HOUSING ACCESS

Funding Opportunity Information Session

April 21, 2022

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Welcome & Introductions

Agenda

- Land Acknowledgement
- African Ancestral Acknowledgement
- Housing Access Funding Overview
- Housing Access Program Model
- Housing Access Service Delivery Requirements
- Application Support
- General Questions

Land Acknowledgement

We acknowledge the land we are meeting on is the traditional territory of many nations including the Mississaugas of the Credit, the Anishnabeg, the Chippewa, the Haudenosaunee and the Wendat peoples and is now home to many diverse First Nations, Inuit and Métis peoples. We also acknowledge that Toronto is covered by Treaty 13 with the Mississaugas of the Credit.

African Ancestral Acknowledgement

The City of Toronto acknowledges all Treaty peoples – including those who came here as settlers – as migrants either in this generation or in generations past – and those of us who came here involuntarily, particularly those brought to these lands as a result of the Trans-Atlantic Slave Trade and Slavery. We pay tribute to those ancestors of African origin and descent.

Funding Overview

Funding Objective

Facilitate housing options and supports for diverse communities through funding partnerships that:

- provide a range of opportunities for non-profit, community based organizations to provide a variety of housing supports and homelessness services to residents
- build and strengthen a responsive, housing-focused and people-centered homelessness service system, while shifting towards more sustainable, permanent, affordable housing solutions
- Specific prioritization of Indigenous and Black led projects and organizations

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Homelessness Services

- The Housing TO 2020-2030 Action Plan's key objective is to improve housing outcomes for current and future residents of Toronto

- Strategic Direction 3: Prevent Homelessness and Improve Pathways to Housing Stability
  - Ensure an effective and housing-focused emergency response to homelessness
  - Better connect people experiencing homelessness to housing and supports
  - Develop strategies and programs that meet the needs of specific populations

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Goals

Funded programs will aim to:

- Enhance service quality and impact through ongoing performance management

- Increase housing stability for people exiting homelessness or at risk of homelessness

- Work collaboratively with the City to ensure targets and key deliverables are met

Funding and Term

- The funding available in the category is approximately 2.8 Million annually

- The project term is 2.5 years (October 1, 2022 – March 31, 2025)

- All project proposals are received through the Toronto Grants Rebates and Incentives Portal (TGRIP)

- Materials and Instruction will be provided

- TGRIP and Application Sessions will be held separately

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Proposal Content

- The outcomes and targets are clear and achievable
- The quality of the Work Plan, including timelines, shows an understanding of the scope of the work
- Financial stability and oversight
- Demonstrate experience in collective impact, building community partnerships
- Experience and Capacity to work with people with histories of homelessness
- Willingness to increase knowledge and skills through participation in training opportunities

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Assessment Process

- The Grants team is committed to ensuring that all proposals received are evaluated using a Housing First, Human Rights, Harm Reduction, People-Centred and Equity lens

- These principles are based on the SSHA Service Plan, Meeting in the Middle Engagement Strategy and Action Plan to Confront Anti-Black Racism

- Project Applications received will be ranked in the Toronto Grants, Rebates and Incentives Portal (TGRIP)

- Supplementary Evaluation Tools will be created for review panels in consultation with SSHA and City Indigenous and Confronting Anti-Black Racism (CABR) unit experts

