

## Homeless Prevention Strategic Priority 2: Housing Retention

### What's been happening?

- The Community Navigator, continues to be instrumental in supporting residents with applications to housing program, Canada-Ontario Housing Benefits (COHB) and various other supports for housing and general life stabilization. The Community Navigator was able to submit 25 COHB applications for residents in the County. The approval rate of these applications was 100%.
- Through HPP funding allocations the County was able to provide rent, utility cost relief, last months rent, food security programs to many individuals in need.

### Strategic Initiatives

Through the current [Middlesex County Homeless Prevention and Housing Plan 2019 – 2024](#), Middlesex County is addressing “Housing Retention ” through the following strategic initiatives.

#### Housing Retention Strategic Initiatives

1. Build a plan and strategy around Housing First Model.
2. Explore the use of innovative programs to encourage inclusive access to rental properties, i.e. Rent Smart.
3. Work with community partners to identify and explore innovative ideas, i.e. Housing Access Centre, London Middlesex Community Housing, City of London.