

Re: EC16.1

# Interim Shelter Recovery and Infrastructure Implementation Plan

Shelter, Support and Housing Administration

October 14, 2020



# Overview

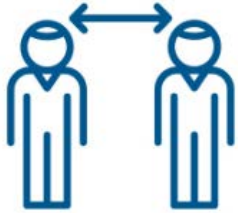
- Implementation action plan for the City's COVID-19 response for homelessness services for the next 12 months
- Also identifies opportunities to leverage actions for more permanent solutions to homelessness
- Includes SSHA's 2021 Shelter Infrastructure Plan
- Five key themes:
  1. **Ensuring preparedness for resurgence**
  2. **Adapt service models to the COVID-19 context**
  3. **Leveraging opportunities for housing and the Shelter Infrastructure Plan**
  4. **Minimize the flow of people into homelessness**
  5. **Ensure recovery addresses inequitable outcomes**

# Interim Shelter Recovery Task Force

- Sector stakeholders were engaged through a Task Force to help guide the strategy development
- The task force's advice was supplemented with consultations with a broad range of stakeholders. Consultations were conducted with:
  - Clients and people with lived experience
  - Shelter providers
  - Health partners
  - Black-led and Black-serving organizations
  - Violence Against Women (VAW) shelter sector
  - Research and data specialists
  - Frontline staff
- A separate, parallel Indigenous process and strategy co-created with Toronto Indigenous Community Advisory Board

# 1. Ensure preparedness for resurgence

2 metres apart

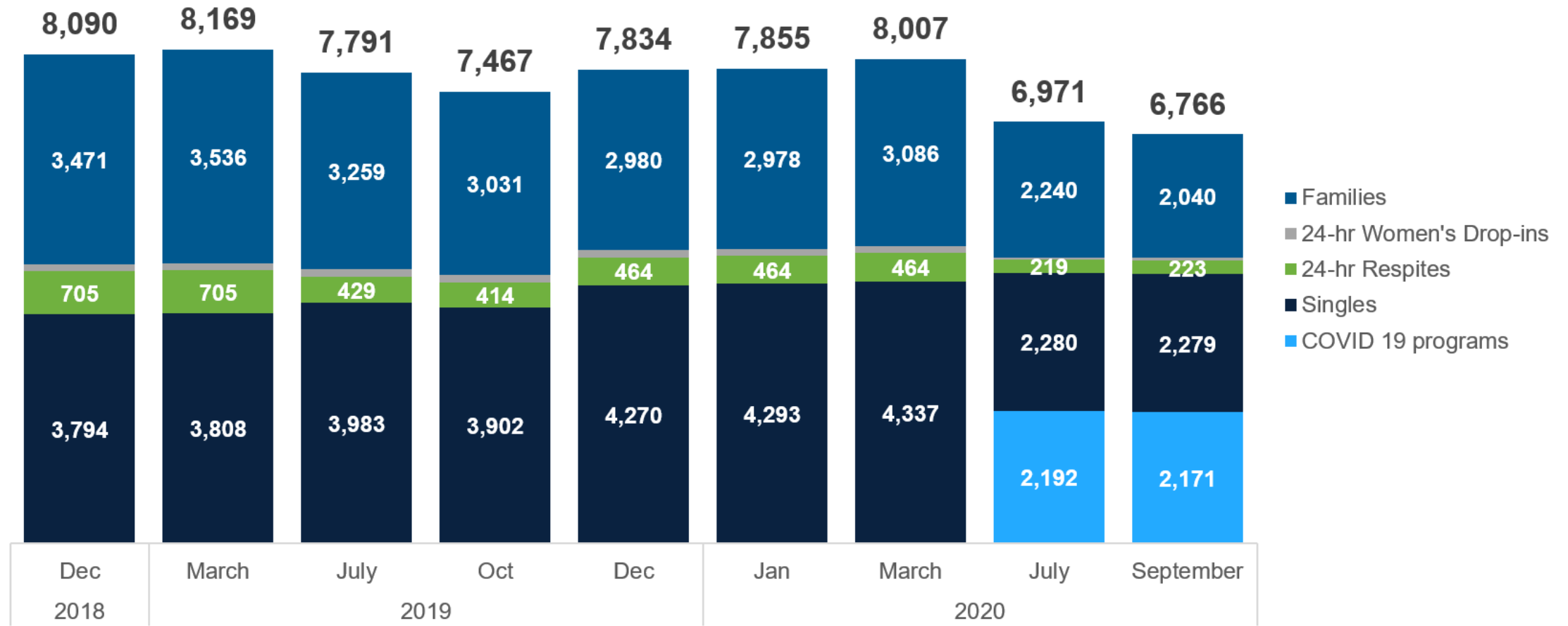


- Maintain physical distancing in the shelter system through expanded facilities (extend lease for existing hotel programs)
- Explore design options to further reduce transmission of the virus
- Continue proactive mobile testing in partnership with TPH and health partners
- Maintain mandatory masking for staff and clients
- Work with TPH and health partners to provide additional in-person IPAC training and supports
- Continue and enhance strategies for outbreak management, isolation and recovery
- Ensure staffing capacity needed to maintain essential service delivery and expanded service locations

