

St. Thomas-Elgin Housing Stability Alliance

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

MINUTES



Date	April 27, 2022
Time	10:00am to 11:30am
Chair	Danielle Neilson
Location	Microsoft Teams
Attendance	Danielle Neilson , St. Thomas-Elgin Social Services Jon McCurry , Eastwood Housing Leticia Mizon , The Nameless Andrea Graves , St. Thomas-Elgin Social Services Melanie Rowley , Central Community Health Centre Ellen Hickey , St. Thomas-Elgin Social Services Karen Schouten , Fresh Start Support Services Nyree Bond , The Salvation Army Peter Heywood , Southwestern Public Health Chad Lovell , London St. Thomas Association of Realtors Kayla Elms , Southwestern Public Health Sarah Lynch , St. Thomas Economic Development Corporation Tara McCulley , St. Thomas Economic Development Corporation Michelle Koyle , St. Thomas-Elgin Social Services Connie Cooper , St. Thomas-Elgin Social Services

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.	Approval of Minutes and Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none"> D. Neilson asked for a motion to approve the meeting minutes from February 16th, 2022. <i>Motion made by L. Mizon, second by C. Cooper. Carried.</i> D. Neilson asked for a motion to approve the meeting agenda for April 27th, 2022. <i>Motion made by J. McCurry, second by K. Elms. Carried.</i> 	All
3.	Presentation – Railway City Connects <ul style="list-style-type: none"> T. McCulley and S. Lynch presented a new initiative in the community that is being hosted by St. Thomas Economic Development: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every Wednesday from 1pm-3pm we have opened the Horton Street Market for a drop-in art therapy event called Railway City Connects. This is an 8-week pilot program to connect the community with the vulnerable. Each week we offer a variety of art options from sculpting 	Sarah Tara

	<p>to rock painting, along with snacks and safe supplies that people can take with them. The overall goal is to create a safe space for people to connect. With that in mind, we have limited any sort of marketing and have welcomed a caseworker from Social Services and a CMHA street outreach worker to be present each week. This is week 4 of the program, and we have been seeing some familiar faces each week. We feel like this has been an important initiative for our economic development office as our community is only as strong as our most vulnerable.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The question was raised about finding an opportunity for the artists to sell their artwork to earn some income. T. McCulley shared that they are open to finding ways to be able to do that. 	
3.	<p>Housing & Homelessness Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • D. Neilson provided a housing & homelessness update from St. Thomas-Elgin Social Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There are lots of changes in the works right now. One of those changes is with CHPI and Strong Community Rent Supplement funding. As of April 1st, these two funding streams have come together into one (HPP). The combination of both of these programs has come with a slight increase in funding which has allowed for us to make one of our contracted street outreach workers permanent. Over the course of the next little while, we will have to upgrade all service agreements with our service providers to reflect this change. - We have recently updated our HeLP program to better reflect the needs we are seeing in the community. The program is now called Housing Stability Financial Assistance (HSFA). A fact sheet is available on the City of St. Thomas website with the program guidelines. - We are in early conversations with At’Lohsa about Indigenous training for our community. - The government has provided us with an additional round of SSRF funding (SSRF 5). The amount is less than we have received previously but can be used towards capital projects. - The social housing waitlist remains extensive with long wait times due to the current housing shortage and increasing affordability challenges. A part of the response to this is challenge is City Council (St.Thomas) approving an increase in our Portable Housing Benefits. - Conversations continue around next steps in introducing HIFIS into our community. - As a reminder, World Homelessness Day is on October 10th. Any planning activities for commemorating the day may need to begin over the summer. 	Danielle

