

Housing Strategic Priority 4: Service Coordination

What's been happening?

- The County has ongoing meetings with community agencies and partners to understand the pressure the community is facing when supporting individuals that are unsheltered or at risk of being unsheltered.
- The Middlesex Homeless Action Committee (MHAC) committee met on a regular basis in 2023. The members of the committee are from various sectors; housing supports, police services, Community Navigator, County representative, community agencies and members of the community. This committee was created to advocate for more subsidized and affordable housing, as well as to increase public awareness of the homelessness situation in Middlesex County. MHAC was able to support local fundraising events regarding homelessness, and have advocated for more services in Middlesex County. MHAC completed a needs assessment of services and supports available in the county to better understand the gaps in services in the County. The key takeaways were that affordable and supportive housing are required to support individuals at risk of or who are experiencing homelessness.
- The County implemented the use of the Homeless Individuals and Family Information System (HIFIS) in 2022. The Manager of Social Services and the Community Navigator have access to the system. In 2023 discussions started with CMHA TVAMHS, YOU – Next Wave and WRRC to bring these organization on board. The three organizations will join using HIFIS in 2024.
- Middlesex County is represented at the Middlesex Situation Table (MST) by the Community Navigator and the Manager of Social Services. MST is a diverse spectrum of service providers that collaborate weekly and mobilize appropriate short-term interventions to address situations of Acutely Elevated Risk (AER). Many of the situations presented involve either homelessness, or risk of homelessness.

Strategic Initiatives

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

Service Collaboration Strategic Initiatives

1. Advocate for County access to funding to meet service goals.
2. Identify and leverage partnership opportunities with all stakeholders, i.e. local municipalities, service clubs, churches, property owners, settlement services, etc.
3. Schedule presentations to County Council from London Middlesex Community Housing and City Housing Department.
4. Coordinate activities between stakeholders.