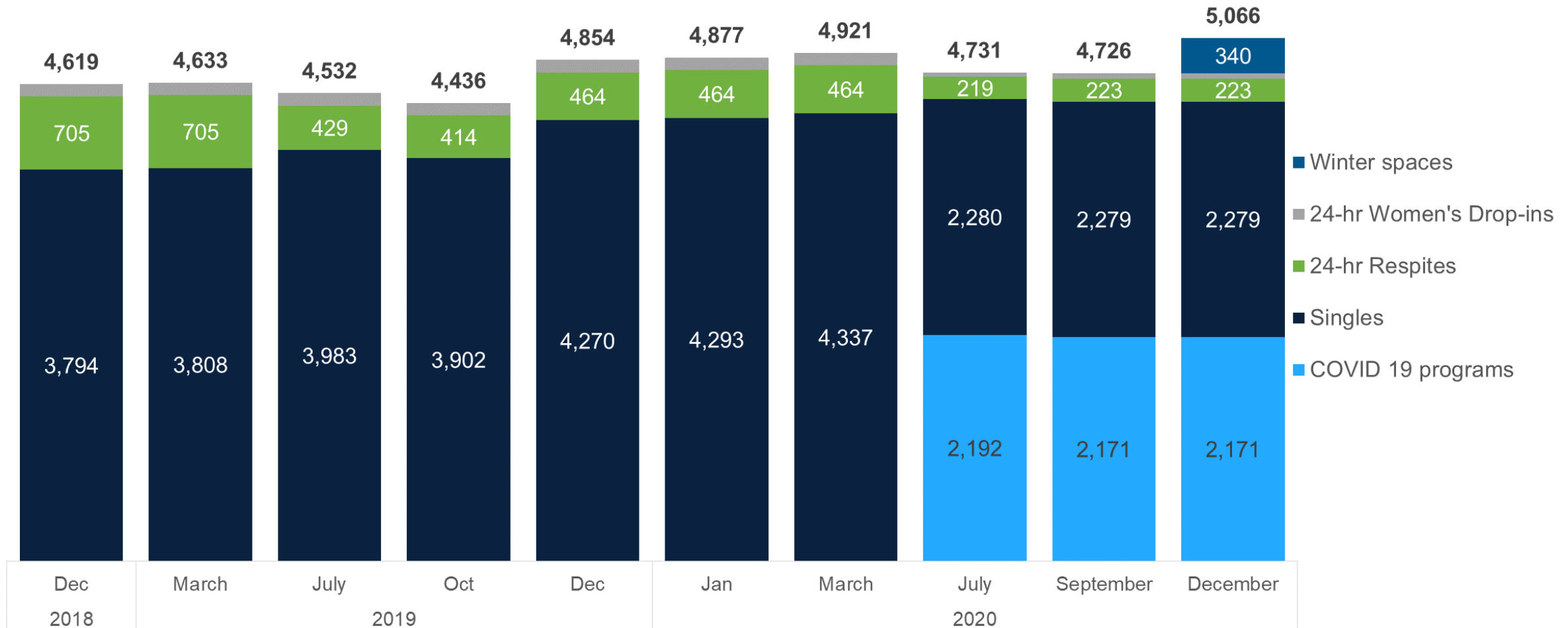


## **2. Adapt Service Models to the COVID-19 Context**

# Shelter System Capacity



# Singles Shelter System Capacity



# 2020/21 Winter Service Plan



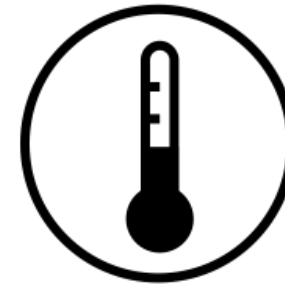
Additional  
winter  
capacity



Supportive  
Housing



Replace Out  
of the Cold  
Capacity



Warming  
Centre  
during  
ECWAs



Enhanced  
street  
outreach  
response



# Encampments

- COVID-19 response strategy for outreach and encampments:
  - Access to safe indoor space, shelter and housing
  - COVID-19 education and infection prevention
  - Access to City-operated facilities with showers, washrooms, and drinking water
  - Harm reduction and encampment health and safety



