

St. Thomas-Elgin Housing Stability Alliance

(Formerly St. Thomas-Elgin Housing & Homelessness Action Group)

MINUTES



Date	October 12, 2022
Time	10:00am to 11:30am
Chair	Danielle Neilson
Location	Microsoft Teams
Attendance	Danielle Neilson , St. Thomas-Elgin Social Services Barry Fellingner , West Elgin community Health Centre Matt Wilson , CMHA Thames Valley Addiction & Mental Health Services Leticia Mizon , The Nameless (<i>arrived at 10:50am</i>) Andrea Graves , St. Thomas-Elgin Social Services Melanie Rowley , Central Community Health Centre Ellen Hickey , St. Thomas-Elgin Social Services Suzanne Flier , Fresh Start Support Services Peter Heywood , Southwestern Public Health Natasha Thuemler , Indwell Tanya Dale , West Elgin Community Health Centre Valerie Beneteau , YWCA St. Thomas-Elgin Jeanette Singh , YWCA St. Thomas-Elgin

Agenda Items & Discussion

Order	Topic	Lead
1.	Introductions and Welcome <ul style="list-style-type: none"> D. Neilson welcomed everyone to the meeting. Members took turns introducing themselves to the group. 	All
2.	Land Acknowledgement	Danielle
3.	Approval of Minutes and Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> D. Neilson asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from June 22nd, 2022, and the meeting agenda for October 12th, 2022. <i>Motion made by V. Beneteau, second by T. Dale. Carried.</i> 	All
4.	Future Presentations <ul style="list-style-type: none"> In previous meetings our committee has enjoyed presentations from Indwell and Railway City Connects. Recommendations for future presentations are welcome. Initial suggestions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> St. Thomas Addicts Providing Hope Street Outreach Team 	All
5.	Housing & Homelessness Update <ul style="list-style-type: none"> D. Neilson provided a housing & homelessness update from St. Thomas-Elgin Social Services: 	Danielle

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We are nearing the end of our 10-year housing and homelessness plan. The current plan ends in 2023 and the new one will begin in 2024. Work to develop the new plan will begin in 2023 and we will be leaning into this community for feedback - The housing waitlist continues to be very long. We are currently reviewing our Special Priority Population (SPP) processes to ensure there are no artificial barriers to accessing this support. - Canada Ontario Housing Benefits are still available in our office for households who qualify. - Indwell has begun early engagement with Coordinated Access partners about tenant selection for their new building “The Station”. About 30 names will be brought forward from the By-Name List for consideration. The project is set to finish mid to late spring. - The entire Social Services office (along with some other community partners) recently attended Atlohsa training on Indigenous homelessness - Since our last meeting, St. Thomas-Elgin has achieved some Built For Zero milestones: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. We have reached a 10% reduction in chronic homelessness. This means we have reached and sustained this reduction for more than 3 months. 2. We have attained a quality Veterans By-Name List. Our data shows that we will reach functional zero in Veterans homelessness in the new year. 	
6.	<p>Community Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>By-Name List</u> – V. Beneteau provided an update on the By-Name List: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - In September, 27 new individuals were added to the by-name list. It is important to note that this doesn’t mean that these are new people to our community. Since the new Indwell building is selecting tenants off the By-Name List, this creates motivation for people to be added. - 19 individuals moved from unhoused to housed - 105 individuals are experiencing homelessness in St. Thomas-Elgin. Of those, 65 are experiencing chronic homelessness <p><i>Presentation is attached.</i></p> • <u>Women, Youth and Family Homelessness</u> – J. Singh provided an update on behalf of the Women and Family Homelessness Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Work is continuing on our women and family homelessness report. Our next step is to meet with the advisory group about the project. • <u>The INN</u> – D. Neilson provided an update on behalf of The INN: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The INN is currently experiencing a higher than ever occupancy rate. - They have also recently experienced a high turnover in staff and are working through that. • <u>WECHC</u> – B. Fellingner and T. Dale provided an update on behalf of the West Elgin Community Health Centre: 	Valerie Dawn TBE Tanya All