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Timelines

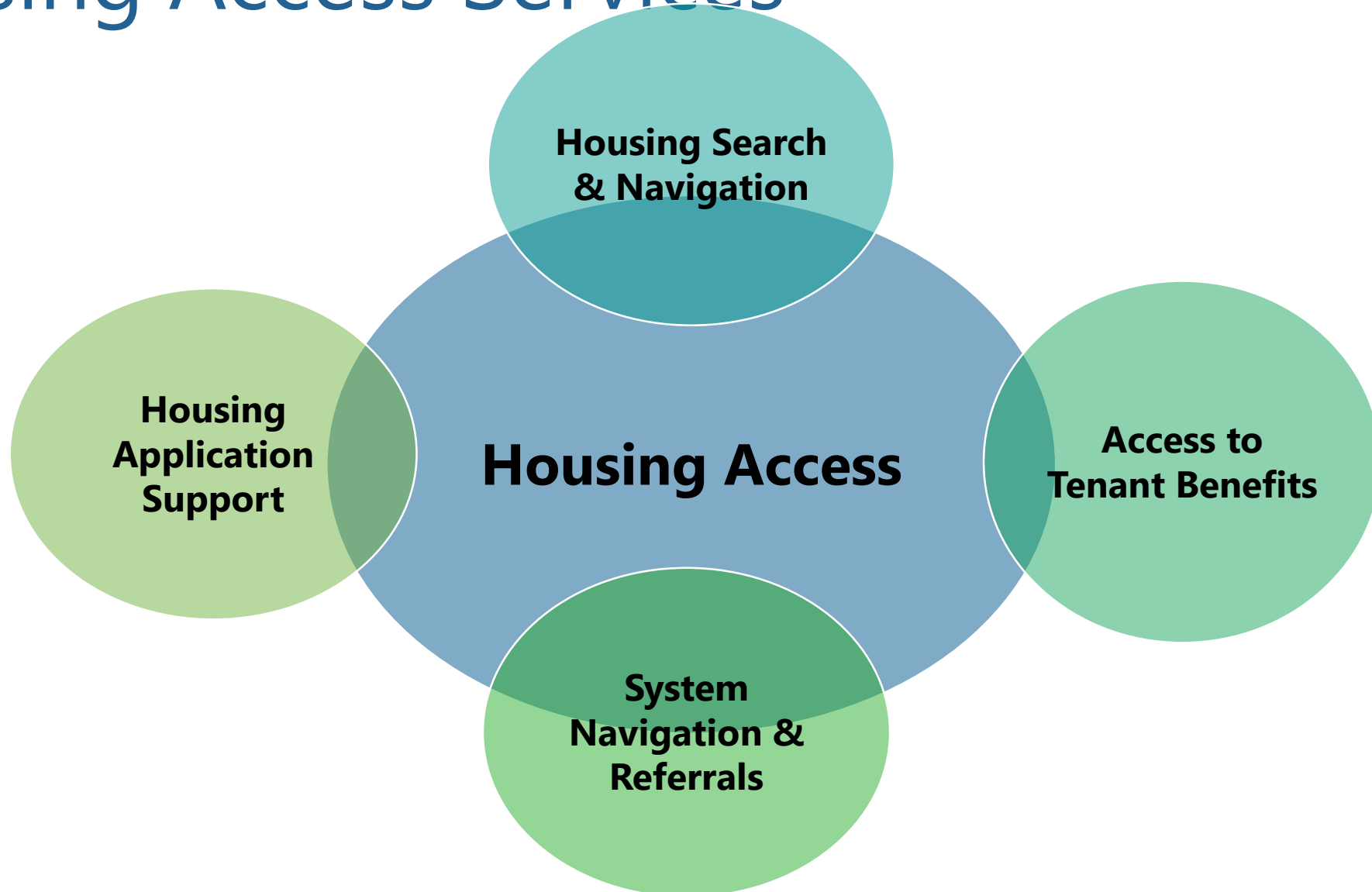|	
Funding Launch Date	April 19, 2022
Virtual Information Session	April 21, 2022
Application Help Desk Information Sessions	May 5 and May 19, 2022
Deadline for Written Questions from Service Providers	May 25, 2022
Funding Submission Deadline	**June 6, 2022**
Decisions Sent to Service Providers	July 2022
Funding Term	October 1, 2022- March 31, 2025

Housing Access

What are Housing Access programs?

