

Homelessness in KFL&A



The issue of homelessness is complex and requires different sectors of a community to come together to find local solutions. A higher number of people experiencing homelessness (207) were counted during the 2021 Urban Kingston Point in Time Count, compared to 2018, and this number has continued to grow as a result of the pandemic.

This issue has been categorized in four sections: Prevention Programs, Shelter Supports, Housing with Supports and Supports for Unsheltered or Precariously Housed Individuals.

Prevention Programs

Kingston Community Legal Clinic runs an **Eviction Prevention Program** providing legal services to low-income tenants at risk of eviction through a variety of measures, including representing and supporting tenants at Landlord Tenant Board hearings.

Family Mediation Program, run by Kingston Youth Shelter, **supports youth and families by providing mediation and short-term intervention services** and case management aimed at preventing youth entering homelessness due to family conflict.

Shelter Supports

Concession Street Centre provides **overnight beds and day programs** for people who are unsheltered and street-involved. The initiative was started in the winter and has continued to offer beds through the year.

Kingston Home Base Housing's Lily's Place provides **emergency shelter for families in need in the KFL&A region.**

Kingston Interval House's **Emergency Shelter** provides a safe space with assistance and programs for **women and children leaving abusive situations.**

Kingston Youth Shelter's **Emergency Shelter provides overnight accommodation for youth ages 16-24.** Food, counseling and referral services are provided.

Local Love in action ♥



United Way
Kingston, Frontenac,
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Home Base Housing's **Community Outreach Workers** support individuals who are homeless and living rough, by providing access to **basic needs services and provisions**. An Indigenous Outreach Worker supports individuals who identify as Indigenous with an emphasis on connecting to appropriate and culturally relevant services and supports.

Home Base Housing's **Youth Housing First/Rapid Rehousing program** provides resources for youth in need of longer-term supports but are not eligible for other housing services due to lower acuity.

Interval House's **Supportive Housing Coordinator** provides safe, affordable housing with supports for women and children who have left domestic abuse.

Lennox & Addington Interval House's **Community Outreach Program** provides supportive counseling as well as living skills development and housing supports to women who are struggling with the issue of domestic violence.

Resolve Counselling Services' **Youth Outreach Counselling program provides services to youth that are experiencing or are at risk of becoming homeless**, offering programming to improve emotional and psychological health and well-being.

Portable Outreach Care Hub (PORCH) is a retrofitted mobile Recreational Vehicle (RV) funded by United Way and Kingston Community Health Centres **offering mobile health and social service supports for individuals who are vulnerable**.

“ My sister and I were kicked out of our home at the age of 10 and lived on the streets. Eventually I ended up in the wrong crowd and in trouble with the law. Through the United Way I was able to connect with programs and agencies that helped me get my life back on track, raise my son, and now, live on my own. ”

- Bobbi



1,013 individuals accessed supports including emergency shelters, counselling and transitional housing



537 households at risk of eviction received supports and legal aid to remain housed



43 youth and their families received supports to resolve conflicts and prevent youth from entering the shelter system



102 youth received housing supports, to find and/or maintain housing.



Housing with supports

Dawn House's **Transitional Housing Program** serves **homeless single women of low income between the ages of 16-75**, providing daily supports and case management planning.

Kingston Home Base Housing's RISE@one4nine provides **youth services and safe, affordable transitional/supportive housing** with case management supports for youth.

Interval House runs Robin's Hope **Transition House**, an 18-unit apartment building with rent geared to income apartments for **women and children leaving the shelter**.

Kingston Youth Shelter's **Transitional Housing Program** provides housing and supports for youth at two residences, including goal setting and skills building to help youth become independent and secure long-term housing.

Ryandale's **Transition House** provides residents with **life-skills training to inspire permanent housing**, life-management, and positive community involvement.

Supports for unsheltered or precariously housed individuals

Addiction and Mental Health Services KFL&A's **Youth Outreach Case Management** program provides intensive case management support and connects youth to both internal and external community supports.