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - We are meeting with Parish Hall to discuss setting up an emergency shelter in the west. We have a number of volunteers already trained. - We have recently updated our referral system to include a QR code. • <u>SWPH</u> – P. Heywood provided an update on behalf of Southwestern Public Health <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - SWPH has prepared an elections primer for the upcoming municipal election. - We are close to completing a needs study on consumption treatment services. An ethics board will be reviewing the study in December. If anyone is interested, there will be an opportunity to engage in the process. - After the Walnut Manor investigation, we have hired an MPH and health promoter to work on a protocol project around poor treatment of residents and malnourishment in regulated housing units. 	
Added	<p>HR Challenges</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The committee shared their challenges in hiring these days. Advice was brought forward to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Be transparent with pay on job postings. - Connect with local schools and employment agencies. 	All
7.	<p>Lost Lives Working Group Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • We have secured some funding to provide an artist for the creation of a monument. We will be hosting a focus group with 8 individuals with lived experience to provide feedback on what the monument will look like. 	Danielle, Valerie, Tanya & Leticia
8.	<p>New Membership Inquiries</p> <p>No new members at this time.</p>	Andrea
9.	<p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • An invitation will be sent out for another meeting in November. 	All

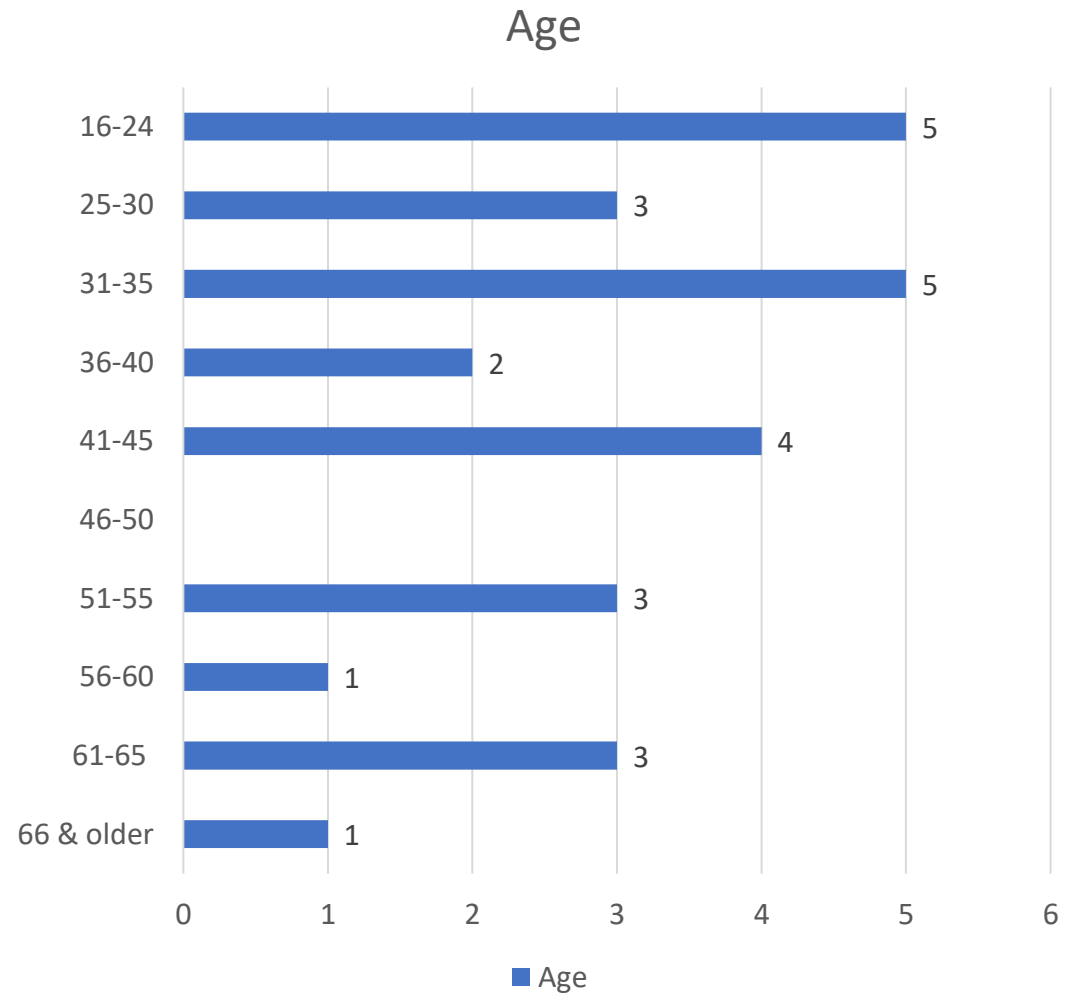


September 2022

New Entries

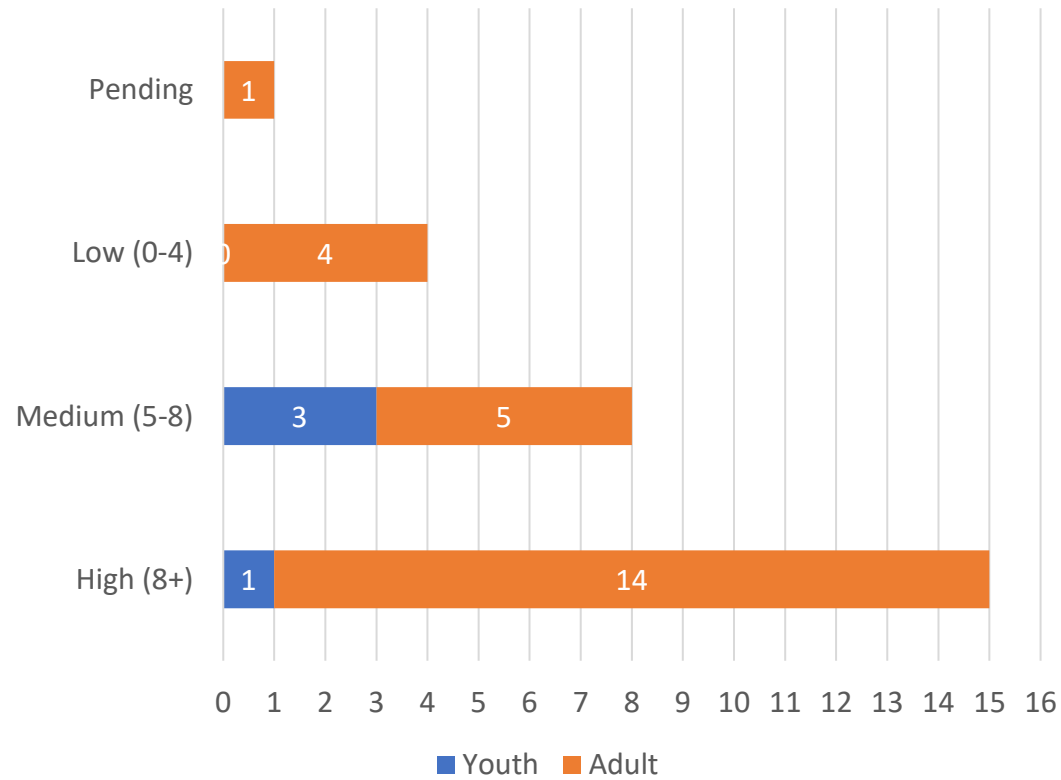
27 individuals admitted to the By Names List (BNL) in September 2022

