

Housing Strategic Priority 3: Housing Supports

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%.
- County Council and Senior Administration continue to attend delegations with Provincial Ministries and MPPs to highlight the housing and homelessness needs and gaps in the County, identify the significant growth occurring in the County and advocate for additional funding to address the strategic priorities identified in the County of Middlesex Homeless Prevention and Housing Plan.
- YOU's Next Wave Youth Centre opened 2 transitional housing spaces. These spaces fill a gap of supports for youth housing in the County. The County of Middlesex Social Services supports this initiative through HPP funding.

Strategic Initiatives

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

Housing Supports Strategic Initiatives

1. Explore supportive and specialized housing opportunities.
2. Leverage current units as transitional housing units, i.e. YOU, LMCH.
3. Advocate for additional support services across the County.
4. Explore the use of innovative programs to encourage inclusive access to housing i.e. Rent Smart.