Addiction and Mental Health Services KFL&A provides **Outreach Nursing** support for the Street Outreach program, In From the Cold Emergency Shelter, and the Integrated Care Hub. Services include assessments, consultations, and basic care.

Dawn House's **Supportive Housing Program** provides individualized and client-led wellness supports for women who are homeless, vulnerably housed and marginalized.

Integrated Care Hub is a **low-barrier, drop-in centre for individuals, many of whom are homeless or living rough**, to access basic services and supports including clinical treatment.

John Howard Society of Kingston and Area's **Court Access and Outreach Program** provides individuals in conflict with the law who may be living in poverty, experiencing homelessness or not stably housed, with judicial system navigation support.

How United Way KFL&A Helps

United Way is working closely with agencies and programs to respond to this increased need, working collaboratively on ways to help individuals in the region get the support they need.

In 2021, over 74,000 individuals were helped through United Way funded agencies and programs in KFL&A. Here are the programs, focused on homelessness, that received funding. These programs focus specifically on four key areas: prevention, shelter, housing with supports and supports for unsheltered or precariously housed individuals. For a full list of programs please visit www.unitedwaykfla.ca/grants/

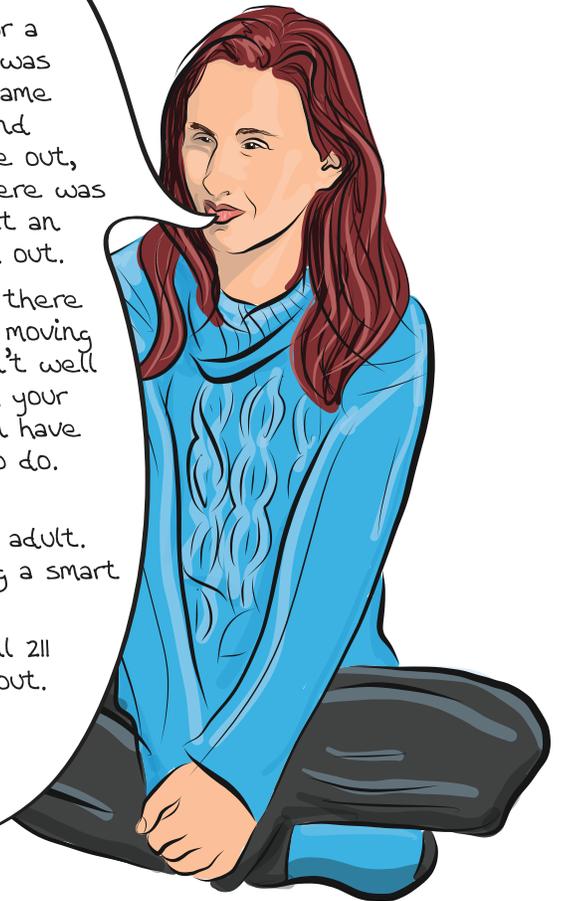
My mom had been threatening to kick me out for a couple of years. The first time I was locked out I was 15. I would stay at my friend's house. My mom became unbearable, she was constantly yelling at me and smashing things. I thought she was going to kick me out, so I went to my school counsellor and they said there was a place they could get me into. I was able to get an apartment, my mom kicked me out once she found out.

I lived in Napanee. There are homelessness youth there and there aren't a lot of resources. So I ended up moving to Kingston. Most youth who become homeless aren't well prepared to take care of themselves. As a youth your housing should be provided for you so that you can have friends, study and do what you are supposed to do.

I like to be independent and not have anyone controlling my life. I'm really busy trying to be an adult. I'm aiming to get into University and I'm also taking a smart serve course so I can get into waitressing.

Talk to friends, family, school counsellors or call 211 if you are in a bad situation and need to get out.

— Amanda, homeless at age 15



For more information, stories, resources please visit www.pathhomekingston.ca

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