



Hamilton Addiction and Mental Health Collaborative

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Hamilton Addiction and Mental Health Collaborative (HAMHC) is to identify and address needs in Hamilton mental health and addiction services to better serve the needs of people using services. The Housing working group is a subcommittee of HAMHC. In the pursuit of coordinated excellence across the mental health and addiction service system in Hamilton, the HAMHC Housing working group is seeking the input of family members and people with lived experience of mental illness and/or addiction.

HAMHC Housing Working Group

The working group strives to include representation that is culturally inclusive and specifically seeks out the following stakeholder groups:

- Persons with lived experience of mental illness and/or addiction,
- Family members and/or caregivers,
- Survivor and family initiatives,
- Hospital-based mental health and/or addiction services,
- Community-based mental health and/or addiction services,
- Housing sector, specifically as it relates to persons with mental illness and/or addiction,
- Childrens' Services Sector
- Developmental Services Sector
- Past Co-Chairs
- Research and Education in mental health and addiction
- Human Services Justice Coordinating Committee

HAMHC MEMBERSHIP

HAMHC includes representatives from:

- Wayside House of Hamilton
- Hamilton Family Health Team
- T.A. Patterson & Associates
- Hamilton Mental Health Outreach
- Mental Health Rights Coalition
- Salvation Army Grace Haven/ New Choices
- Shelter Health Network
- Mission Services of Hamilton, Suntrac Addiction Treatment Centre
- Coast Hamilton
- Alternatives for Youth
- Southern Network of Specialized Care
- Good Shepherd Centres, Good Shepherd Non-Profit Homes
- Schizophrenia Society of Ontario
- Centre for Addiction and Mental Health
- Alcohol, Drugs & Gambling Services
- HNHB LHIN CCAC
- Ministry of Community and Social Services
- Hamilton Program for Schizophrenia
- Contact Hamilton, Childrens Developmental Services
- Canadian Mental Health Association
- City of Hamilton, Community Mental Health Promotion Program and Street Outreach Team
- Men's Addiction Services of Hamilton
- Womankind Addiction Service
- Mental Health and Addiction Program, St. Joesph's Healthcare Hamilton
- Individual members

HOUSING WORKING GROUP

The Housing Committee is a working group of the Hamilton Addiction and Mental Health Collaborative (HAMHC) that operated from 1999 until October 2005 as the Supported Housing Coordination Network (SHCN). The Housing Committee is comprised of organizations and individuals committed to and advocating for improved access to affordable and supported housing for persons with serious mental illness and/or addictions in Hamilton. The committee works toward the development of a continuum of housing options that provide a range of recovery-oriented supports based on consumer needs and preferences.

HAMHC HOUSING VALUES

- We value recovery principles of respect, choice, accessibility, inclusiveness, confidentiality, and community diversity.
- People with lived experience have the right to choose safe, appropriate, affordable, normal housing with security of tenure.
- The continuum of housing should offer consumer choice and a range of supports tailored to individual needs and preferences and available on an as-needed basis.
- Housing should promote privacy, independence, community integration and enhanced quality of life.
- Development of new housing and support services should be based on best practices and innovation, including consumer leadership and development planning.
- To live independently, consumers require adequate income and material supports including housing subsidies, transportation and a telephone.

COMMITMENT

We are looking for family members and people with lived experience of mental illness and/or addiction who are able to commit up to a minimum of one year with the Housing Working Group. Honorariums will be provided for your time and valued contribution.

ROLES & RESPONSIBILITIES INCLUDE:

- Identifying and promoting the implementation of stakeholder-informed solutions to challenges within the mental health and addiction system specific to housing.
- Raising community awareness of the housing and support requirements of persons with mental illness and/or addiction.
- Providing a lived experience perspective during discussion at Housing meetings.
- Attending meetings regularly, and in the event that you are not able to attend, emailing or calling the Collaborative Assistant with regrets.

If you are interested in joining the HAMHC Housing Working Group, please contact:

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Thank you,

HAMHC Housing Working Group Members