

Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy
Community Homelessness Report

Halifax Regional Municipality
2022-2023

TEMPLATE FOR COMMUNITIES

SECTION 1: COMMUNITY CONTEXT

Overview

- 1.1 a) Highlight any efforts and/or issues related to the work that your community has done to **prevent and/or reduce homelessness** and **increase access to safe, adequate housing** over the last year.

The creation of new affordable and supportive housing units continued to be an important priority for HRM in 2022-23 with local partnerships ensuring the development of a Harm Reduction Supportive Housing Project known as The Overlook to support people recovering from chronic homelessness and ongoing housing instability concerns. The Overlook, a 65 unit supportive housing facility opened, and as of March 31, 2023, 28 units have been filled. This will continue throughout 2023-24. Through the Rapid Housing Initiative with CMHC, several affordable housing developments (Sunflower, True North, etc) started in 2022-23. In terms of impact, the development of the True North Affordable Housing Project added essential housing units to the local system of care with 40% of all unit vacancies being filled by people on the By Name List. Winter shelters were opened at multiple locations (Christ Church, North Park Street, Beacon House) to support people in need of emergency housing options during the cold weather season. Potentially one of these winter shelters will remain open year round. Work continues to enhance HRM's Coordinated Access System, consistent HIFIS use and efforts to improve data sharing, capacity building for front line staff and enhancement to community partnerships. At the end of the 2022-23 fiscal year, the AHANS team experienced a number of important leadership changes as the Community Entity and its Community Advisory Board works to enhance relationships, processes and transparency in its work to reduce and prevent chronic homelessness.

b) What **impact** did these efforts and/or issues have on your community's outcomes over the last year (as reported in Section 4, if applicable)? Please enter N/A if the impact is not known at this time.

As of March 31, 2023, 28 have been housed at Overlook with additional units coming online as this fiscal progresses. The winter shelters provided a space for 20 individuals each, which assisted in unhoused folks being sheltered from the elements rather than unsheltered. CAS and HIFIS processes were undergoing analysis and enhancements via the Governance Committee structure. Training offered to the HRM system partners ensured that 175 front line staff were able to access valuable training on Impactful Outreach, Housing Based Case Management and Housing Focused Outreach.

1.2 How has the community's approach to addressing homelessness changed over the last few years? The worksheet called ***"Reflecting on the Changing Response to Homelessness"*** can help with reflecting on how the approach has changed and the impact of these changes at the local level.

The Halifax Regional Municipality - like most urban centres - has experienced an increase in the number of households experiencing housing crisis and homelessness (both new entries into homelessness and more households ageing into chronic homelessness). Locally, the housing crisis and the increased need for homelessness prevention has resulted in both Provincial and Reaching Home investments targeting eviction prevention, housing loss prevention and shelter diversion. Analysis of data on the outcomes and impacts of these prevention and diversion (P&D) activities is just beginning. Analysis will focus on who is served (and who is not); initial homelessness prevention versus long term housing/homelessness experiences to ensure practices align with evidence informed practices (i.e. targeting those households with the greatest risk of entering homelessness, especially households that have experienced literal homelessness previously, those households that also demonstrate the housing and support needs seen in HRM's current chronic homeless population, etc.). Analysis and reporting activities for P&D activities and outcomes will ensure that future investment and service delivery expectations align with evidence informed & data driven decision making. Concerns arising from the toxic drug supply, lack of access to addictions and mental health services as also resulted on increased focus locally on the need for lower barrier supports and programming. In the last 12 months, HRM also witnessed the opening of the Overlook - a harm reduction supportive housing program, the need for high intensity wraparound services has been highlighted. In addition to continued efforts to resolve homelessness through housing and supports, Halifax has also experienced higher numbers of new households entering the homelessness response system. This elevated inflow reality has heightened the need for housing loss prevention and shelter diversion. Both of these changing realities experienced in HRM have been identified across the country. Throughout the pandemic, community partners experienced increased funding levels from federal and provincial governments and also increased collaborations in order to support vulnerable Nova Scotians to "shelter in place" and get their basic needs met "where they were" to reduce the possibility of COVID transmissions. Since 2022, HRM has been actively updating Coordinated Access policies and practices to ensure that the lessons learned (both positive and negative) during the pandemic are reflected in updated Policies and Practices.

Collaboration between Indigenous and Non-Indigenous Partners

1.3	a) Does your community, as a Designated Community (DC), also receive Reaching Home Indigenous Homelessness (IH) funding? If yes, your community has an IH Community Entity (CE) and/or Community Advisory Board (CAB).	No – only DC funding is available
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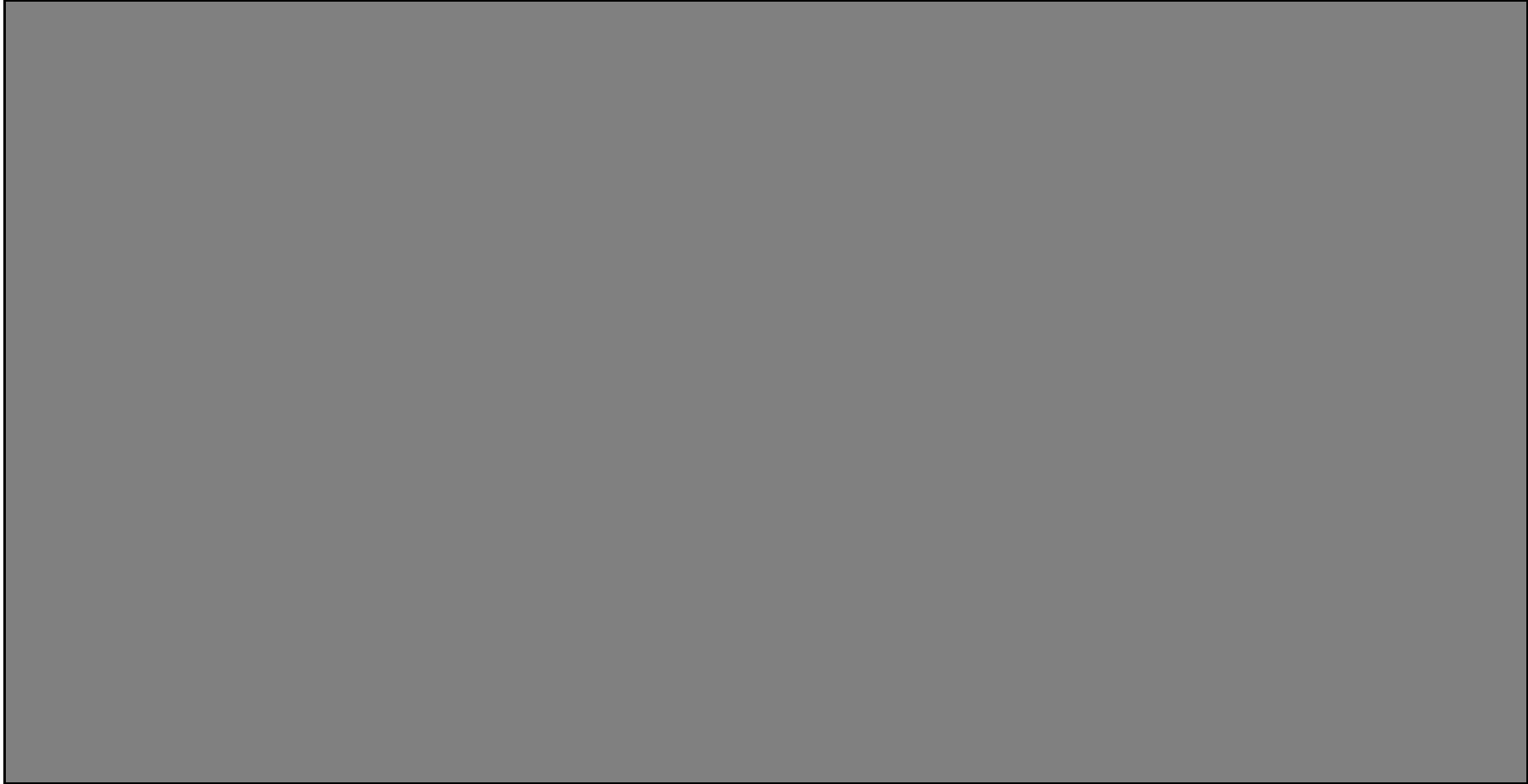


<p>1.4</p> <p>a) Specific to Coordinated Access and the HMIS, has there been ongoing, meaningful collaboration between the DC or Territorial Homelessness (TH) CE and local Indigenous organizations over the reporting period? Where it exists in your province, this could include the IH non-DC CE and/or organizations funded by the IH non-DC stream in the broader area. Note that collaboration with the IH CE and/or CAB, where applicable, should only be included in Question 1.3 above.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>b) Describe this collaboration in more detail. How were Indigenous peoples engaged in these discussions? When did collaboration occur and which organizations were involved? What aspects of Coordinated Access and/or the HMIS were discussed? How did Indigenous perspectives influence the outcome?</p> <div style="background-color: #cccccc; height: 100px; width: 100%;"></div>	
<p>The enhancement of Indigenous involvement in the design and operations of Coordinated Access remains important in HRM. Currently, HRM has Community Entities and CABs for both RH-Designated Community and RH - Indigenous Homelessness. As an important partner, the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre (MNFC is also the CE for non-designated Indigenous Homelessness Funding in Nova Scotia) is a member on the Community Advisory Board and efforts have begun to enhancing data sharing while respecting Indigenous data sovereignty. In HRM, MNFC is also a recipient of DC-RH funding. To assist in enhancing cultural humility and enhancing access to culturally competent services and programs, the CAS manager at the CE took the OCAP training session in 2022-23.</p>	
<p>1.5</p> <p>a) With respect to the completion of the Community Homelessness Report (CHR), was there ongoing, meaningful collaboration between local Indigenous and non-Indigenous organizations and, where applicable, the IH CE and/or IH CAB?</p>	<p>No</p>

b) What is the plan to ensure meaningful collaboration occurs during next year's CHR process? How will Indigenous peoples be engaged in these discussions? Which organizations, such as the IH CE and/or IH CAB, will be involved? When and how will they be engaged?

Indigenous organizations who are recipients of DC-RH funding and participate in the HIFIS and CAS Governance Committee as well as the Community Advisory Board will continue to be engaged during the creation and approval of the Community Homelessness Report.

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Public Access to Results

1.7 As outlined in the Reaching Home Directives, communities are required to make a summary of the CHR publicly available. How will the public have access to this information? For example, which website will be used to publish the results?

The report results will be made available on the community entity website: www.ahans.ca

End of Section 1

SECTION 2: COORDINATED ACCESS AND HOMELESSNESS MANAGEMENT INFORMATION SYSTEM (HMIS) SELF-ASSESSMENT		
Governance		
2.1	Is there a governance model for Coordinated Access and has a Coordinated Access lead organization(s) been identified?	Yes
2.2	Is there a governance model for your HMIS and has an HMIS lead organization(s) been identified?	Yes
2.3	Do all service providers receiving funding through the Designated Communities (DC) or Territorial Homelessness (TH) stream participate in Coordinated Access?	Yes
Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS)		
2.4	a) Does your community have an HMIS to manage individual-level data and service provider information for Coordinated Access?	Yes
	b) How many service providers in the community are currently using this HMIS?	
	23	
	c) In your community, is the Homeless Individuals and Families Information System (HIFIS) the HMIS that is being used?	Yes
2.5	Has your community signed an Agreement with Infrastructure Canada? This is either a Data Provision Agreement (for communities using HIFIS) or a Data Sharing Agreement (for those using an equivalent HMIS). Of note, Agreements may be signed by a community directly or on behalf of a community (e.g., where the province or another community has authority to do so, as the HMIS host).	Yes
2.6	Do you have a set of local agreements to manage privacy, data sharing and client consent related to your HMIS that comply with municipal, provincial and federal laws?	Yes
2.7	Have you established safeguards to ensure the data collected in your HMIS is secured from unauthorized access?	Yes
Access Points to Service		
2.8	Are access sites available in some form throughout the Designated Communities (DC) or Territorial Homelessness (TH) geographic area so that the Coordinated Access system serves the entire DC geographic area?	Yes
2.9	Are there processes in place to monitor if there is easy and equitable access to the Coordinated Access system and respond to any emerging issues, as appropriate?	Yes
2.10	Are there processes in place that ensure no one is denied access to service due to perceived housing or service barriers?	Yes
Triage and Assessment		
2.11	Is the triage and assessment process documented in one or more policies/protocols, including an intake protocol for entering people into the Coordinated Access system and/or HMIS when they (re)connect with an access point?	Yes

See attached CAS Policies approved by the CAS Governance Committee in October 2020.

