



Report to: Program Planning Committee
From: Donna Stewart, Director of Integrated Social Services
Date: March 21, 2018
Re: Homeless Enumeration - Issue Report

Purpose

The purpose of this report is to provide the DSB Program Planning Committee and the Board with an update on Homelessness Enumeration.

Background

As part of the Province's efforts to end chronic homelessness by 2025 and the long-term goal to end homelessness, Service Managers are required to conduct local enumeration of people experiencing homelessness. The Province requires all Service Managers to conduct enumeration of those experiencing homelessness in their communities. Local homeless enumeration, which is the measurement of the number of people experiencing homelessness over a specific period of time, would help Service Managers and the Ministry better understand the scale and nature of homelessness across the Province, as well as inform current and future policy and program design.

Objectives

Recognizing the value of strong, reliable and consistent data to inform policy, programs and services at both the provincial and Service Manager levels, the objectives of local homeless enumeration are:

- To provide a snapshot of homelessness, including information on the scope and nature of homelessness in communities across Ontario.
- To provide a mechanism for tracking progress and trends, including:
 - Establishing a baseline sample that can be used to track progress in reducing homelessness and chronic homelessness over time.
 - Enabling provincial reporting on the problem of homelessness.
 - Providing data that Service Managers can use to monitor the impact of local strategies and initiatives.

- To provide information to drive change, spur innovation and enable continuous improvement. Data gathered through enumeration can provide information about whether programs and initiatives are having the desired impact on homelessness.

Further to the Homelessness Enumeration [Homelessness Enumeration - Issue Report](#) approved by the Board on February 22nd, 2017, amendments to the Housing Services Act regulations require Service System Managers to conduct an enumeration of persons who are homeless in their respective Service Area.

To effectively do this work, the Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB required specialized services to assist the organization with completion of this task.

In May 2017, the Board approved a [report](#) to issue a Request for Proposals (RFP) to seek eligible proponents to complete the Homelessness Enumeration.

Carol Kauppi who is a Director, Centre for Research in Social Justice and Policy and for the Poverty, Homelessness and Migration from Laurentian University was the successful proponent of the RFP process.

Once Carol was chosen, staff met with her to complete the enumeration plan which was required to be submitted six months before homeless enumeration is conducted. The [Local Homeless Enumeration Plan](#) was approved by the board at the October 2017 board meeting and submitted to the Ministry of Housing.

Enumeration Details

The Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB staff and Ms. Kauppi have determined that the method used to conduct the enumeration will be a Period Prevalence Count (PPC) Method. Period Prevalence Count involves a coordinated, multi-day count of homeless persons and accesses them through a variety of service organizations that are likely to be used by persons experiencing homelessness.

The area enumerated was based on the vastness of the catchment to ensure that the area as a whole was well represented. Particular interest was paid to areas containing a shelter and/or foodbank to assist in provision of wholesome data.

The municipalities chosen to represent 47% of the catchment population. (13,821 of the 29,581). This is over the 30% recommended but does capture each of the 4 Regions of the catchment area.

The communities enumerated are as follows: Espanola, Little Current, Chapleau, Noëlville, Mindemoya, Markstay and Foleyet.

Using the internet, telephone directories and the networks of identified service providers, a list of services has been produced and a preliminary list of providers has been developed. It will be expanded to ensure that all organizations in the study areas will be invited to participate. A letter explaining the objectives of the study and the need for participation from all providers was delivered to the agencies. All providers who showed

an interest to participate have been contacted by telephone in order to set a date and time for a meeting to review the information to be collected in the study and to determine how the data can be collected from that agency.

Enumeration Locations, Dates, Times

	AGENCY	DATE OF ENUMERATION	TIME
Chapleau	Pentecostal Church Food Bank	April 16, 2018	11:00 am to 2:00 pm
	Aboriginal Peoples' Alliance of Northern Ontario (APANO)	April 19, 2018	12:00 pm to 2:00 pm
	Manitoulin-Sudbury DSB Office	April 16, 2018 to April 20, 2018	8:30 am to 4:30 pm
	Chapleau Learning Centre	April 16, 2018 and April 17, 2018	9:00 am to 5:00 pm 9:00 am to 8:00 pm
Foleyet	Foleyet Pathfinders building Community Action Program for Children	April 18, 2018	1:00 pm to 3:00 pm
	Medical Clinic	To Be Determined	
Espanola	Manitoulin Sudbury DSB Office	April 16, 2018 to April 20, 2018	8:30 am to 4:30 pm
	Sacred Heart	To Be Determined	
	Espanola Community Complex	April 16, 2018 to April 22, 2018	8:30 am to 6:00 pm
	Methadone Clinics Family Health Team Espanola	April 17, 2018 and April 20, 2018	9:00 am. to 4:00 pm 9:00 am. to 4:00 pm
	Espanola Hospital	To Be Determined	7:00 am to 9:00 pm 7:00 am to 3:00 pm
	Espanola Helping Hand Food Bank	April 18, 2018	10:00 am to 2:00 pm

	AGENCY	DATE OF ENUMERATION	TIME
Little Current	Manitoulin Sudbury DSB Office	April 16, 2018 to April 20, 2018	8:30 am to 4:30 pm
	Little Current Curling Club	April 16, 2018 to April 22, 2018	8:30 am to 5:00 pm
	Little Current Hospital	April 16, 2018 to April 22, 2018	8:30 am to 7:00 pm
	Little Current Family Health Team	To Be Determined	
Noëlville	Seniors Support	To Be determined	
	Noëlville Community Health Centre	April 16, 2018 and April 20, 2018	8:30 am to 4:30 pm
Markstay	Markstay Food Bank	April 12, 2018	9:00 am to 1:30 pm
Mindemoya	Manitoulin Family Resources	April 17, 2018	10:00 am to 2:00 pm
	Mindemoya Food Bank	April 17, 2018 and April 20, 2018	10:00 am to 2:00 pm
	Mindemoya Thrift Shop	April 17, 2018 to April 21, 2018	10:00 am to 2:00 pm
	Mindemoya Thrift Shop	April 18, 2018	7:00 pm to 9:00 pm
	Mindemoya Hospital	April 16, 2018 to April 22, 2018	8:30 am to 7:00 pm
	Mindemoya Family Health Team	April 16, 2018 to April 20, 2018	8:30 am to 4:30 pm

Data will be collected from people experiencing forms of homelessness and hidden homelessness using a structured questionnaire to gather information from them regarding forms of homelessness. The survey will be conducted over 7 consecutive days in each study community beginning in the week of April 16 to 22, 2018. Some agencies have agreed to conduct the survey on days other than that week as there is an event going on that would be beneficial for the project.

Enumeration Results

The results of the enumeration will be carefully analyzed to determine the impact on the current Housing and Homeless Plan. Once the results are analyzed, the Plan will be weighed on the potential impact on ending chronic homelessness, and determinations made on where effective changes could better impact results.

Upon completion of the Enumeration, the Plan will need to be reviewed to determine if and where any priorities should be shifted.

Conclusion

The Manitoulin Sudbury DSB staff are asking that Mayors in the communities being enumerated to assist by encouraging their community partners to participate. A letter from the DSB Chair will go out to the Mayors asking for their support to ensure the success of the project.

For the community of Foleyet, staff are recommending that DSB Vice Chair David Leonard from Foleyet be asked to assist with this effort.