# Strengthen service model at temporary response shelters

- Providing enhanced mental health case management and harm reduction services in new shelter locations as an interim measure.
- Greater funding and partnership from other orders government is needed.
- Commitment to engage with communities to mitigate issues and to ensure the programs successfully integrate into the community





# **3. Leveraging opportunities for housing and the Shelter Infrastructure Plan**

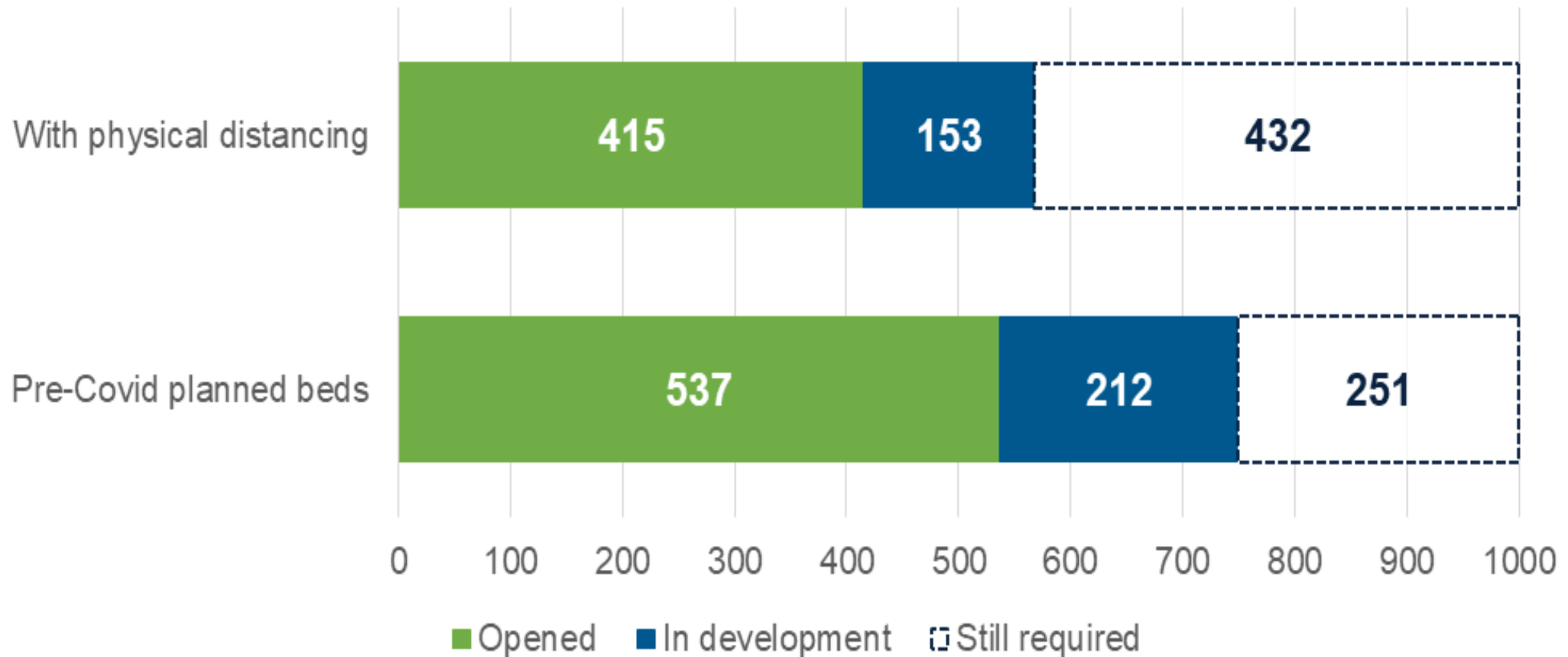


# Continue to increase housing efforts

**2,000** people moved into permanent housing through rapid re-housing, housing allowances, and rent-geared-to-income



# Shelter Infrastructure Plan

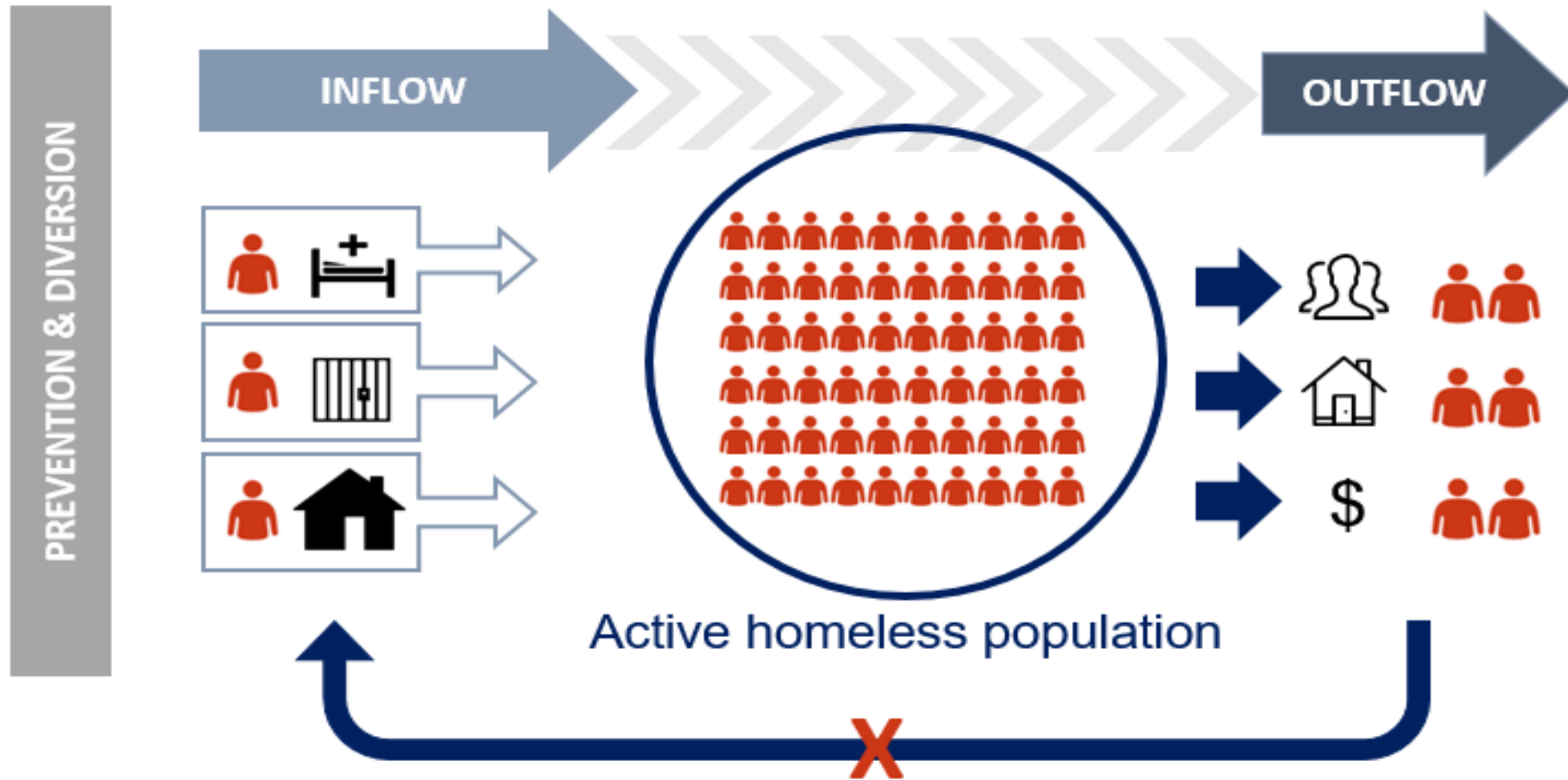


# Redevelopment of shelter sites for housing

- Portfolio review of existing shelter facilities
- Identify two to three pilot projects to convert shelter sites to supportive housing for long-term shelter stayers



## 4. Minimize the flow of people into homelessness





# **5. Ensure recovery addresses inequitable outcomes**



# Confronting Anti-Black Racism

- Collect, share, and act on race-based data
- Center the voices of Black individuals
- Promote Black leadership
- Recognize the importance of shared experience in support
- Expand invitations to tender to Black-led service providers to lead solutions in their own communities

# Addressing distinct needs of Indigenous Communities

- Prioritize Indigenous-specific housing in strategies to secure more permanent housing infrastructure
- Expand Indigenous-led outreach and supports for Indigenous individuals during the pandemic
- Establish protocol to ensure Indigenous individuals who have been moved into new housing are connected with an Indigenous provider
- Support Indigenous providers to act quickly and lead solutions, consistent with our commitments through the Meeting in the Middle Strategy

# Priority on Permanent Housing Solutions

## What the City of Toronto wants to accomplish

Create **3,000** permanent housing opportunities (2,000 of which are intended to be supportive housing) through:



**1,000** permanent modular homes



**1,000** new units through acquisition, renovations and shovel-ready projects.

**1,000** new portable (and flexible) Canada-Ontario Housing Benefits (COHB)