2.12	Is the same common assessment tool used for all population groups experiencing homelessness (e.g., youth, women fleeing violence, and Indigenous peoples)?	Yes
Coordinated Access Resource Inventory		
2.13	Are all housing resources funded through the Designated Communities (DC) or Territorial Homelessness (TH) stream identified as part of the Coordinated Access Resource Inventory?	Yes
2.14	For each housing resource in the Coordinated Access Resource Inventory, have eligibility requirements been documented?	Yes
2.15	For each type of housing resource in the Coordinated Access Resource Inventory, have prioritization criteria, and the order in which they will be applied, been documented?	Yes
Vacancy Matching and Referral		
2.16	Is the vacancy matching and referral process documented in one or more policies/protocols, including how vacancies are filled from the Coordinated Access Resource Inventory according to agreed-upon prioritization and referral protocols?	Yes
2.17	Do the vacancy matching and referral policies/protocols specify how individual choice in housing options will be respected (allowing individuals and families to reject a referral without repercussions) and do they include processes specific to dealing with vacancy referral challenges, concerns and/or disagreements (including refusals of referrals)?	Yes
2.18	Are vacancies from the Coordinated Access Resource Inventory filled using the list of people waiting for housing resources who are offer-ready (i.e., the List filtered to a Priority List)?	Yes
Section 2 Summary Tables		
The table below provides a summary of the work your community has done so far to meet the Reaching Home minimum requirements for Coordinated Access and an HMIS:		

	Met	Started	Not Yet Started
Total	18	0	0

Minimum requirements have been met but enhancements will continue.

The table below shows the percentage of minimum requirements completed for each core component:

	Governance	HMIS	Access Points to Service	Triage and Assessment	Coordinated Access Resource Inventory	Vacancy Matching and Referral
Percentage Completed	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Minimum requirements have been met but enhancements will continue to better meet the needs of the community.

Section 2 Summary Comment

2.19 Are there particular efforts and/or issues that you would like to highlight for this reporting period related to your community's work to achieve the Reaching Home minimum requirements?

In particular, please include:

- an update about your community's efforts to set-up, sustain and/or improve the Coordinated Access system and use of an HMIS;
- Coordinated Access and/or HMIS enhancements covered under a Reaching Home minimum requirement that were identified as "met" in a previous CHR; and,
- information about how people with lived experience of homelessness (current or former clients) are being engaged or will be engaged in one or more aspects of Coordinated Access (e.g., are they included in the governance model).

Your Summary Comment is an opportunity to provide additional context about your Section 2 Summary Tables results above.

One issue that continues to be addressed locally is data sharing agreements that respects Indigenous data sovereignty. In the past year, the CAS manager participated in OCAP training to increase appreciation and gain valuable insights on opportunities for reconciliation. In addition to data sovereignty, community service providers continue to be hesitant to share data outside of program clusters and CE is working at a governance level to ensure confidence in HIFIS and coordinated access. At the end of 2022-23, CE hired a consultant to assist with repairing relationships between the CE, the community service providers, and the CAB/RRAB. The CE, under new leadership, has also resourced additional staff to ensure that the systems are functioning at their highest capacity and that policies/processes are well developed to further repair those relationships and instill new confidence in the CE. The CE continues to work toward a better monitoring process for service providers to assist in outcome informed decisions for future funding. The prioritization process was re-evaluated during 2022-23 and the completed matrix was approved by the date of this report (but not within 2022-23 fiscal). The matching and referral process meets the minimum requirements but we are striving to improve this process by bringing innovation to better serve clients. From a systems level, there is a new approach by the provincial government regarding HIFIS usage, so while we are meeting requirements from a Reaching Home perspective, there is still expansion and mapping of the system; this will lead to the system looking different as the year progresses. There is currently a disconnect between the Community Advisory Board and the governance committees and the CE is working to improve communication between the two tables (sharing progress on current work, sharing of minutes when applicable).

End of Section 2

SECTION 3: OUTCOMES-BASED APPROACH SELF-ASSESSMENT

Step 1. Have a List

Part A) Does the community have a List?

There are four minimum characteristics of a List.

3.1	Is the List created by a centralized database (such as an HMIS) or does it exist as a single document (outside of an HMIS)?	Yes
3.2	Does the List include people who are currently experiencing homelessness?	Yes
3.3	Do people give their consent to be included on the List?	Yes
3.4	Do individuals and families appear only once on the List?	Yes

Part B) Please provide additional information about the List

3.5 Where does data for the List come from?

a) Select all that apply:

- HIFIS
- Excel
- Other HMIS
- Other data source(s)
- Not applicable – Do not have a List yet

b) Please describe the other data source(s):

The community partners who act as access points provide intake documents for clients experiencing homelessness.

c) Please describe how the List is created using HIFIS (e.g., Coordinated Access module, Unique Identifier List report or custom report).

The list is currently housed in an independent excel document.

d) In the future, will data from the community's HMIS (either HIFIS or an existing, equivalent system) be used to get data for the List?

Yes

3.6 Communities need information about people's interaction with the homeless-serving system to be able to calculate inflows into homelessness (re-engagement with the system) and outflows from homelessness (disengagement from the system).

<p>a) Is there a written policy/protocol for the List that describes how interaction with the homeless-serving system is documented, including the number of days of inactivity after which people are identified as “inactive”? The policy/protocol should define what it means to be “active” or “inactive” on the List and explain how to document when someone is included on the List for the first time, as well as any changes in “activity” or “inactivity” over time.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>b) Can the community get data about when people first interacted with the homeless-serving system and were included on the List? For example, can the community get data for the number of people that were newly identified on the List?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>c) Can the community get data about people experiencing homelessness that became “active” again on the List (re-engaged with the homeless-serving system) and those that became “inactive” (disengaged with the homeless-serving system)? For example, can the community get data for the number of people that were “reactivated” on the List after a period of inactivity?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>3.7 Communities need information about where people are staying or living to be able to calculate inflows into homelessness (where people came from) and outflows from homelessness (where people went). This data is called “housing history”.</p>	
<p>a) Is there a written policy/protocol for the List that describes how housing history is documented? The policy/protocol should define what it means to be “homeless”, “housed” or “transitional” on the List and explain how to document when someone transitions “into homelessness” and “from homelessness” over time.</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>b) Can the community get data from the List about people that transitioned “into homelessness” and “from homelessness”? Examples of transitions include a discharge from shelter and move to permanent housing (a transition “from homelessness”) or an eviction from supportive housing to no fixed address (a transition “to homelessness”).</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>3.8 a) Can the community get demographic data from the List? Check all that apply.</p>	
<p><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Indigenous identity (mandatory for Reaching Home)</p>	

- Age
- Household type (e.g., single or family)
- Gender identity
- Veteran status
- Other (please define)
- Not applicable – Do not have a List yet

Please define other social demographics generated by the List here:

African Nova Scotian

b) When **chronic homelessness** is calculated using data from the List, is the Reaching Home definition used? The federal definition of chronic homelessness is 180 days of homelessness over the past year and/or 546 days of homelessness in the past three years.

Yes



Step 2. Have a real-time List

Part A) Is the List kept up-to-date, so that data is real-time?

To meet the minimum characteristic for a real-time List, it must be updated regularly, monthly at minimum.

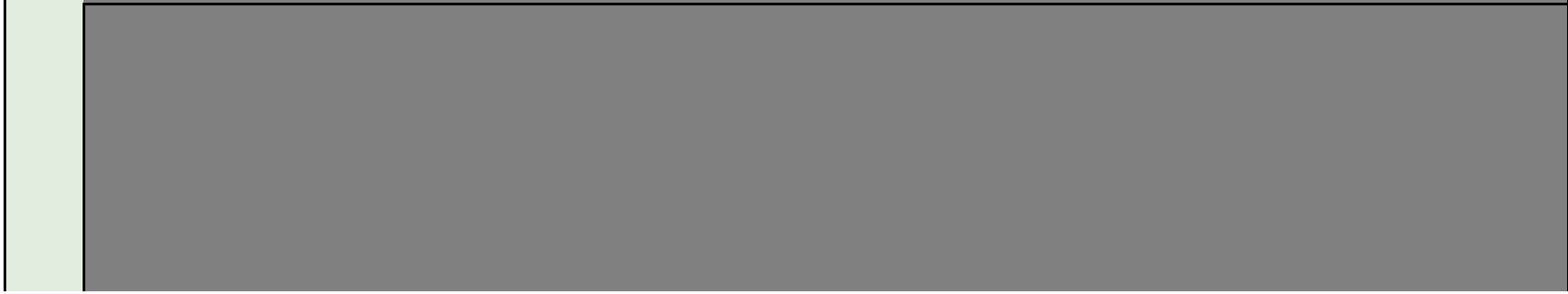
3.9 Is information about people experiencing homelessness on the List updated on a regular basis, monthly at minimum?

Yes

Part B) Please provide additional information about the List

3.10 How often is information about people experiencing homelessness updated on the List?

As soon as new information is available



3.11	<p>To accurately calculate inflows into homelessness and outflows from homelessness, communities need up-to-date information about people’s interaction with the homeless-serving system (activity and inactivity).</p>	
	<p>a) Is people’s interaction with the homeless-serving system (activity and inactivity) updated regularly on the List?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
	<p>b) Optional CHR question: How is your community working toward higher quality data for tracking people’s interaction with the system? What strategies are being used to ensure that changes in “active” or “inactive” state are made in a timely way?</p>	
	<p>The community entity BNL Coordinator sends out reminders for organizations to update the information on clients that are reaching inactivity. At a governance level, the CE is continuing to work toward data sharing agreements to allow for ease of data tracking through HIFIS.</p>	
3.12	<p>To accurately calculate inflows into and outflows from homelessness, communities need up-to-date information about where people are staying or living (i.e., their housing history).</p>	
	<p>a) Is housing history updated regularly on the List?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
	<p>b) Is there a process in place for keeping chronic homelessness status on the List up-to-date? For example, if someone has been on the List for long enough to meet the threshold of chronic homelessness, is this change in status reflected on the List?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

c) **Optional CHR question:** How is your community working toward higher quality data about people's transitions "into homelessness" and "from homelessness"? What strategies are being used to address incomplete data, so that everyone has sufficient housing history documented on the List?

***Optional:** Please insert comment here*

Step 3. Have a comprehensive List

Part A) Does the community assess the List as comprehensive?

A comprehensive List includes all of the individuals and families experiencing homelessness in the community, as much as possible right now.

3.13 a) Which household types does the List include? Select all that apply.

- Single adults
- Unaccompanied youth
- Families

<p>b) Does the List include family members like dependents, or just the head of household?</p>	<p>Only heads of households</p>
<p>3.14 Does the List include individuals experiencing homelessness who identify as Indigenous?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>3.15 Does the List include people experiencing homelessness as soon as they are connected with the homeless-serving system?</p>	<p>Yes – people are included on the first day</p>
<p>3.16 Does the List include more than just people experiencing chronic homelessness?</p>	<p>Yes – includes more than chronic</p>
<p>3.17 a) Does the List include all of the individuals and families staying in all of the emergency shelters (e.g., emergency shelters, hostels, and hotel/motel stays paid for by a service provider)?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>b) Does the List include individuals and families staying in domestic violence shelters?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>3.18 Does the List include all of the individuals and families served through outreach at all locations (hotspots) where people are living unsheltered (i.e., staying in places not meant for human habitation)?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>3.19 Does the List include individuals and families who are experiencing hidden homelessness, to the best of your knowledge?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>3.20 Does the List include individuals and families staying in transitional housing?</p>	<p>Yes</p>
<p>3.21 Does the List include individuals staying in public institutions who do not have a fixed address (e.g., jail or hospital)?</p>	<p>Yes</p>

3.22 The “**Understanding Community-Level Data**” worksheet helps communities self-assess the comprehensiveness of their List. CHR question 3.22 is an **optional follow-up question** for communities that have completed this worksheet.

Optional CHR question: How does data from the List compare to other community-level data sources that are considered accurate or valid? For example, if data is available for similar time periods, how do the numbers and/or proportions of people staying in shelters or living unsheltered compare across data sources?

***Optional:** Please insert comment here*

3.23 Consider your answers to Questions 3.13 to 3.21 (and 3.22, if applicable). In your opinion, does your List include all of the individuals and families experiencing homelessness in your community, as much as possible right now?	Yes
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Part B) Please provide additional information about the List

3.24 a) Does the community have a document that identifies and describes all of the service providers that help people experiencing homelessness with their housing challenges?	Yes
b) In this document, how many providers help to keep the List up-to-date in some way? For example, they may refer people to an access point where they can be added to the List or update the List directly in the HMIS.	

c) How many of the providers identified in 3.24(b) above are funded through the Designated Communities (DC) or Territorial Homelessness (TH) stream?

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Step 4. Track outcomes and progress against targets using data from the List

Part A) Can the community generate accurate baselines using data from the List?

Communities use data from their List to report on outcomes and set targets in their CHR.

Only communities with a real-time, comprehensive List and the capacity to generate accurate baselines for the five core outcomes will be asked to set targets and submit results in the current reporting cycle.

To generate accurate monthly baselines, a List needs to be in place by January 1st and monthly data is reported for all of March. To generate accurate annual baselines, a List needs to be in place for at least one fiscal year and annual data is reported for April 1st to March 31st.