4.	<p>Community Updates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>By-Name List</u> – V. Beneteau was absent for the meeting but provided a video recorded Built For Zero update for the group. <p><i>Additional presentations are attached.</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <u>Women, Youth and Family Homelessness</u> – D. Neilson provided an update on behalf of V. Beneteau and the Women and Family Homelessness Committee: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - There is a survey out right now to help better determine where needs can be met with women and family homelessness. The survey closes on April 29th. • <u>The INN</u> – D. Neilson provided an update on behalf of The INN: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The INN has been in a COVID outbreak which just ended yesterday. Everything was managed successfully on-site at The INN. • <u>Other Updates</u> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - D. Neilson provided an update on behalf of Indwell: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Construction is underway on the second Indwell build. Tenant selection will be through the By Name List and Coordinated Access System. - L. Mizon provided an update on behalf of The Nameless: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Over the past few weeks, the number of guests visiting the nameless has increased. The results of a survey conducted March 22nd to determine why people are accessing their services was shared. Of the 54 individuals who attended that evening, food was the leading cause followed by harm reduction. - It was also identified during this survey that of the 54 individuals who attended, 24 were housed and 30 were homeless. The Grace Café has also been seeing a mix of housed and unhoused guests. It was shared that many people visit these services for connection because they are lonely. - K. Schouten provided an update on behalf of Fresh Start Support Services: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Our new program space “HAVEN” is going to have an open house on May 7th. This is a space for moms and babies to hangout. - K. Schouten will be taking a 6-month sabbatical. Introductions will be made to the new person who will oversee Fresh Start during that time. - N. Bond provided an update on behalf of the Salvation Army Citadel: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Next week is emergency preparedness week. On May 3rd there will be an event with local emergency vehicles and a free BBQ. 	Valerie Lori All
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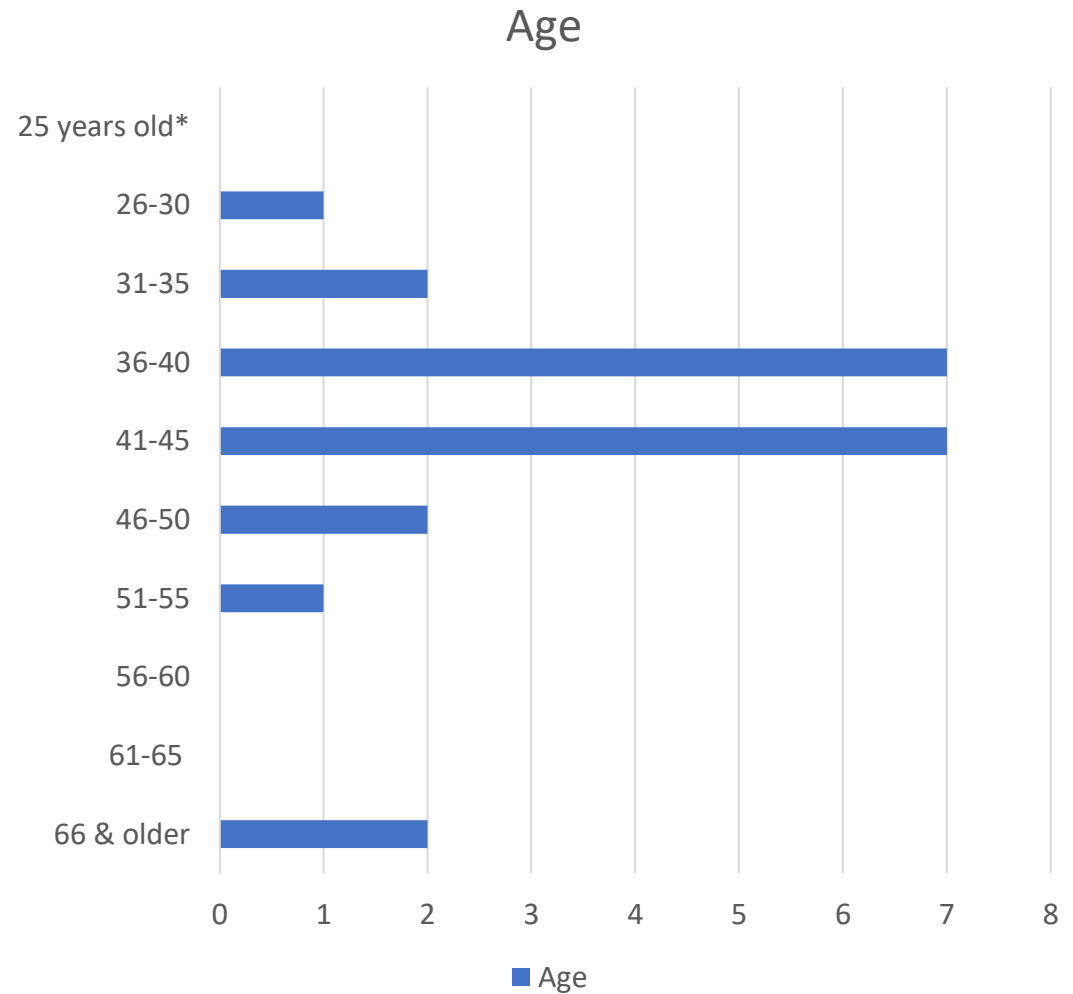
5.	<p>Lost Lives Working Group Update</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The committee has met and will be drafting a protocol for acknowledging lives lost in our homelessness community. There are also efforts to move forward with a monument in St. Thomas that recognizes lost lives. 	Danielle, Valerie, Tanya & Leticia
8.	<p>New Membership Inquiries</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> A. Graves shared that there are no new membership inquiries at this time. 	Andrea
9.	<p>Next Meeting</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> An invitation will be sent out for another meeting in early June, and then the group will pause until September. 	All