- **20** adults
- **2** families
- **5** youth

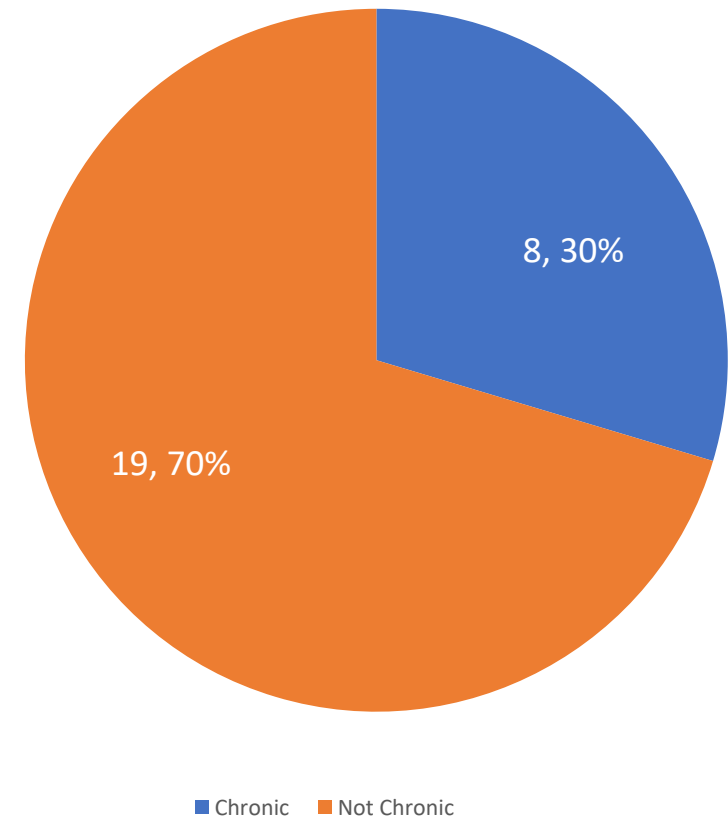


History of Homelessness

SPDAT

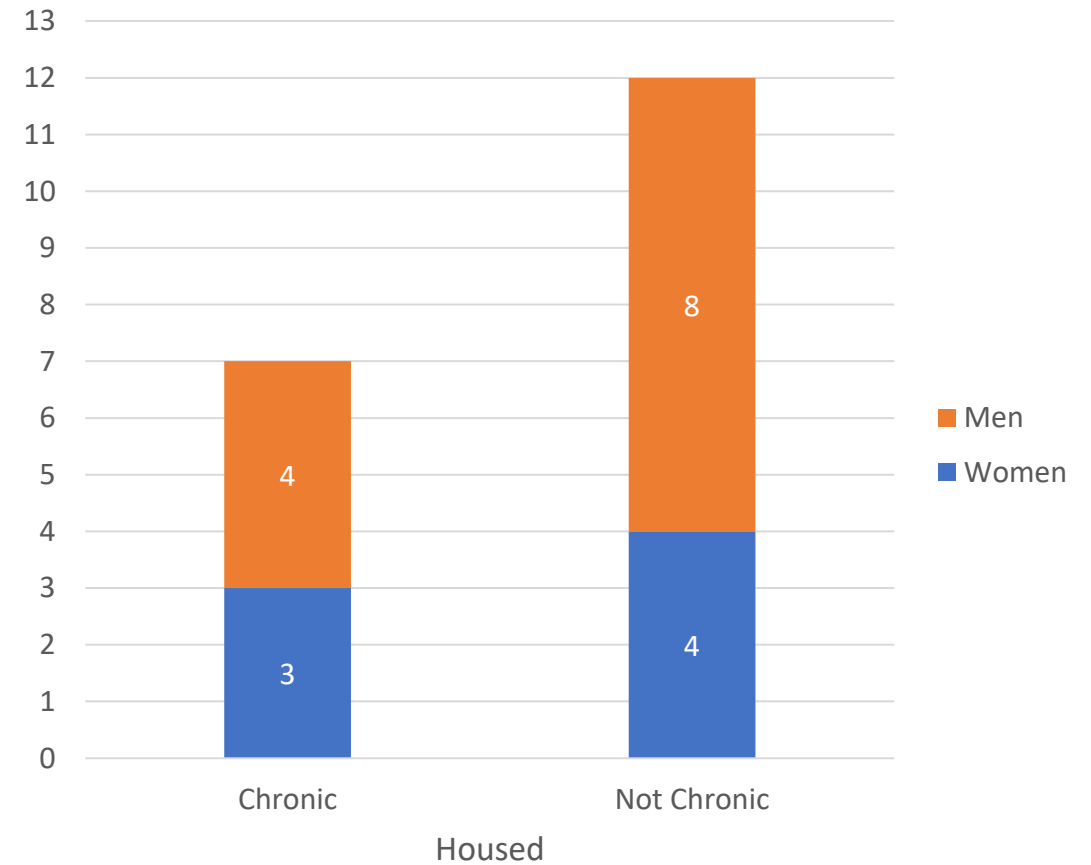


Length of Homelessness



Successes

- **19** folx moved from unhoused to **housed** or maintained (youth) on the BNL within the same month
 - Youth
 - 1 youth male
 - 2 youth females
 - Adult
 - 10 adult male
 - 5 adult female
 - Family
 - 0 women led family
 - 1 male led family



Chronic By Names List Data – Sept. 2022

	Active Homeless	Change (+/-)	Move-Ins	Moved to Inactive	Newly Identified	Aged In	Returned from Inactive	Returned from Housing
Total Chronic	65	+4	7	2	8	3	2	0
Chronic Youth	3	+2	1	0	2	1	0	0
Chronic Single Adults	62	+1	6	1	6	2	2	0
Chronic Families	0	-1	0	1	0	0	0	0
Chronic Indigenous	7	0	0	0	0	1	0	0
Chronic Veterans	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

All Active Homelessness By Names List Data

September 2022

	Active Homeless	Change (+/-)	Move Ins	Moved to Inactive	Newly Identified	Returned from Inactive	Returned from Housing
Total	105	+5	19	5	27	2	0
Youth	11	+2	3	0	5	0	0
Single Adults	94	+3	15	4	20	2	0
Families	2	0	1	1	2	0	0
Indigenous	10	0	0	1	1	0	0
Veterans	1	0	1	0	1	0	0