3.25 Has the List been in place long enough to report **monthly data**?

a) Was your real-time, comprehensive List in place on or before January 1, 2023?	Yes
b) Was your real-time, comprehensive List in place on or before January 1, 2022?	Yes
c) Was your real-time, comprehensive List in place on or before January 1, 2021?	Yes
d) Was your real-time, comprehensive List in place on or before January 1, 2020?	Yes

3.26 Using the List, can **monthly data** be generated for the core outcomes:

a) Outcome #1: People who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that month)	Yes
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b) Outcome #2: People who were newly identified (that month)	Yes
c) Outcome #3: Returns to homelessness (that month)	Yes
d) Outcome #4: Indigenous peoples who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that month)	Yes
e) Outcome #5: People who experienced chronic homelessness for at least one day (that month)	Yes
f) Does your community have a target to report in Section 4 for one or more of the following monthly outcomes:	
Outcome #1:	No
Outcome #2:	No
Outcome #3:	No
Outcome #4:	No
Outcome #5:	No
3.27 Has the List been in place long enough to report annual data ?	
a) Was your real-time, comprehensive List in place on or before April 1, 2022?	Yes
b) Was your real-time, comprehensive List in place on or before April 1, 2021?	Yes
c) Was your real-time, comprehensive List in place on or before April 1, 2020?	Yes
d) Was your real-time, comprehensive List in place on or before April 1, 2019?	Yes
3.28 Using data from the List, can annual data be generated for the core outcomes:	
a) Outcome #1: People who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that year)	Yes

b) Outcome #2: People who were newly identified (that year)

Yes

c) Outcome #3: Returns to homelessness (that year)

Yes

d) Outcome #4: Indigenous peoples who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that year)

Yes

e) Outcome #5: People who experienced chronic homelessness for at least one day (that year)

Yes

g) Does your community have a target to report in Section 4 for one or more of the following annual outcomes:

Outcome #1:

No

Outcome #2:

No

Outcome #3:

No

Outcome #4:

No

Outcome #5:	No
Part B) Please provide additional information about the List	
3.29 Has your List met the benchmark of a “Quality By-Name List” confirmed by the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness?	Yes
Section 3 Summary Tables	
The tables below provide a summary of the work your community has done so far to transition to an outcomes-based approach under Reaching Home.	

Step 1: Has a List	Step 2: Has a real-time List	Step 3: Has a comprehensive List
Yes	Yes	Yes

Step 4: Can report <u>monthly</u> outcomes and set targets using data from the List (reporting in Section 4 is mandatory for 2023-24 CHR, if not earlier)			
List was in place as of January 1, 2023 (or earlier)	Can generate monthly data	Has set targets	Has an outcomes- based approach in place
Yes	Outcome 1: Yes	Outcome 1: No	No
	Outcome 2: Yes	Outcome 2: No	
	Outcome 3: Yes	Outcome 3: No	
	Outcome 4: Yes	Outcome 4: No	
	Outcome 5: Yes	Outcome 5: No	

Step 4: Can report <u>annual</u> outcomes and set targets using data from the List (reporting in Section 4 is mandatory once annual data can be generated)			
List was in place as of April 1, 2022 (or earlier)	Can generate annual data	Has set targets	Has an outcomes-based approach in place
Yes	Outcome 1: Yes	Outcome 1: No	No
	Outcome 2: Yes	Outcome 2: No	
	Outcome 3: Yes	Outcome 3: No	
	Outcome 4: Yes	Outcome 4: No	
	Outcome 5: Yes	Outcome 5: No	

Section 3 Summary Comment

3.30 Are there particular efforts and/or issues that you would like to highlight for this reporting period related to your community’s work to transition to an outcomes-based approach under Reaching Home? In particular, please include updates about the following:

- efforts to set-up, maintain and/or improve the List over the last year;
- plans to set-up, maintain and/or improve the List over the next year;
- examples of how data from the List was used over the last year (e.g., for service planning at the individual level or for strategic planning at the community level); and,
- if the community has a plan in place to support them to improve the quality of data being generated from their List.

Your Summary Comment is an opportunity to provide additional context about your Summary Table results.

The CE continues to work with the HIFIS and CAS Governance Committee, The Community Advisory Board and funded agencies to elevate the discussion regarding data sharing via HIFIS. To date, organizations and committees have concerns regarding the creation of a merged HIFIS database for HRM. To date, the BNL is the only merged database operating in HRM. Maintaining the BNL relies on the BNL Coordinator requesting updates from service providers as often as possible to keep the data as close to real time as possible. This has often been challenging as service providers cannot always meet the deadlines due to staffing and resource demands. At the end of the 2022-23 fiscal year, the CE hired a data scientist to create data dashboards using anonymized, aggregate dashboards to assist in the creation of narratives that could better inform the local understanding of pathways into and out of homelessness in HRM.

End of Section 3

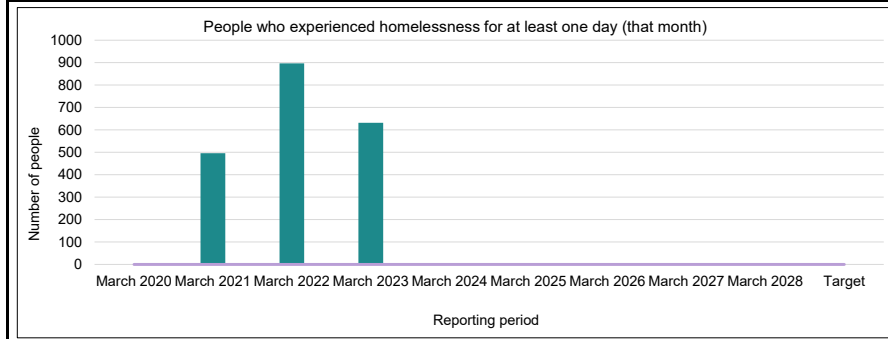
SECTION 4: COMMUNITY-LEVEL OUTCOMES AND TARGETS (MONTHLY)

Community-Level Core Outcomes – Monthly Data Reporting

Outcome #1: Fewer people experience homelessness (homelessness is reduced overall)

Given your answers in Section 3, you can report monthly result(s) for Outcome #1 using your List. Add a target for 2027-28 in the far right box.

	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
People who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that month)	N/A	496	897	632						



Context for Outcome #1 (monthly):

a) Please provide context about your results, as applicable. For example, if data changed from a previous CHR, please describe what changed and why. In addition, if the target has changed, please provide more information about why it was changed and when. Finally, if N/A was used for one or more data points, please describe why.

As can be seen above, the number of new entries into homelessness for at least 1 day during March 2023 was lower than this monthly outcome in March 2022. The increased investment in Homelessness Prevention and Shelter Diversion may provide some context for the reduced number of new entries into homelessness in March 2023. Another variable to consider however is that data on entries into The Bridge (a hotel that became another emergency housing/shelter option in HRM) was behind schedule and so the above outcome may under-represent the number of new households that experienced homelessness for at least one day during the month of March 2023. It must also be recognized that March of each calendar year marks the end of the fiscal year so data entry in many agencies could potentially be delayed for this extra busy month. Results indicated as N/A are from historical years where no data was appropriately collected for reporting.

b) Was the HIFIS **“Community Homelessness Report”** used to generate data for this outcome? Yes

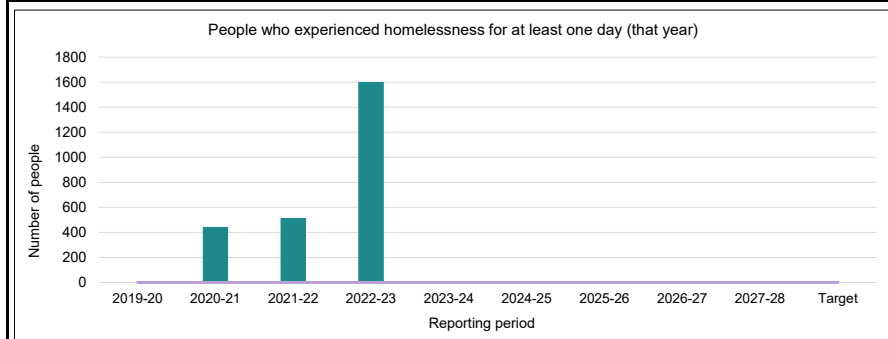
SECTION 4: COMMUNITY-LEVEL OUTCOMES AND TARGETS (ANNUAL)

Community-Level Core Outcomes – Annual Data Reporting

Outcome #1: Fewer people experience homelessness (homelessness is reduced overall)

Given your answers in Section 3, you can report annual result(s) for Outcome #1 using your List. Add a target for 2027-28 in the far right box.

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
People who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that year)	N/A	440	512	1597						



Context for Outcome #1 (annual):

a) Please provide context about your results, as applicable. For example, if data changed from a previous CHR, please describe what changed and why. In addition, if the target has changed, please provide more information about why it was changed and when. Finally, if N/A was used for one or more data points, please describe why.

Like most urban centres across Canada, the housing crisis is severely impacting the affordability and availability of appropriate housing options for the most vulnerable Nova Scotians, many of whom rely on woefully inadequate income assistance rates. This housing crisis together with the end of the COVID-19 benefits and the slow economic recovery resulted in more households experiencing the threat of eviction (including renoventions), housing instability, and housing crises in HRM. The addition of the Bridge as another emergency housing/shelter option in HRM ensured that additional bed were available so more people formally connected to the HRM homelessness response system - some of whom may have experienced hidden homelessness previously but were now formally known to the homelessness response system. Results indicated as N/A are from historical years where no data was appropriately collected for reporting.

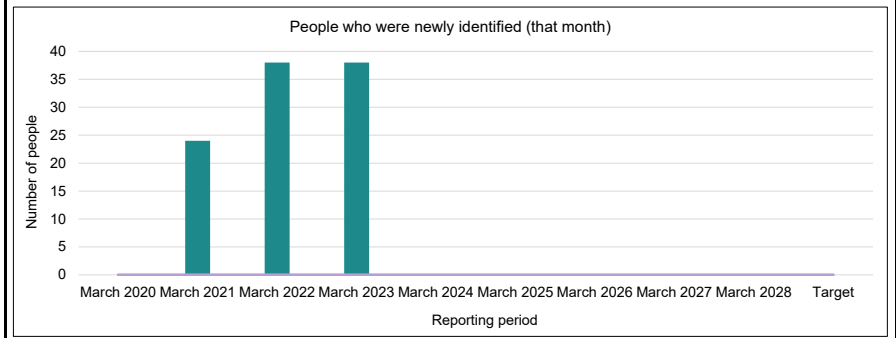
b) Was the HIFIS **“Community Homelessness Report”** used to generate data for this outcome? Yes

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Outcome #2: Fewer people were newly identified (new inflows to homelessness are reduced)

Given your answers in Section 3, you can report monthly result(s) for Outcome #2 using your List. Add a target for 2027-28 in the far right box.

	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
People who were newly identified (that month)	N/A	24	38	38						



Context for Outcome #2 (monthly):

a) Please provide context about your results, as applicable. For example, if data changed from a previous CHR, please describe what changed and why. In addition, if the target has changed, please provide more information about why it was changed and when. Finally, if N/A was used for one or more data points, please describe why.

See above comments. Results indicated as N/A are from historical years where no data was appropriately collected for reporting.

- b) Was the HIFIS **“Community Homelessness Report”** used to generate data for this outcome? No
- c) Was the federal standard for calculating this outcome used (see Annex A)? Yes

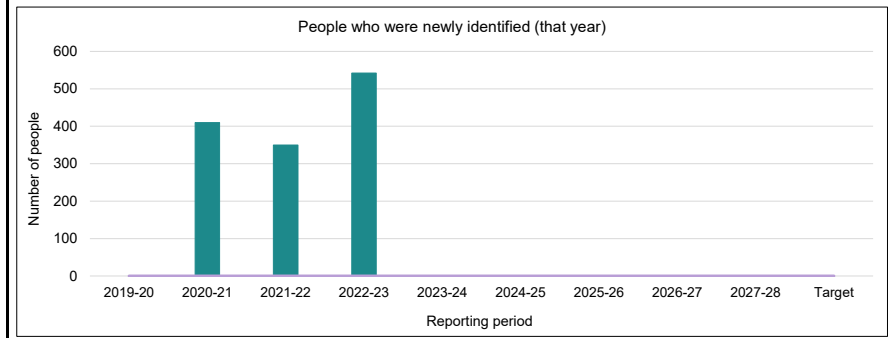
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Outcome #2: Fewer people were newly identified (new inflows to homelessness are reduced)

Given your answers in Section 3, you can report annual result(s) for Outcome #2 using your List. Add a target for 2027-28 in the far right box.

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
People who were newly identified (that year)	N/A	410	350	542						



Context for Outcome #2 (annual):

a) Please provide context about your results, as applicable. For example, if data changed from a previous CHR, please describe what changed and why. In addition, if the target has changed, please provide more information about why it was changed and when. Finally, if N/A was used for one or more data points, please describe why.

See above comments. Results indicated as N/A are from historical years where no data was appropriately collected for reporting.

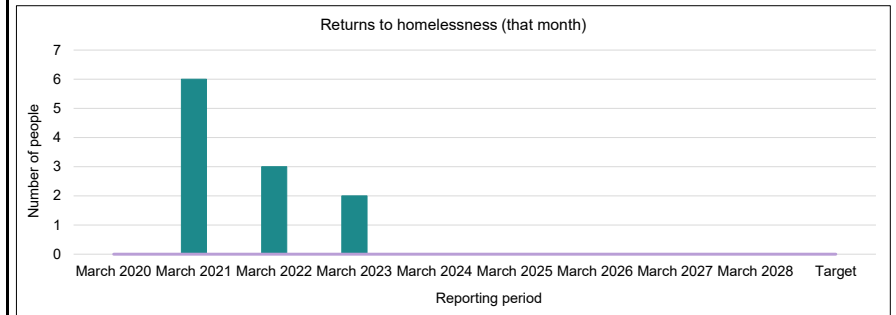
- b) Was the HIFIS **“Community Homelessness Report”** used to generate data for this outcome? No
- c) Was the federal standard for calculating this outcome used (see Annex A)? Yes

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Outcome #3: Fewer people return to homelessness (returns to homelessness are reduced)

Given your answers in Section 3, you can report monthly result(s) for Outcome #3 using your List. Add a target for 2027-28 in the far right box.

