experiencing homelessness at the end of the reporting month.
  - **Move-Ins:** The total number of people who moved into permanent housing during the reporting month AND remain housed at the end of the reporting month.
  - **Returned from Housing:** The total number of people who were previously reported as a 'move-in', lost their housing, and returned to active homelessness.
  - **Newly Identified:** The total number of people who were added to the By-Name Data for the first time during the reporting month.
  - **Aged In:** Individuals who are 'active homeless' and have met the definition of 'chronic' for the first time during the reporting month. (Note: This data point is only for communities tracking chronic data.)

Refer to the [CAEH Data Reliability Tool](#) for additional information.

# Applications

## When will I know if I've been invited to apply?

- Those who submitted an Expression of Interest will be notified if they've been invited to apply or not by September 2, 2025.

## When will I be able to express interest or apply for the next round of HRIF?

- CAEH will start the next HRIF call **in early 2026**, incorporating the learnings from previous rounds. Visit the [HRIF webpage](#) for updated information.

## If I am unsuccessful in a previous round, can I apply again for future rounds?

- Yes, applicants unsuccessful in previous rounds are invited to re-apply for later rounds, and can receive support from CAEH to improve their project proposal



# Questions?

Please use the Q&A or  
chat function in Zoom



## Homelessness Reduction

Innovation Fund

