

Improving Data and Information About Family Homelessness

The Community Data Program has been working with the Vanier-Overbrook neighbourhoods project team (another CMHC-supported Solutions Lab) to identify data sources based on the areas in which they are working.

Addressing Family Homelessness at the Neighbourhood Level

This Solutions Lab seeks to develop neighbourhood-level solutions to family homelessness

Between 2014 and 2017, the number of homeless families in Ottawa increased by 171%. Their average stay in emergency shelters increased from 105 to 123 days. Emergency sheltering is a significant cost to the city and isn't a viable solution to family homelessness.

There is some indication that a neighbourhood-based approach to preventing family homelessness could work, but there are few examples to draw on. That's where the Rideau-Rockcliffe Community Resource Centre and its partners want to make a difference. They're conducting a Solutions Lab in the Vanier-Overbrook neighbourhoods of Ottawa. Their goals are to determine:

- reasons for family homelessness;
- how to re-house families faster;
- how to establish a stable housing pattern; and
- how to offer innovative, tested ideas for reducing family homelessness using neighbourhood level approaches.

<https://www.cmhc-schl.gc.ca/en/nhs/nhs-project-profiles/2019-nhs-projects/addressing-family-homelessness-neighbourhood-level>