	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
Returns to homelessness (that month)	N/A	6	3	2						



Context for Outcome #3 (monthly):

a) Please provide context about your results, as applicable. For example, if data changed from a previous CHR, please describe what changed and why. In addition, if the target has changed, please provide more information about why it was changed and when. Finally, if N/A was used for one or more data points, please describe why.

The generation of data for the 2022-23 CHR incorporated a detailed de-duplication process to ensure that only the number of unique individuals were captured in this data so this may provide increased context for the reduction of people that returned to homelessness after being housed in March of 2023, compared to March of 2022 and certainly March of 2021. In addition to this, the end of the 2022-23 fiscal year also resulting in increased awareness on the lack of consistent housing placement data entries. If housing placement data is not entered once a person leaves homelessness for housing, their return to homelessness may actually just be viewed as an ongoing experience of homelessness, not a return to homelessness. Results indicated as N/A are from historical years where no data was appropriately collected for reporting.

b) Was the HIFIS "Community Homelessness Report" used to generate data for this outcome?	No
c) Was the federal standard for calculating this outcome used (see Annex A)?	Yes

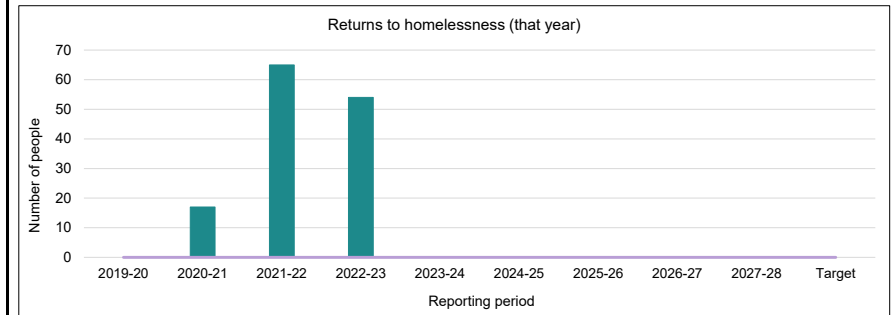
Outcome #4: Fewer Indigenous peoples experience homelessness (Indigenous homelessness is reduced)

Given your answers in Section 3, you can report monthly result(s) for Outcome #4 using your List. Add a target for 2027-28 in the far right box.

Outcome #3: Fewer people return to homelessness (returns to homelessness are reduced)

Given your answers in Section 3, you can report annual result(s) for Outcome #3 using your List. Add a target for 2027-28 in the far right box.

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
Returns to homelessness (that year)	N/A	17	65	54						



Context for Outcome #3 (annual):

a) Please provide context about your results, as applicable. For example, if data changed from a previous CHR, please describe what changed and why. In addition, if the target has changed, please provide more information about why it was changed and when. Finally, if N/A was used for one or more data points, please describe why.

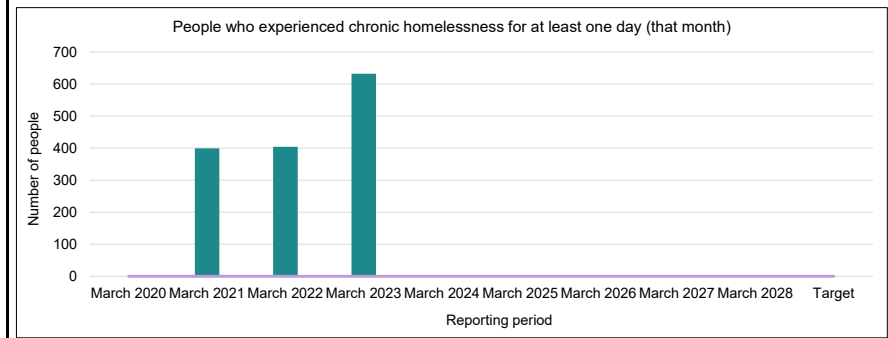
In addition to the context provided for Outcome #3 (monthly), it must also be recognized that a number of supportive housing programs came into HRM's housing infrastructure during 2022-23 and therefore tenants moved into these supportive housing units in recent months. In the fall and winter of 2022-2023, HRM agencies participating in Coordinated Access were also provided with the opportunity to participate in training on Excellence in Housing Based Case Management, Housing Focused Shelter and Impactful Street Outreach. Perhaps this capacity building opportunities also reduced the number of people that returned to homelessness after being housed. Results indicated as N/A are from historical years where no data was appropriately collected for reporting.

b) Was the HIFIS "Community Homelessness Report" used to generate data for this outcome?	No
c) Was the federal standard for calculating this outcome used (see Annex A)?	Yes

Outcome #4: Fewer Indigenous peoples experience homelessness (Indigenous homelessness is reduced)

Given your answers in Section 3, you can report annual result(s) for Outcome #4 using your List. Add a target for 2027-28 in the far right box.

People who experienced chronic homelessness for at least one day (that month)	N/A	399	404	632																
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Context for Outcome #5 (monthly):



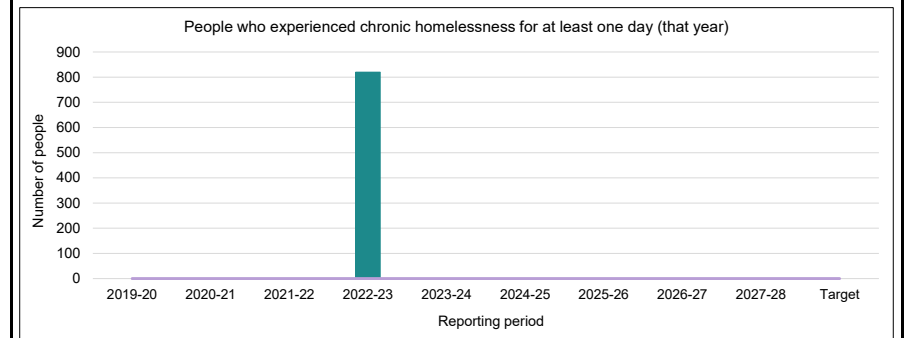
b) Please provide context about your results, as applicable. For example, if data changed from a previous CHR, please describe what changed and why. In addition, if the target has changed, please provide more information about why it was changed and when. Finally, if N/A was used for one or more data points, please describe why.

As identified above, the unprecedented housing crisis in HRM in 2022 and 2023 as well as the slow economic recovery after the pandemic (and the loss of COVID-19 benefits to most vulnerable households) ensure that households that experienced housing precarity before the pandemic and the housing crisis were now experiencing housing crises and potential inflow into homelessness. For those that had already been experiencing homelessness in 2021-22, the further collapse of available housing options in the private market, the lack of available permanent supportive housing to support those Nova Scotians with multiple, co-occurring health issues ensured that more people aged into chronic homelessness and remained stuck in the homeless response system. Results indicated as N/A are from historical years where no data was appropriately collected for reporting.

c) Was the HIFIS "Community Homelessness Report" used to generate data for this outcome?	Yes
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End of Section 4

People who experienced chronic homelessness for at least one day (that year)	N/A	N/A	N/A	820																
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Context for Outcome #5 (annual):



b) Please provide context about your results, as applicable. For example, if data changed from a previous CHR, please describe what changed and why. In addition, if the target has changed, please provide more information about why it was changed and when. Finally, if N/A was used for one or more data points, please describe why.

See comments in the Context for Outcome #5 Monthly as these provide some context for the annual rise in the number of people experiencing chronic homelessness (primarily sheltered and unsheltered) in HRM. During the 2023-24 fiscal year, HRM benefitted for the addition of more supportive housing units in HRM and across the Province that will/should benefit many of the households stuck in chronic homelessness in 2022-23. Results indicated as N/A are from historical years where no data was appropriately collected for reporting.

c) Was the HIFIS "Community Homelessness Report" used to generate data for this outcome?	Yes
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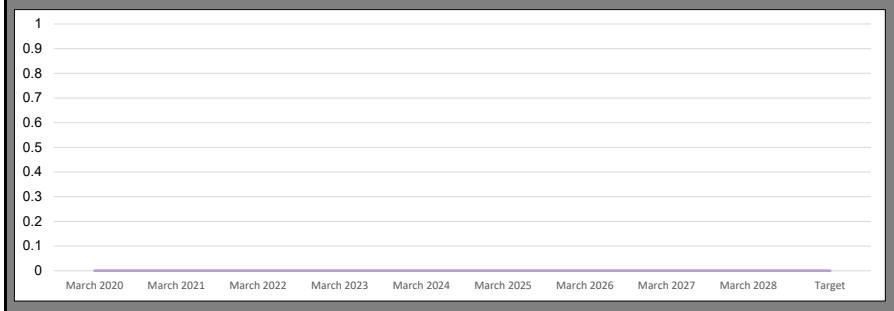
End of Section 4

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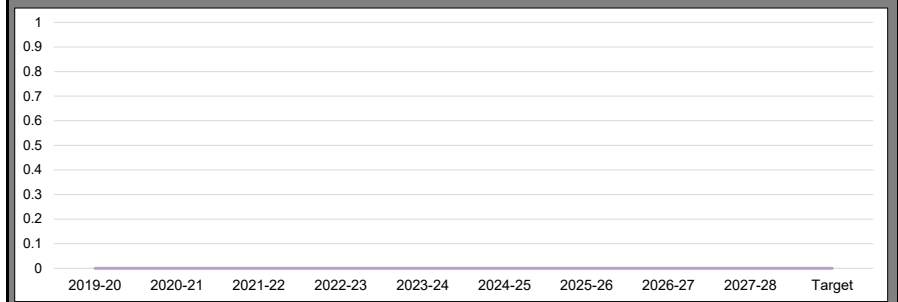


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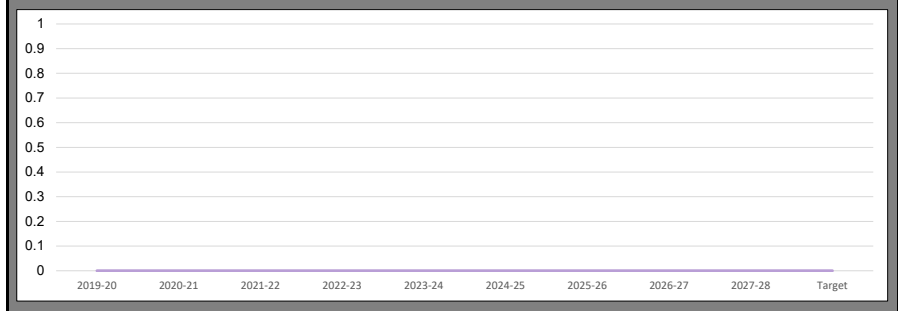


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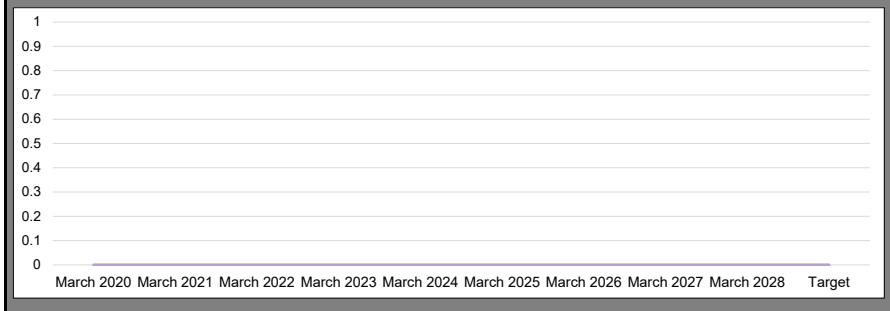


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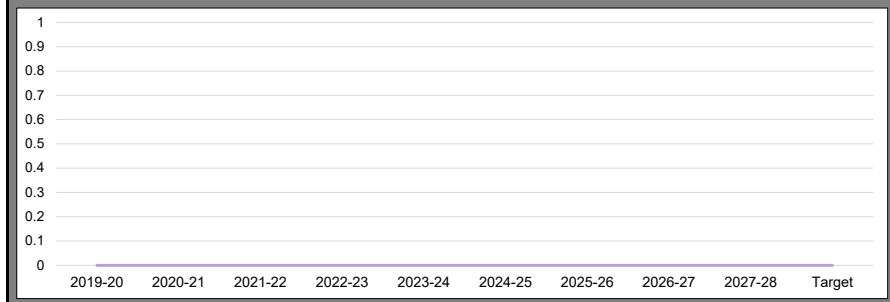


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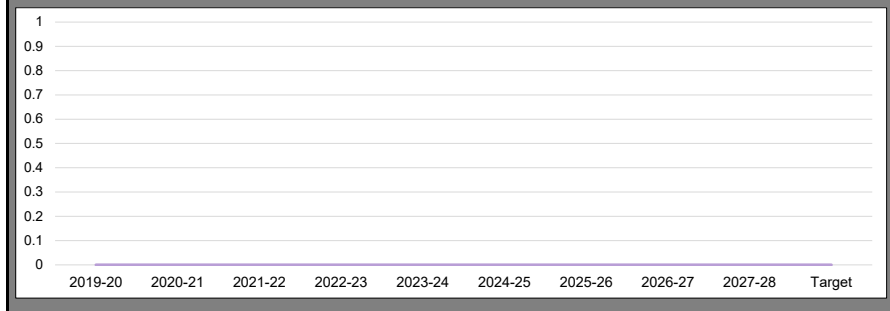


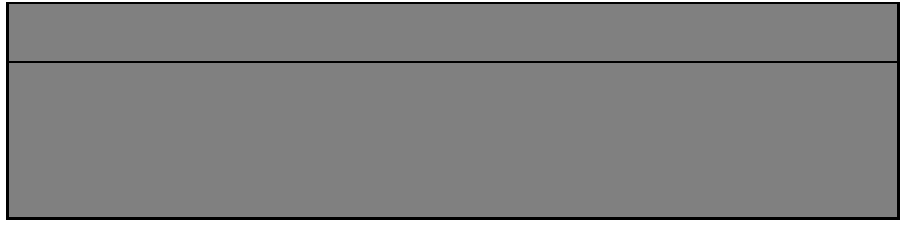
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COMMUNITY HOMELESSNESS REPORT SUMMARY

Halifax Regional Municipality

2022-2023

The Community Homelessness Report (CHR) is an annual Reaching Home reporting deliverable that supports communities to prevent and reduce homelessness using a more coordinated, systems-based and data-driven response. The CHR was designed to support local discussions and decision making, using all of the information about homelessness currently available at the community level. Communities are encouraged to use their CHR data to develop clear plans of action that help them to reach their homelessness reduction targets and to leverage the collective efforts of service providers working across the community, regardless of how they are funded.