- Housing access programs support individuals and households who are homeless or experiencing precarious housing by helping them find and maintain housing

- Services are aligned with a Housing First approach by prioritizing housing, primarily through affordable housing options and the City's new MyAccesstoHousingTO portal for applicants on the Centralized Waiting List for Rent Geared-to-Income (RGI) housing

- Services are responsive to a broad range of needs from people who are very self-directed to those with more complex needs

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Housing Access Services

Housing Search & Navigation

Housing Application Support

Housing Access

Access to Tenant Benefits

System Navigation & Referrals

Housing Access Services

- Housing Search & Navigation
  - Provide direct in-person support, such as sourcing housing, accompaniment to view units, advocacy and negotiation with landlords

- System Navigation & Referrals
  - Enhance knowledge, strengthen skills and build capacity to support individuals/households in all areas of housing

- Housing Application Support
  - Provide assistance to complete new / update existing applications related to housing

- Access to Tenant Benefits
  - Based on eligibility criteria, match client's needs and address issues related to housing through the menu of benefits and programs available

Street Needs Assessment

- Results from the 2021 SNA estimate that there are 7,347 people experiencing homelessness in all areas of Toronto, pointing to a need for services and supports across the city

- Almost half of Toronto renter households spend more than 30% of their before tax income on housing costs

- Specific groups are overrepresented among people experiencing homelessness in Toronto, particularly:
  - Indigenous people
  - Racialized individuals, particularly those who identify as Black

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Who Does Housing Access Services Assist?

- People experiencing precarious housing or who have lost their housing; and need assistance to secure and maintain housing

- The level of support may range from people who are able to self direct their housing plan to people with more complex housing needs and require case management supports

- Priority groups as identified by the Street Needs Assessment 2021

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Housing Hub Service Delivery Model
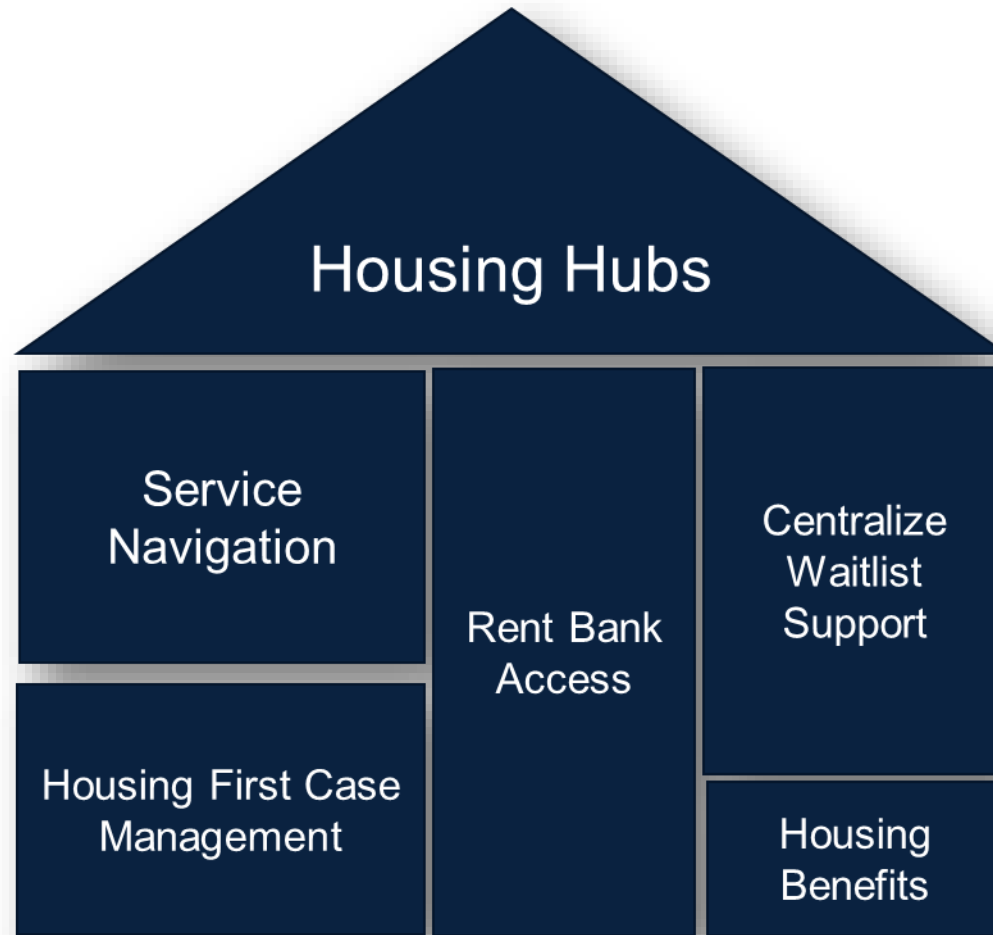
Housing Hub Service Delivery Model

