

PROMOTING INTEGRATIVE HEALTH AND SOCIAL CARE IN ONTARIO:

A CASE STUDY OF THE HOUSING AND HOMELESSNESS FRAMEWORK STEERING GROUP



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INTRODUCTION

System integration is coming to the attention of Canadian policy-makers and service providers as a viable approach to meeting the health and wellness needs of marginalized community members, such as those who are homeless or marginally housed.

In 2014 the Central East Local Health Integration Network (CE-LHIN) partnered with Service Mangers from four Ontario-based regions to develop a “Housing and Homelessness Framework Steering Group.”

This presentation highlights the work of the group to



SERVICE MANAGERS

Legislated through the Housing Services Act (HSA), formerly the Social Housing Reform Act (SHRA); effects of devolution still felt today

Public service role, funding, establishing, administering, and creating various programs related to housing and homelessness

Report to elected councils and one or more ministries

3

Collaborate through formal and informal networks

HISTORY OF THE CENTRAL EAST LHIN



Legislated through the Local Health System Integration Act (LHSIA)

Some early public concerns related to integration, fear over loss of jobs

Work guided by Integrated Health Service Plans (IHSPs)

Collaborative working relations with funded agencies, other LHINs, and

agencies, other LHINs, and



STRATEGIC AIM

To design and implement a Housing and Homelessness Framework to guide partnerships and collaboration between the Central East LHIN and Service Managers in the delivery of housing and homelessness services by 2024 to:

- Improve access to high-quality, timely, equitable services to support residents in securing and maintaining safe, affordable and accessible housing with health and social support;
- Promote health and social equity across populations and communities;

ETHNOGRAPHIC RESEARCH

 CentralEastLHIN
@CentralEastLHIN

#LHIN staff and Municipal Service Managers present on shared Housing & Homelessness Framework bit.ly/1vhjZYU
pic.twitter.com/hHEfkqwnbz
2014-09-24 1:12:09 PM



Began with a tweet!

Funded by the Canadian Institutes of Health Research through Trent University

Interviews (8 SMs, 3 CE-LHIN)
Document Analysis
Participant Observation
Document Mapping

Reflective participation



STEERING COMMITTEE

Originated with the 10-year housing and homelessness plans and an invitation

Previously limited engagement

Developed a joint “Guiding Principles and Terms of Reference” Document (described as long, involved, but worth it)

7 Interested in understanding each other’s processes and pressures

STEERING COMMITTEE NEXT STEPS



Developing joint strategies to address intersections of health, housing, and homelessness

Identify trends more broadly across the central east region

Solidify work plan and add evaluation component

Continue to evolve

ADVICE TO OTHER GROUPS

1. Develop a guiding document
2. Have a local focus, but build on the work of others
3. Get to know one another
4. Start with a low-key introduction
5. Be clear about your abilities and expectations
6. Remember that words can have multiple interpretations
7. Bring something to the table
8. Consider the time of year and its

REPORT & TOOLKIT



The report details the findings of the ethnographic study

The toolkit contains:

- ✓ The guiding principles and terms of reference document
 - ✓ A sample meeting agenda
 - ✓ A list of questions and issues to consider
- Will be made freely available on the Homeless Hub**



THANK-YOU!