This is a summary of the CHR for the 2022-23 reporting cycle. It shows the community's self-assessment of Reaching Home implementation, which includes the following key components:

- meaningful collaboration between Indigenous and non-Indigenous partners (see Section 1);
- community-level governance, coordinated service delivery (Coordinated Access) and use of a Homelessness Management Information System or HMIS (see Section 2); and,
- an outcomes-based approach (tracking community-level outcomes and progress against targets using a Unique Identifier or By-Name List, referred to as a List; see Section 3).

If the community was able to report on outcomes and targets, this CHR Summary also includes results for each of the five core outcomes of Reaching Home (see Section 4).

Does your community, as a Designated Community (DC), also receive Reaching Home Indigenous Homelessness (IH) funding?	No – only DC funding is available
Specific to Coordinated Access and the HMIS, has there been ongoing, meaningful collaboration between the DC or Territorial Homelessness (TH) CE and local Indigenous organizations over the reporting period?	Yes
Describe this collaboration in more detail.	
<p>The enhancement of Indigenous involvement in the design and operations of Coordinated Access remains important in HRM. Currently, HRM has Community Entities and CABs for both RH-Designated Community and RH - Indigenous Homelessness. As an important partner, the Mi'kmaw Native Friendship Centre (MNFC is also the CE for non-designated Indigenous Homelessness Funding in Nova Scotia) is a member on the Community Advisory Board and efforts have begun to enhancing data sharing while respecting Indigenous data sovereignty. In HRM, MNFC is also a recipient of DC-RH funding. To assist in enhancing cultural humility and enhancing access to culturally competent services and programs, the CAS manager at the CE took the OCAP training session in 2022-23.</p>	
With respect to the completion of the Community Homelessness Report (CHR), was there ongoing, meaningful collaboration between local Indigenous and non-Indigenous organizations and, where applicable, the IH CE and/or IH CAB?	No
What is the plan to ensure meaningful collaboration occurs during next year's CHR process?	
<p>Indigenous organizations who are recipients of DC-RH funding and participate in the HIFIS and CAS Governance Committee as well as the Community Advisory Board will continue to be engaged during the creation and approval of the Community Homelessness Report.</p>	

Section 2. Coordinated Access and Homelessness Management Information System (HMIS) Self-Assessment

Summary Tables

The table below provides a summary of the work your community has done so far to meet the Reaching Home minimum requirements for Coordinated Access and an HMIS.

	Met	Started	Not Yet Started
Number of minimum requirements	18	0	0

The table below shows the percentage of minimum requirements completed for each core Coordinated Access component.

Governance	HMIS	Access Points to Service	Triage and Assessment	Coordinated Access Resource Inventory	Vacancy Matching and Referral
100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%

Summary Comment

Are there particular efforts and/or issues that you would like to highlight for this reporting period related to your community's work to achieve the Reaching Home minimum requirements?

One issue that continues to be addressed locally is data sharing agreements that respects Indigenous data sovereignty. In the past year, the CAS manager participated in OCAP training to increase appreciation and gain valuable insights on opportunities for reconciliation. In addition to data sovereignty, community service providers continue to be hesitant to share data outside of program clusters and CE is working at a governance level to ensure confidence in HIFIS and coordinated access. At the end of 2022-23, CE hired a consultant to assist with repairing relationships between the CE, the community service providers, and the CAB/RRAB. The CE, under new leadership, has also resourced additional staff to ensure that the systems are functioning at their highest capacity and that policies/processes are well developed to further repair those relationships and instill new confidence in the CE. The CE continues to work toward a better monitoring process for service providers to assist in outcome informed decisions for future funding. The prioritization process was re-evaluated during 2022-23 and the completed matrix was approved by the date of this report (but not within 2022-23 fiscal). The matching and referral process meets the minimum requirements but we are striving to improve this process by bringing innovation to better serve clients. From a systems level, there is a new approach by the provincial government regarding HIFIS usage, so while we are meeting requirements from a Reaching Home perspective, there is still expansion and mapping of the system; this will lead to the system looking different as the year progresses. There is currently a disconnect between the Community Advisory Board and the governance committees and the CE is working to improve communication between the two tables (sharing progress on current work, sharing of minutes when applicable).

Summary Tables - Minimum Requirement

The tables below provide a summary of the work your community has done so far to transition to an outcomes-based approach under Reaching Home.

Step 1: Has a List	Step 2: Has a real-time List	Step 3: Has a comprehensive List
Yes	Yes	Yes

Step 4: Can report monthly outcomes and set targets using data from the List (reporting in Section 4 is mandatory for 2023-24 CHR's, if not earlier)

List was in place as of January 1, 2023 (or earlier)	Can generate monthly data	Has set targets	Has an outcomes-based approach in place
Yes	Outcome 1: Yes	Outcome 1: No	No
	Outcome 2: Yes	Outcome 2: No	
	Outcome 3: Yes	Outcome 3: No	
	Outcome 4: Yes	Outcome 4: No	
	Outcome 5: Yes	Outcome 5: No	

Step 4: Can report annual outcomes and set targets using data from the List (reporting in Section 4 is mandatory once annual data can be generated)

List was in place as of April 1, 2022 (or earlier)	Can generate annual data	Has set targets	Has an outcomes-based approach in place
Yes	Outcome 1: Yes	Outcome 1: No	No
	Outcome 2: Yes	Outcome 2: No	
	Outcome 3: Yes	Outcome 3: No	
	Outcome 4: Yes	Outcome 4: No	
	Outcome 5: Yes	Outcome 5: No	

Summary Comment

Are there particular efforts and/or issues that you would like to highlight for this reporting period related to your community's work to transition to an outcomes-based approach under Reaching Home?

The CE continues to work with the HIFIS and CAS Governance Committee, The Community Advisory Board and funded agencies to elevate the discussion regarding data sharing via HIFIS. To date, organizations and committees have concerns regarding the creation of a merged HIFIS database for HRM. To date, the BNL is the only merged database operating in HRM. Maintaining the BNL relies on the BNL Coordinator requesting updates from service providers as often as possible to keep the data as close to real time as possible. This has often been challenging as service providers cannot always meet the deadlines due to staffing and resource demands. At the end of the 2022-23 fiscal year, the CE hired a data scientist to create data dashboards using anonymized, aggregate dashboards to assist in the creation of narratives that could better inform the local understanding of pathways into and out of homelessness in HRM.

More information about the Unique Identifier List

Step 1. Have a List

Where does data for the List come from?

- HIFIS
- Excel
- Other HMIS
- Other data source(s)
- Not applicable – Do not have a List yet

Please describe the other data source(s):

The community partners who act as access points provide intake documents for clients experiencing homelessness.

Please describe how the List is created using HIFIS:

The list is currently housed in an independent excel document.

In the future, will data from the community's HMIS (either HIFIS or an existing, equivalent system) be used to get data for the List?

Yes

Step 1. Have a List (cont.)

For the List, does the community have...

A written policy/protocol that describes how interaction with the homeless-serving system is documented	Yes
A written policy/protocol that describes how housing history is documented	Yes

Chronic homelessness

x	Federal definition
	Local definition

From the List, can the community get data for...

Newly identified on the List	Yes
Activity and inactivity	Yes
Housing history	Yes

From the List, can the community get demographic data for...

Age	Yes	Indigenous identity	Yes
Household type	Yes	Veteran status	Yes
Gender identity	Yes		

Step 2. Have a real-time List

How often is information about people experiencing homelessness updated on the List?	As soon as new information is available
Is people's interaction with the homeless-serving system (activity and inactivity) updated regularly on the List?	Yes
Is housing history updated regularly on the List?	Yes
Is there a process in place for keeping chronic homelessness status on the List up-to-date?	Yes

Step 3. Have a comprehensive List

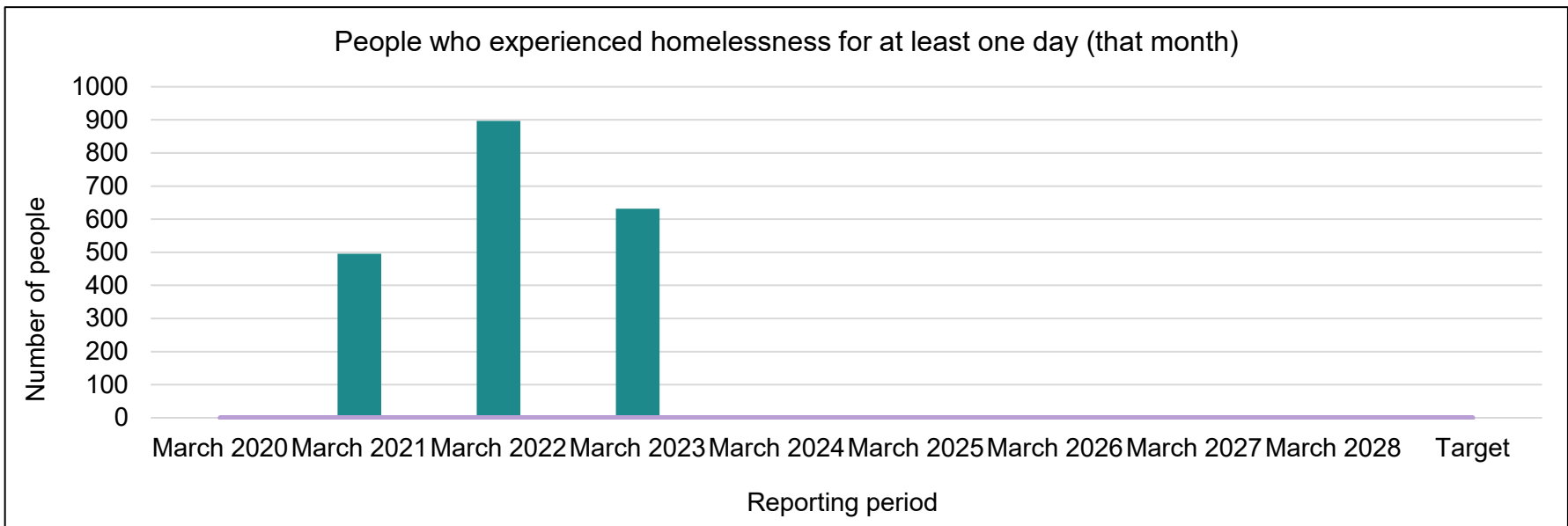
Does the community have a document that identifies and describes all of the service providers that help people experiencing homelessness with their housing challenges?	Yes
Optional question: How does data from the List compare to other community-level data sources that are considered accurate or valid? This is an optional follow-up question for communities that have completed the “ <i>Understanding Community-Level Data</i> ” worksheet.	
Community did not complete this optional question.	