- Information & referral

- Link to allied community services

- Triage to prioritize service requests

- Conduct assessments to match to housing stability supports

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Housing Hub Service Requirements

- ✓ Services delivered are common across all Hubs – 4 Housing Access Service pillars

- ✓ Service availability extends beyond the traditional 9am – 5pm and Monday to Friday model

- ✓ In person service delivery – on site and in the community

- ✓ Technology devices readily available on site for client use

- ✓ Community site for MyHousingAccessTO portal

- ✓ Community site for Rent Bank program

Staffing Requirements

Low Support
1:25 +

Brief support

Referrals

Housing listings

Information

Support w/ documents

Occasional/as needed

Moderate Support
1:20

Application supports

System navigation

Tenancy supports

Coordination

Warm Transfers

Regular/bi-weekly

High Support
1:10

Specialized supports

Harm Reduction

Mental health

Crisis planning

Safety planning

Case conferencing

Intensive/frequent

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Staffing Roles and Skillsets

- Will hold a blended caseload including low, moderate and high support clients

- Are trained to support the Rent Bank and other financial benefit programs

- Have extensive experience with and proficiency in sourcing housing options

- Will deliver individual and group training in coordination with the City (in person and virtually) on housing systems such as MyAccesstoHousingTO portal

- In collaboration with the City, establish common housing targets and outcomes (e.g. 1 FTE – 20 annual)

Tools & Resources Provided

Common Database

MyAccesstohousingTO Application Portal

Community of Practice

Supports to Sustain Tenancies

Reporting Tools

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Who should apply?

Community-based service providers that can offer:

- access to a comprehensive range of housing resources including housing stock (inventory/units)

- assistance to applicants with all aspects of the MyHousingAccessTO portal and supports to access income and benefit programs

- housing supports to priority groups including Indigenous, Black, and racialized clients

Project Activities and Service Delivery Requirements

MyAccesstoHousingTO

- Provide support to MyAccesstoHousingTO portal applicants

- Support applicants with registration and required documentation

- Complete, update and maintain applications

- Support applicants toward self-sufficiency for independent navigation of the portal

- Provide assistance to high support clients with choice-based cycles (including the development of expressions of interest on behalf of clients)

- Participate in pilot of affordable housing opportunities on-line bidding process through portal, if/as requested by the City

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Housing Search

- Help individuals search and apply for different types of housing
- Maintain a roster of landlords, realtors, and property management companies and actively search for new housing resources
- Connect individuals to affordable home ownership opportunities
- Offer workshops for individuals to build self-sufficiency related to searching for, securing and maintaining housing and other housing related skills
- Accompany individuals to viewings of units

Landlord and Housing Provider Engagement

- Develop collaborative relationships with landlords and housing providers in order to secure new units

- Offer ongoing education and support to landlords to build awareness of potential tenant vulnerabilities

- Ensure timely responses to landlord/housing providers concerns in order to prevent evictions through mediation and early intervention

- Offer active supports to landlords in order to maintain tenancies and minimize vacancy loss

Service Navigation and Support

- Connect individuals to other community-based services and supports

- Assist individuals to access supports and services both in-person and virtually

- Support individuals to expand their personal network of housing and community resources to build resiliency and self-sufficiency

Case Management

- Provide flexible and responsive housing first case management supports
- Support the development of sustainable personal housing case management plans
- Track housing stability for clients over a one-year period after individuals secure housing
- Engage in discharge planning as part of the client's service plan
- Support individuals personal resiliency

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Rent Bank

- Trained staff to provide Rent Bank services with an Agency expectation to process up to 25 applications per month

- Compile, maintain and provide records and submit activity data as required to Lead Central Administration Agency

- Participate in capacity building training and collaboration meetings with other Local Access Centres (LACS)

Application Support

TGRIP – https://cot.smartsimple.ca

TGRIP – Launching a Funding Opportunity

Welcome Housing, to the City of Toronto Grants, Rebates and Incentives Portal (TGRIP)

Click the links below to access more information on each item.

