

Homeless Prevention Strategic Priority 3: Supports

What's been happening?

- Through the Middlesex County Social Services and Community Partners network the sharing of information about resources for housing and support for individuals experiencing homelessness has continued to be successful in diverting and supporting people from being homeless. Twenty-four unique agencies attend the meetings or are updated via the minutes.
- The Middlesex Community Navigator has built strong relationships with each community in the County. Providing resources, supports and helping to complete engagements with 813 households experiencing homelessness to support obtaining and retaining housing, additionally the Community Navigator had engagements with 1483 households who were at risk of being homeless to remain housed.
- The Middlesex County Homelessness Action Committee continued meeting and advocating throughout 2023. The intent of the committee is to advocate and share information about the need for subsidized and affordable housing in the County. Middlesex County Homelessness Action Committee completed a needs assessment, which highlighted that affordable and supportive housing was the highest need. Other areas included food security, education for the community, education for renters and landlords and life skills for highly barriered individuals. The committee also identified the need for improvements to the Middlesex County Social Services website. The website was redesigned to be more user friendly and provide access to information and supports. A Food Bank and Meal Program calendar was created and posted on the County's website, this provides individuals and families with one document outlining the supports available in the County, it also provided MHAC with the gaps needed to be worked on in 2024.
- Working with the City of London, the County continues to advocate for more funding through the Homeless Prevention Plan. The County's Social Services department applies for any and all funding that is available through provincial, federal and/or other sources.

Strategic Initiatives

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

Supports Strategic Initiatives

1. Create an inventory of services to share with the community for better system navigation.
2. Advocate for additional support services across the County.