Step 4. Track outcomes and progress against targets using data from the List	
Does the List meet the benchmark of a “Quality By-Name List” confirmed by the Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness?	Yes

Section 4. Community-Level Outcomes and Targets – Monthly

Outcome #1: Fewer people experience homelessness (homelessness is reduced overall)

	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
People who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that month)	N/A	496	897	632						



Context for Outcome #1 (monthly):

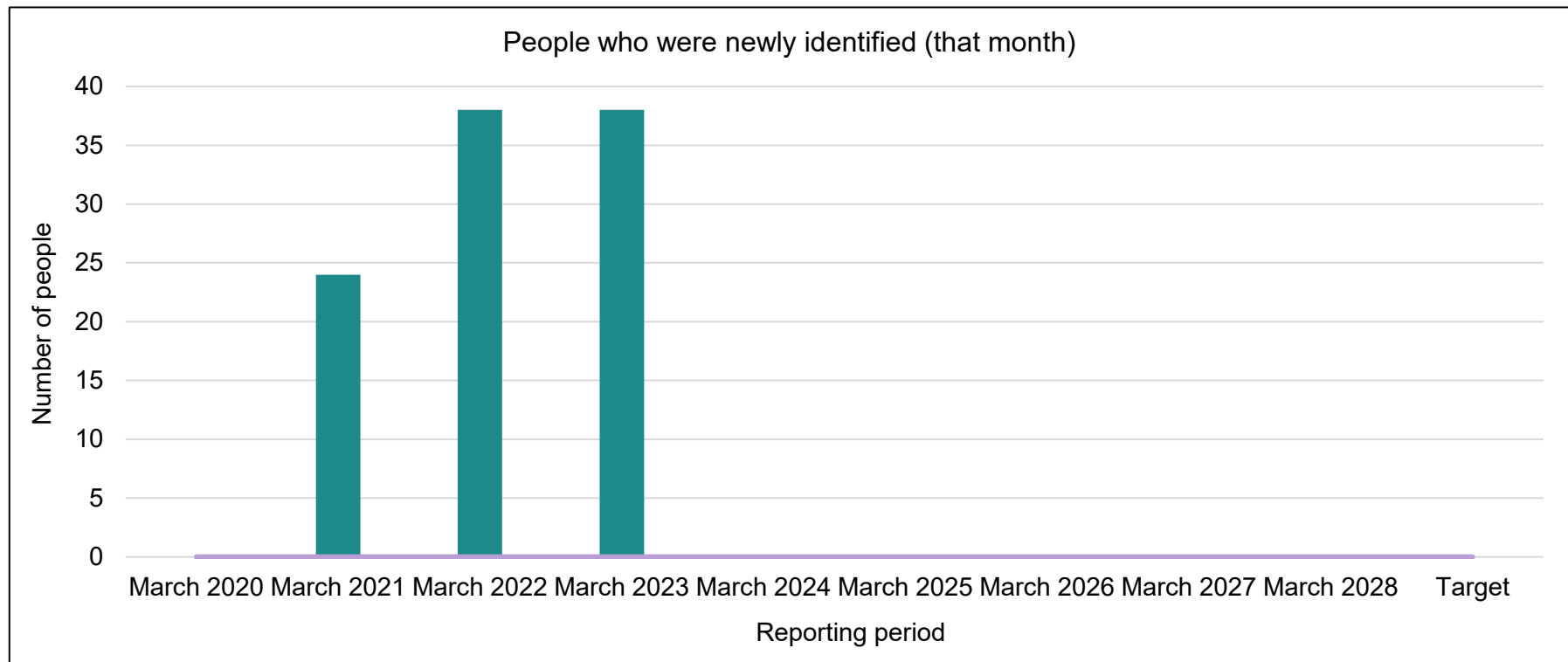
Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

As can be seen above, the number of new entries into homelessness for at least 1 day during March 2023 was lower than this monthly outcome in March 2022. The increased investment in Homelessness Prevention and Shelter Diversion may provide some context for the reduced number of new entries into homelessness in March 2023. Another variable to consider however is that data on entries into The Bridge (a hotel that became another emergency housing/shelter option in HRM) was behind schedule and so the above outcome may under-represent the number of new households that experienced homelessness for at least one day during the month of March 2023. It must also be recognized that March of each calendar year marks the end of the fiscal year so data entry in many agencies could potentially be delayed for this extra busy month. Results indicated as N/A are from historical years where no data was appropriately collected for reporting.

Was the HIFIS <i>“Community Homelessness Report”</i> used to generate data for this outcome?	Yes

Outcome #2: Fewer people were newly identified (new inflows to homelessness are reduced)

	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
People who were newly identified (that month)	N/A	24	38	38						



Context for Outcome #2 (monthly):
 Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

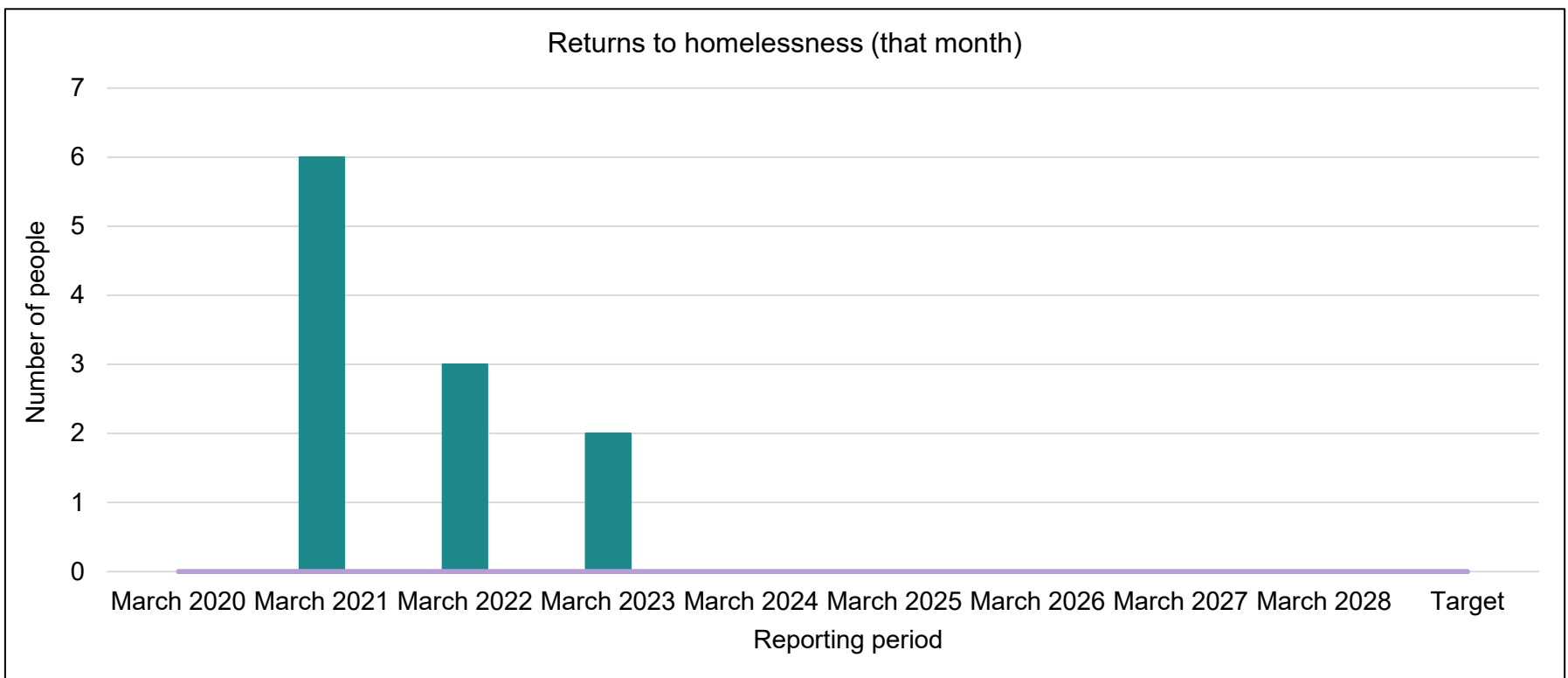
See above comments. Results indicated as N/A are from historical years where no data was appropriately collected for reporting.

Was the HIFIS "**Community Homelessness Report**" used to generate data for this outcome?

No

Outcome #3: Fewer people return to homelessness (returns to homelessness are reduced)

	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
Returns to homelessness (that month)	N/A	6	3	2						



Context for Outcome #3 (monthly):

Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

The generation of data for the 2022-23 CHR incorporated a detailed de-duplication process to ensure that only the number of unique individuals were captured in this data so this may provide increased context for the reduction of people that returned to homelessness after being housed in March of 2023, compared to March of 2022 and certainly March of 2021. In addition to this, the end of the 2022-23 fiscal year also resulting in increased awareness on the lack of consistent housing placement data entries. If housing placement data is not entered once a person leaves homelessness for housing, their return to homelessness may actually just be viewed as an ongoing experience of homelessness, not a return to homelessness. Results indicated as N/A are from historical years where no data was appropriately collected for reporting.

Was the HIFIS ***“Community Homelessness Report”*** used to generate data for this outcome?

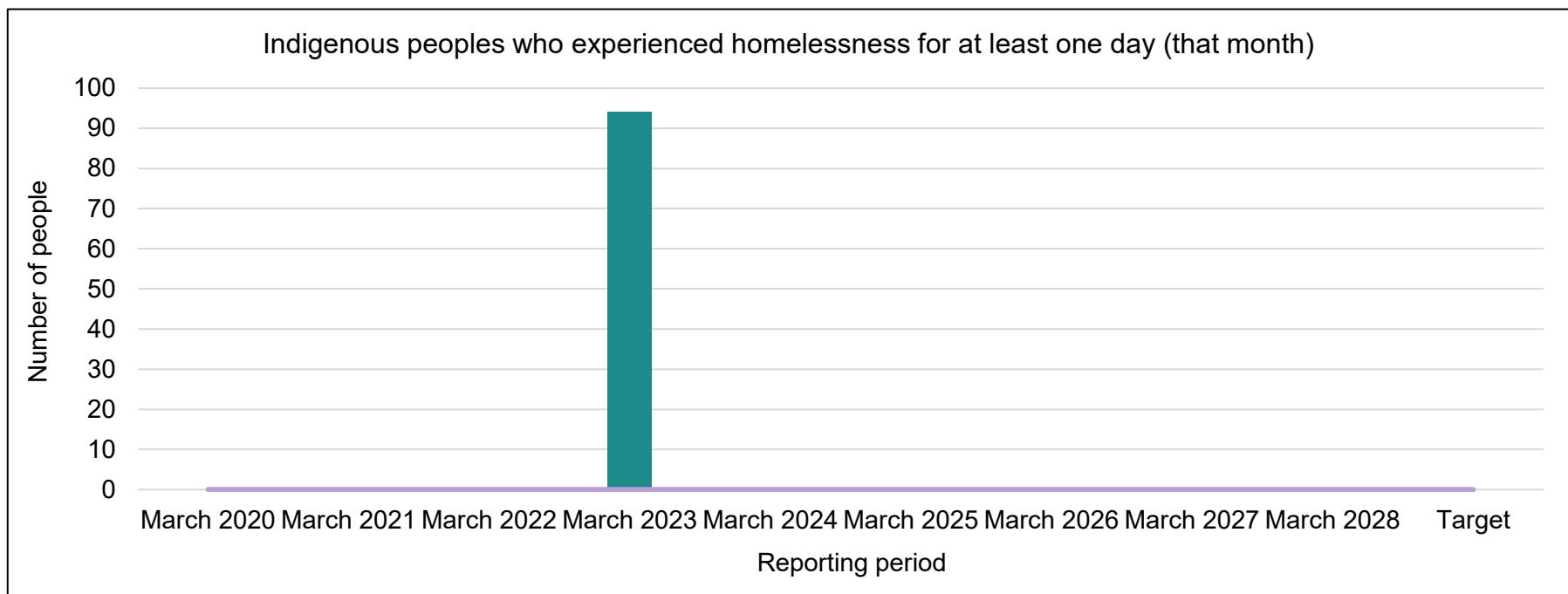
No

Was the federal standard for calculating this outcome used (see Annex A)?