📢 **My Requests**

5	**1**	**0**	
My Funding Opportunities	My Activities	Follow Ups	Payments
	For Attention	Action Required	

TGRIP – Funding Opportunities List View

My Funding Opportunities

Funding Opportunity Name	Division	Funding Cycle	Submission Deadline	View Guidelines	
Housing Access (HASS 2022 - 2025)	Shelter, Support & Housing Administration (SSHA)	Oct 1, 2022 - Mar 31, 2025	Monday 06 June, 2022 at 11:59:00 PM	⊙ View Guidelines	Apply
Housing Focused System Supports (HASS 2022 - 2025)	Shelter, Support & Housing Administration (SSHA)	Oct 1, 2022 - Mar 31, 2025	Monday 06 June, 2022 at 11:59:00 PM	⊙ View Guidelines	Apply
Housing Focused Client Supports (HASS 2022 - 2025)	Shelter, Support & Housing Administration (SSHA)	Oct 1, 2022 - Mar 31, 2025	Tuesday 24 May, 2022 at 11:59:00 PM	⊙ View Guidelines	Apply
Homelessness Prevention (HASS 2022 - 2025)	Shelter, Support & Housing Administration (SSHA)	Oct 1, 2022 - Mar 31, 2025	Tuesday 24 May, 2022 at 11:59:00 PM	⊙ View Guidelines	Apply
Street Outreach (HASS 2022 - 2025)	Shelter, Support & Housing Administration (SSHA)	Oct 1, 2022 - Mar 31, 2025	Tuesday 24 May, 2022 at 11:59:00 PM	⊙ View Guidelines	Apply

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TGRIP – Eligibility Checklist

⌄ Eligibility Checklist

The following eligibility requirements must be satisfied in order to apply for this funding opportunity:

a. the organization shall be 1) located within the boundaries of the City of Toronto, or 2) an urban off-reserve Indigenous-led organization located in the City of Toronto who may also provide culturally-based programming outside the boundaries of the City of Toronto;

b. the services funded through the grant shall take place within the boundaries of the City of Toronto, with the exception of services being delivered by urban off-reserve Indigenous-led organizations, that yield direct benefits for the urban Indigenous communities of Toronto;

c. the organization shall provide information which demonstrates that it does not, in the absence of the grant, have the financial resources necessary to undertake the activity for which the grant is requested;

d. the organization shall have legal not-for-profit or charitable status or be an urban off-reserve Indigenous-led organization;

e. the organization shall not be or have been indebted to the City or be in default of the terms and conditions of any agreement (including any previous grant agreement) with any division, agency, board or commission of the City of Toronto under the discretion of the Division Head;

☐ **I declare that our organization meets all of the above criteria.**

🖫 Save Draft   → Begin Application

TGRIP – Returning to an Application

Welcome Housing, to the City of Toronto Grants, Rebates and Incentives Portal (TGRIP)

Click the links below to access more information on each item.

📢 My Requests

5	1	0	🖾
My Funding Opportunities	My Activities	Follow Ups	Payments
	For Attention	Action Required	

📁 Applications

ATTENTION REQUIRED (8)   UNDER REVIEW (0)   APPROVED/ACTIVE (0)   DECLINED (0)   CLOSED/HISTORICAL (0)

#		Organization	Application ID	Funding Opportunity	Project Name	Application Primary Contact	Submission Deadline (mm/dd/yyyy)	Status
1	🗋	Testing External Organization	00004127			Housing Worker		Draft
2	🗋	Testing External Organization	00002764	Niro's FO	I'm Hungry	Housing Worker	12/31/2020 12:00 AM	Draft
3	🗋	Testing External Organization	00002766	Niro's FO	Friends of Ruby	Housing Worker	12/31/2020 12:00 AM	Draft

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Support and Resources

- Application Guide – Housing Access
  - Appendix A: Program Model
  - Appendix B: Budget & Work Plan
  - Appendix C: Work Plan definitions
- Help Desk Information Sessions – May 5 & 19
- Please check the website for updates

Housing Support & Homelessness Grants – City of Toronto

- **For questions, contact HSS@toronto.ca**

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Questions?
HSS@Toronto.ca