

Seven agencies provide follow-up services. In addition, alternative and social housing providers have creatively helped house clients by providing:

- safe beds
- rapid housing for people with multiple barriers
- rent-geared-to-income
- shared and single accommodations.

Staff Working Together

A special protocol ensures Toronto's City divisions work more closely together on homelessness issues:

- New guidelines for all divisions:
- Intensive outreach
- Negotiated timeframes for offering services and encampment removal.



Outdoor encampment at the Don Valley and Eastern Avenue.

A Snapshot of Street Youth in Toronto

(from the Street Needs Assessment)*

- on any given night, 522 youth are homeless
- 23.5% under age 25
- 68% male/32% female
- 24.7% in shelters
- 20.5% on the streets
- 28.9% in health/treatment
- 9.9% in correction facilities
- homeless for 2 years (average)
- 87% want permanent housing
- only 32% on a housing waiting list

*The Street Needs Assessment, conducted on April 19, 2006, was a survey to gather detailed information on the number and needs of people living on Toronto's streets or in shelters.

For more information on Streets to Homes, or if you or someone you know requires help to end your homelessness, please visit www.toronto.ca/housing or call the Street Helpline at 1-866-392-3777.

You can also visit the Streets to Homes office at:
112 Elizabeth Street, 2nd Floor
(North corner entrance)
Toronto, ON

*front cover: Jenny, 18, and Alison, 22, were housed in July and October 2005 respectively.



Streets to Homes

Helping Torontonians end their homelessness, one person at a time.





Streets to Homes helps people living on the streets move directly into housing.

In February 2005, Toronto City Council approved the Streets to Homes strategy, and made a commitment to end street homelessness. Since then, more than 780 people have been housed.

Focus on Youth

Two youth outreach workers work with agencies and follow-up workers to deal with youth issues, such as addiction, mental health and domestic abuse.

So far 115 youth have been housed and have received financial supports. Some have gained access to education, employment, and reconnected with family and their community.

Youth workers are involved with clients from beginning to end. Experience shows that young clients are more successful when they have a consistent worker to support them through each phase as they move to permanent housing.



Phil was housed in June 2006.

Program Highlights

Streets to Homes uses a three-stage model of service: street outreach, housing access, and follow-up.

Street Outreach

Outreach workers connect with homeless youth where they are: under bridges, in parks, encampments, shelters and drop-ins.

Housing Access

Outreach staff help young clients find housing and supports. Landlords work with outreach staff to provide affordable housing by relaxing reference and eligibility requirements, and lowering rents.

Follow-up

Follow-up workers provide:

- individualized service planning and goal setting
- landlord support and mediation
- links with new communities
- eviction prevention and crisis intervention, and if necessary, an exit strategy and re-housing.

Partnerships

Partnerships with all orders of government, city departments, non-profit agencies, and private sector organizations have been the backbone of the Streets to Homes program.

Non-profit agencies have been instrumental to the success of Streets to Homes. Ten agencies deliver street outreach services city-wide, and are housing people directly from the street.



Janet and Dwayne were housed in June 2005.