Yes

Outcome #4: Fewer Indigenous peoples experience homelessness (Indigenous homelessness is reduced)

	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
Indigenous peoples who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that month)	N/A	N/A	N/A	94						



Context for Outcome #4 (monthly):

Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

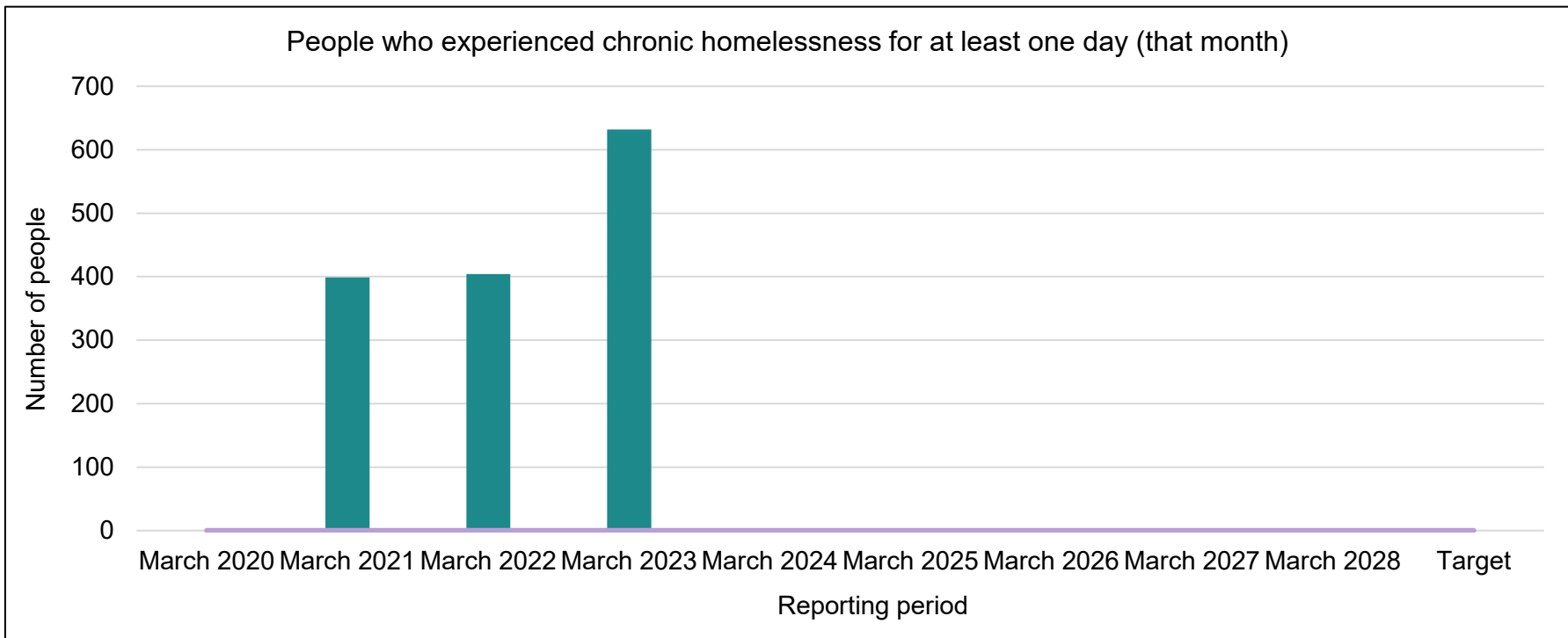
The impact of the housing crisis, the lasting impacts of the slow economic recovery in the post COVID-19 restriction reality as well as ongoing systemic and structural discrimination continue to disproportionately impact Indigenous People (and People of African Nova Scotian descent) in HRM. Indigenous People continue to be over-represented in the number of people experiencing homelessness locally. Results indicated as N/A are from historical years where no data was appropriately collected for reporting.

Was the HIFIS ***“Community Homelessness Report”*** used to generate data for this outcome?

Yes

Outcome #5: Fewer people experience chronic homelessness (chronic homelessness is reduced)

	March 2020	March 2021	March 2022	March 2023	March 2024	March 2025	March 2026	March 2027	March 2028	Target
People who experienced chronic homelessness for at least one day (that month)	N/A	399	404	632						



Context for Outcome #5 (monthly):

Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

As identified above, the unprecedented housing crisis in HRM in 2022 and 2023 as well as the slow economic recovery after the pandemic (and the loss of COVID-19 benefits to most vulnerable households) ensure that households that experienced housing precarity before the pandemic and the housing crisis were now experiencing housing crises and potential inflow into homelessness. For those that had already been experiencing homelessness in 2021-22, the further collapse of available housing options in the private market, the lack of available permanent supportive housing to support those Nova Scotians with multiple, co-occurring health issues ensured that more people aged into chronic homelessness and remained stuck in the homeless response system. Results indicated as N/A are from historical years where no data was appropriately collected for reporting.

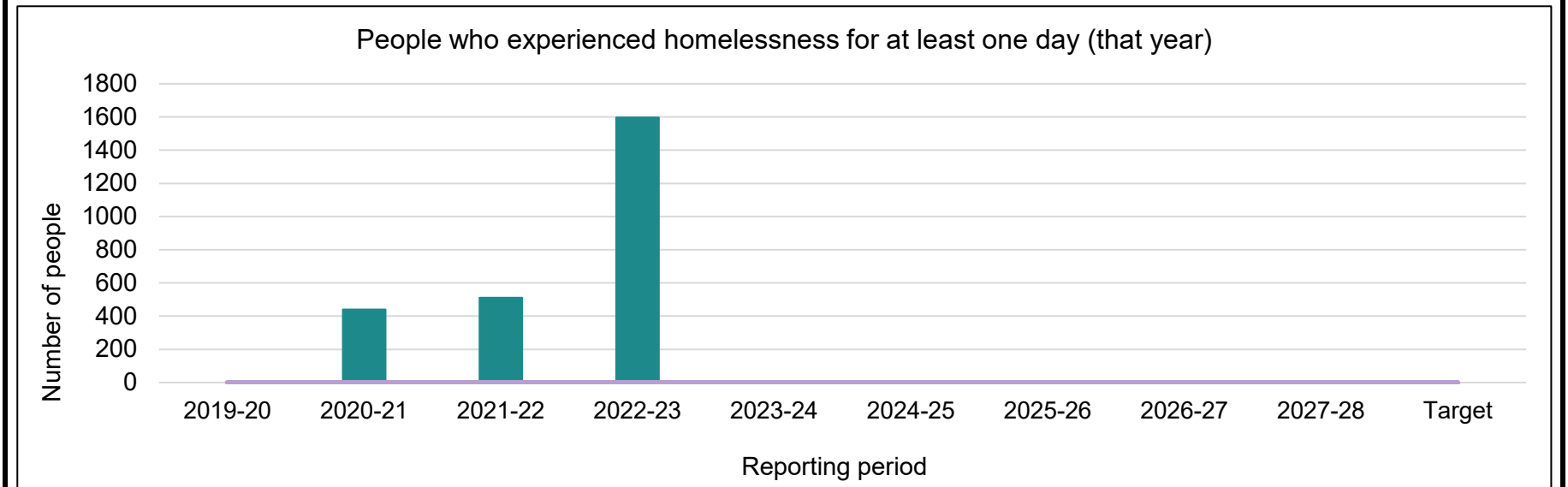
Was the HIFIS ***“Community Homelessness Report”*** used to generate data for this outcome?

Yes

Section 4. Community-Level Outcomes and Targets – Annual

Outcome #1: Fewer people experience homelessness (homelessness is reduced overall)

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
People who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that year)	N/A	440	512	1597						



Context for Outcome #1 (annual):

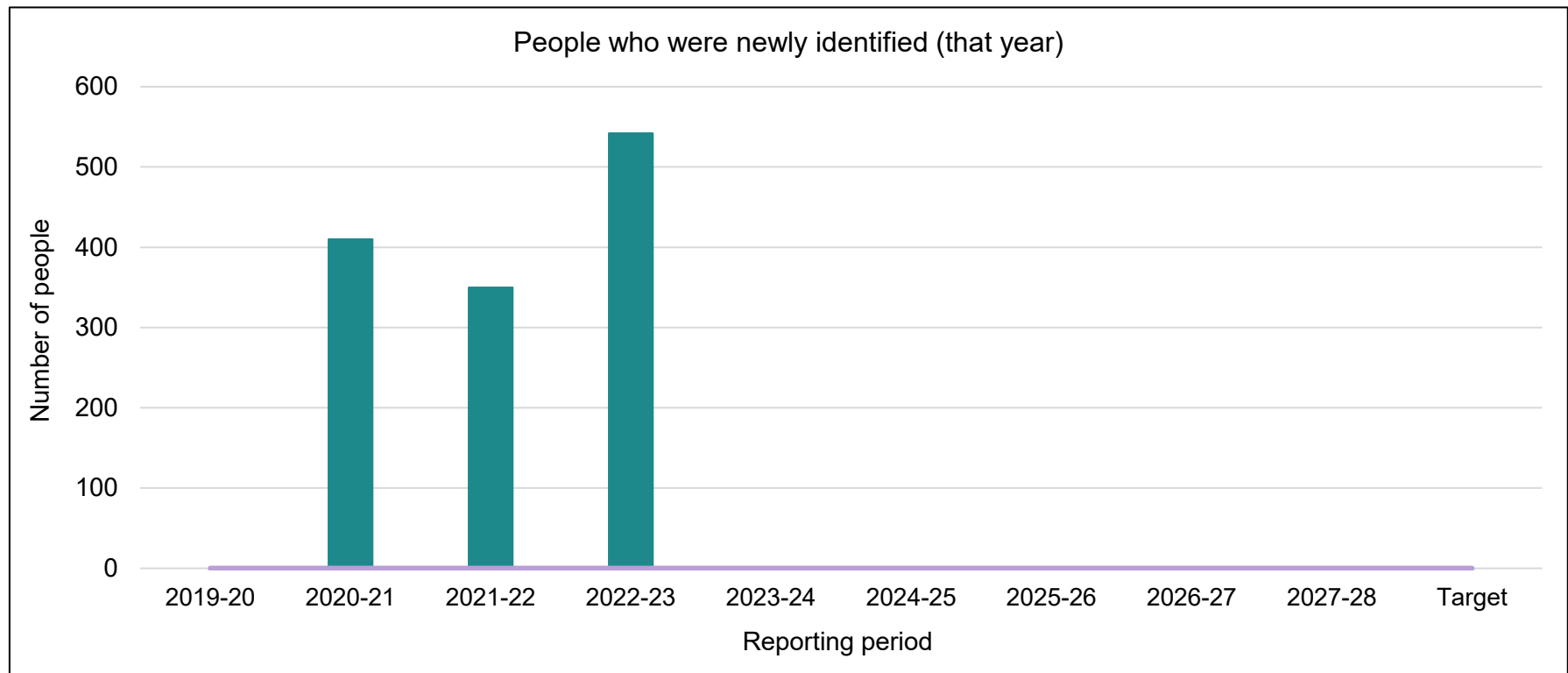
Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

Like most urban centres across Canada, the housing crisis is severely impacting the affordability and availability of appropriate housing options for the most vulnerable Nova Scotians, many of whom rely on woefully inadequate income assistance rates. This housing crisis together with the end of the COVID-19 benefits and the slow economic recovery resulted in more households experiencing the threat of eviction (including re-evictions), housing instability, and housing crises in HRM. The addition of the Bridge as another emergency housing/shelter option in HRM ensured that additional beds were available so more people formally connected to the HRM homelessness response system - some of whom may have experienced hidden homelessness previously but were now formally known to the homelessness response system. Results indicated as N/A are from historical years where no data was appropriately collected for reporting.

Was the HIFIS <i>“Community Homelessness Report”</i> used to generate data for this outcome?	Yes

Outcome #2: Fewer people were newly identified (new inflows to homelessness are reduced)

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
People who were newly identified (that year)	N/A	410	350	542						



Context for Outcome #2 (annual):

Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

See above comments. Results indicated as N/A are from historical years where no data was appropriately collected for reporting.

Was the HIFIS "**Community Homelessness Report**" used to generate data for this outcome?

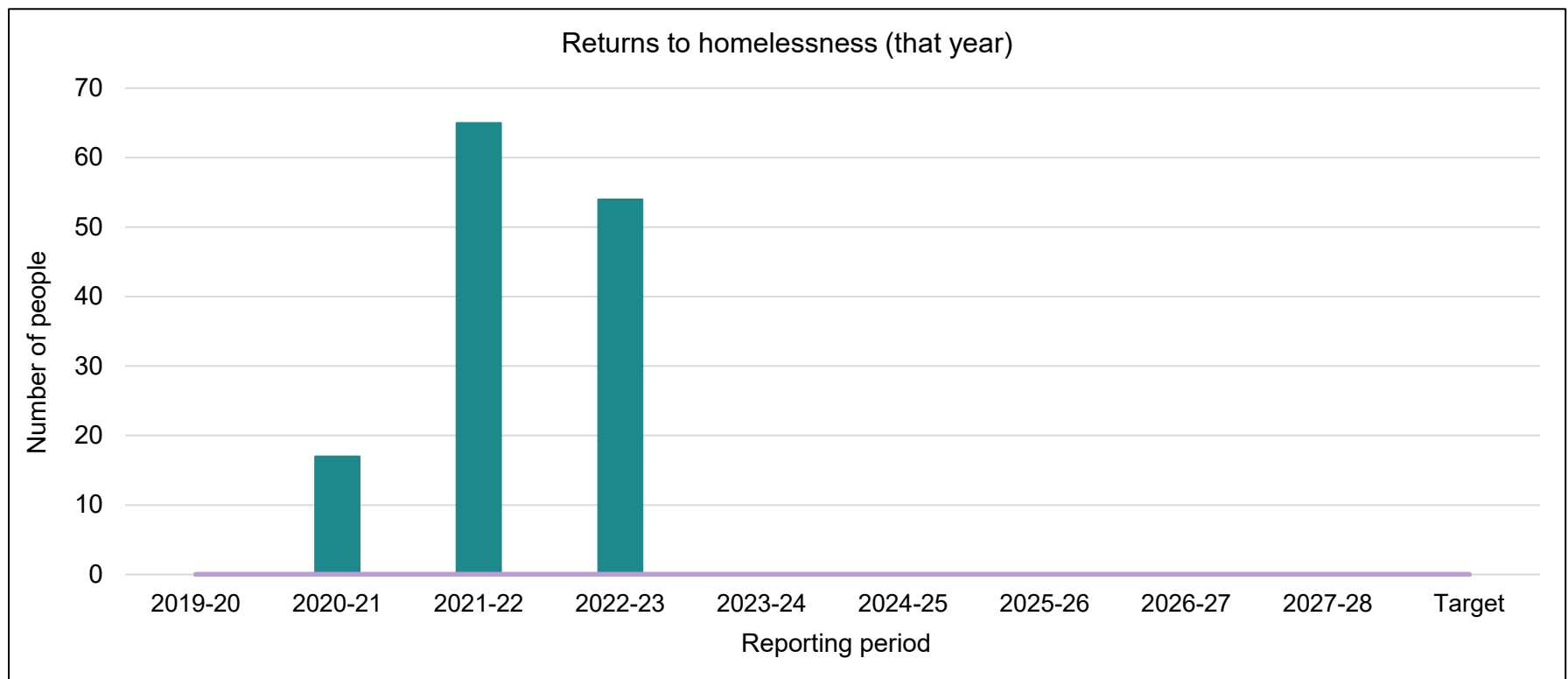
No

Was the federal standard for calculating this outcome used (see Annex A)?

Yes

Outcome #3: Fewer people return to homelessness (returns to homelessness are reduced)

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
Returns to homelessness (that year)	N/A	17	65	54						



Context for Outcome #3 (annual):

Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

In addition to the context provided for Outcome #3 (monthly), it must also be recognized that a number of supportive housing programs came into HRM's housing infrastructure during 2022-23 and therefore tenants moved into these supportive housing units in recent months. In the fall and winter of 2022-2023, HRM agencies participating in Coordinated Access were also provided with the opportunity to participate in training on Excellence in Housing Based Case Management, Housing Focused Shelter and Impactful Street Outreach. Perhaps this capacity building opportunities also reduced the number of people that returned to homelessness after being housed. Results indicated as N/A are from historical years where no data was appropriately collected for reporting.

Was the HIFIS "**Community Homelessness Report**" used to generate data for this outcome?

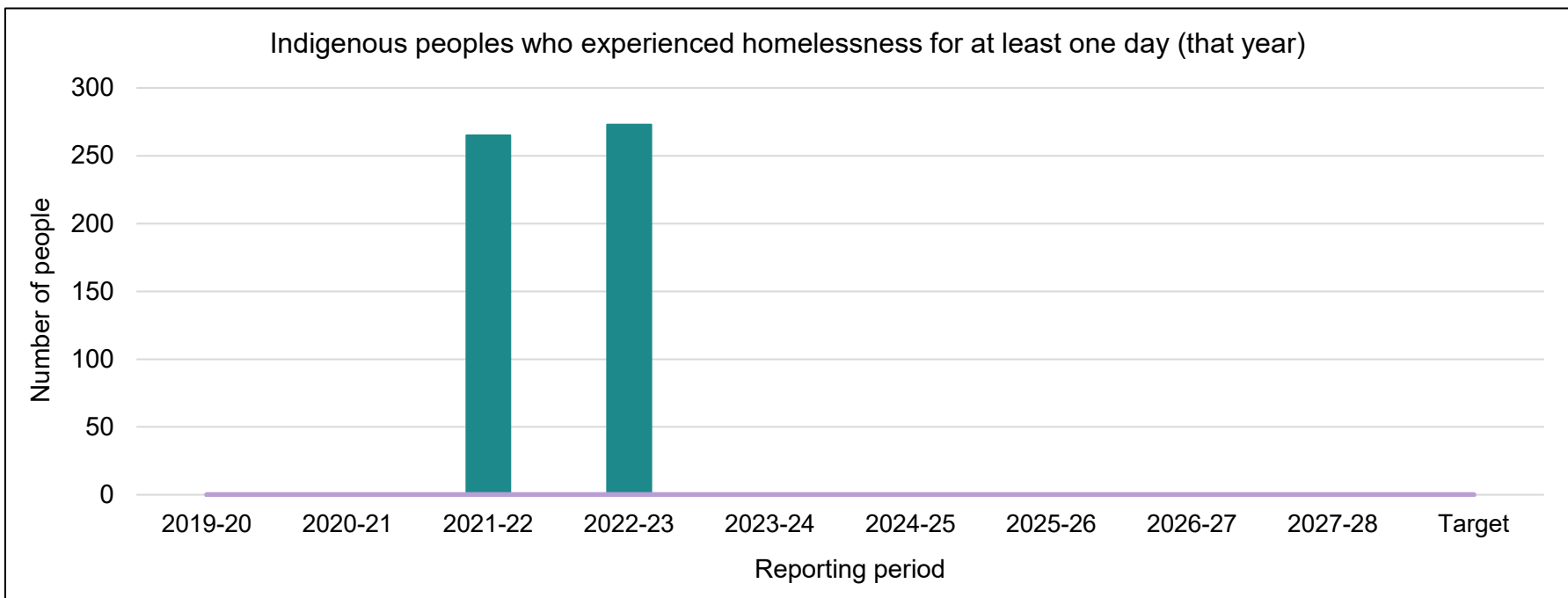
No

Was the federal standard for calculating this outcome used (see Annex A)?

Yes

Outcome #4: Fewer Indigenous peoples experience homelessness (Indigenous homelessness is reduced)

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
Indigenous peoples who experienced homelessness for at least one day (that year)	N/A	N/A	265	273						



Context for Outcome #4 (annual):

Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

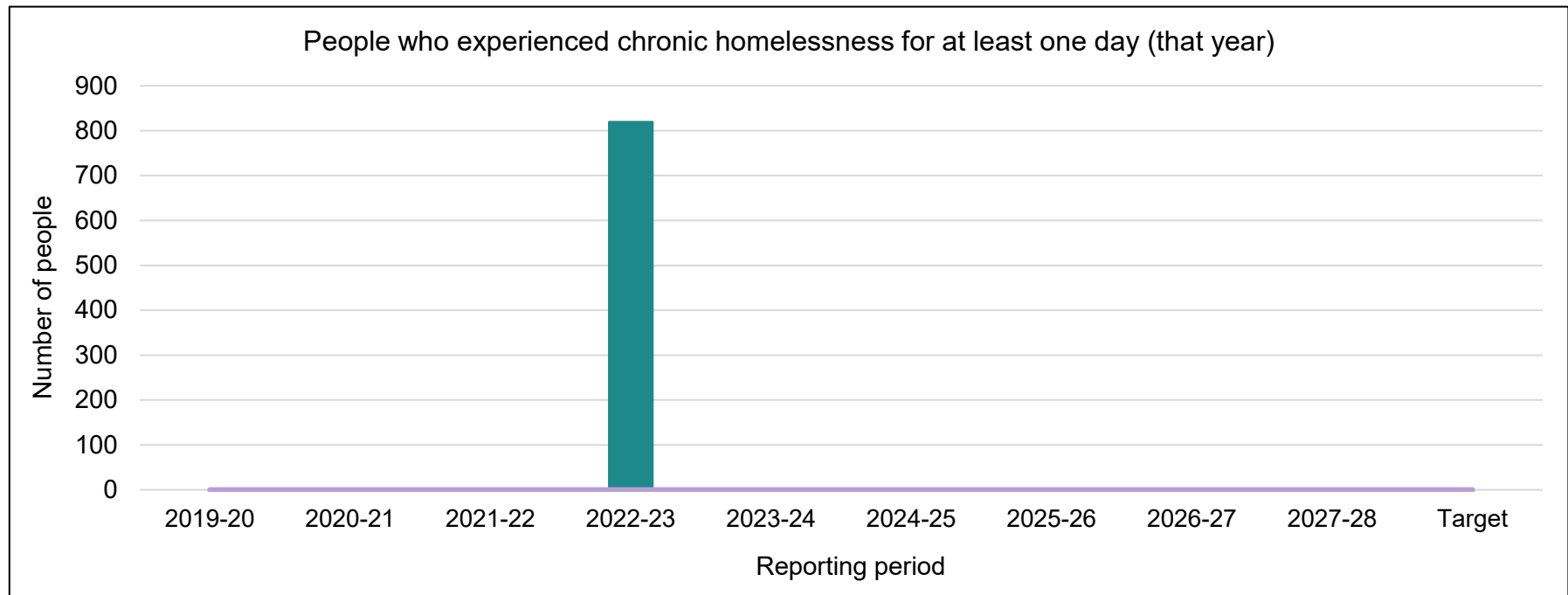
Systemic and structural discriminations rooted in Canada's history of colonization and exploitation continue to ensure that Indigenous Peoples are more likely to face economic poverty, unemployment, involvement in child welfare systems and also homelessness. Unfortunately, this remains the reality for Indigenous People in HRM. Results indicated as N/A are from historical years where no data was appropriately collected for reporting.

Was the HIFIS "**Community Homelessness Report**" used to generate data for this outcome?

Yes

Outcome #5: Fewer people experience chronic homelessness (chronic homelessness is reduced)

	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	2025-26	2026-27	2027-28	Target
People who experienced chronic homelessness for at least one day (that year)	N/A	N/A	N/A	820						

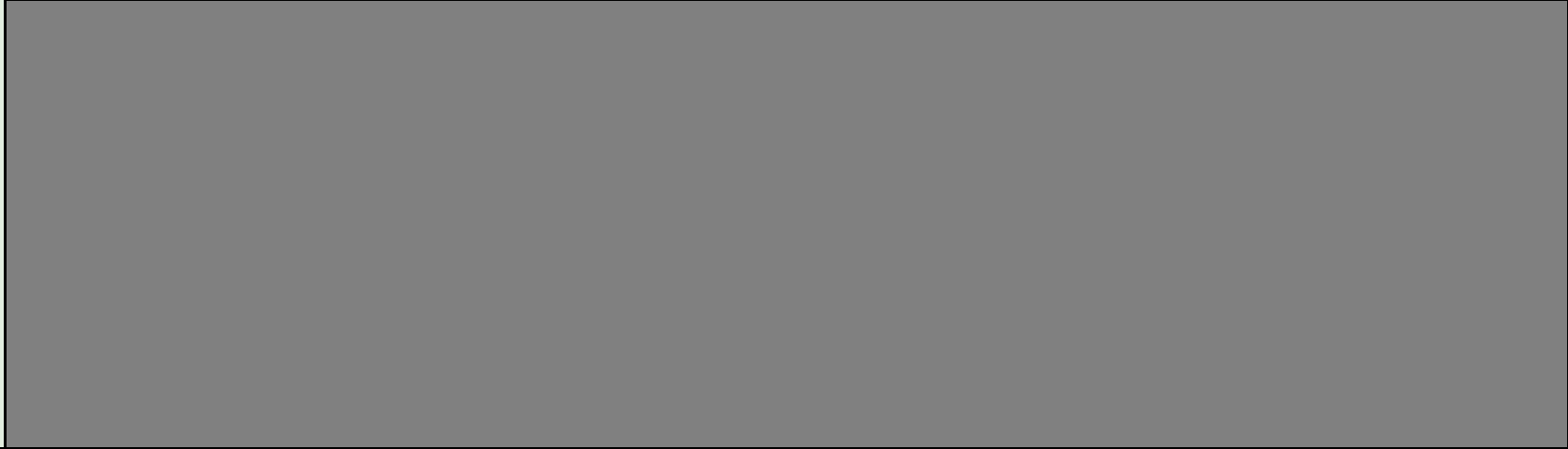


Please provide context about your results, as applicable.

See comments in the Context for Outcome #5 Monthly as these provide some context for the annual rise in the number of people experiencing chronic homelessness (primarily sheltered and unsheltered) in HRM. During the 2023-24 fiscal year, HRM benefitted for the addition of more supportive housing units in HRM and across the Province that will/should benefit many of the households stuck in chronic homelessness in 2022-23. Results indicated as N/A are from historical years where no data was appropriately collected for reporting.

Was the HIFIS ***“Community Homelessness Report”*** used to generate data for this outcome?

Yes



Designated Community – Community Advisory Board

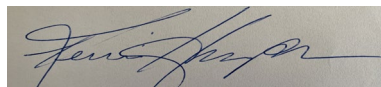
Note: You may list more than one name or organization for each sector. ESDC will not sell, distribute, trade or transfer your information to other government departments, businesses, institutions, organizations or individuals outside ESDC for any other purposes, unless required by law.

Sector	Community Advisory Board Member(s)
Service Canada (Ex-Officio Member)	
Provincial/Territorial government	
Local/Municipal government	
Indigenous peoples and organizations	
Veterans Affairs Canada or veterans serving organizations	
Organizations serving women/families fleeing violence	
Youth and/or youth serving organizations (including Child Welfare Agencies)	
Organizations serving seniors	
Newcomer serving organizations	
Health organizations, including hospitals and other public institutions, and organizations focused on mental health and addictions	
Individuals with lived experience of homelessness	
Organizations serving individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness	
Private sector	
Landlord associations and/or the housing sector	
Other	

Community Advisory Board Chairs or Co-Chairs (if applicable):

I affirm that the above members of the Community Advisory Board have reviewed the attached Community Homelessness Report and that the majority of Community Advisory Board members approve of its content.

Kevin Hooper



10-Jul-23

Name

Signature

Date

Name

Signature

Date

Name

Signature

Date

Indigenous Homelessness – Community Advisory Board

Note: You may list more than one name or organization for each sector. ESDC will not sell, distribute, trade or transfer your information to other government departments, businesses, institutions, organizations or individuals outside ESDC for any other purposes, unless required by law.

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Organizations serving seniors	
Newcomer serving organizations	
Health organizations, including hospitals and other public institutions, and organizations focused on mental health and addictions	
Individuals with lived experience of homelessness	
Organizations serving individuals experiencing or at risk of homelessness	
Private sector	
Landlord associations and/or the housing sector	
Other	

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Kevin Hooper



10-Jul-23

Name

Signature

Date

Name

Signature

Date

Name

Signature

Date