March 2022

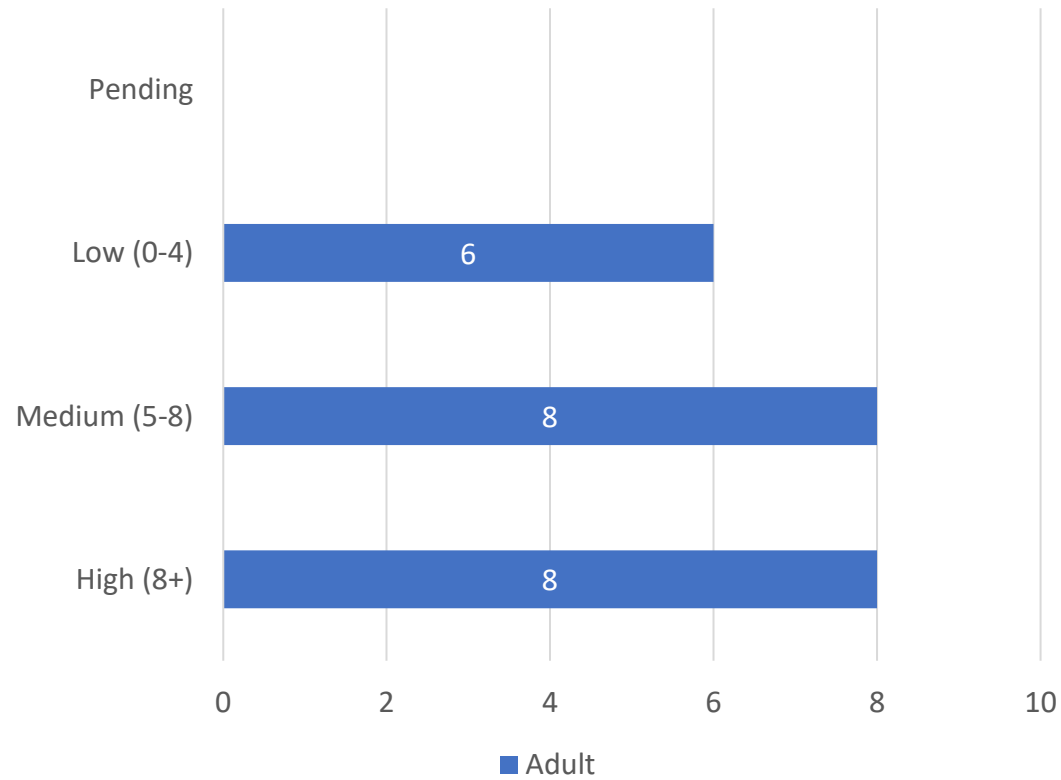
New Entries

- **22 adults** admitted to the By Names List (BNL) in March 2022
 - **10 women**
 - **12 men**

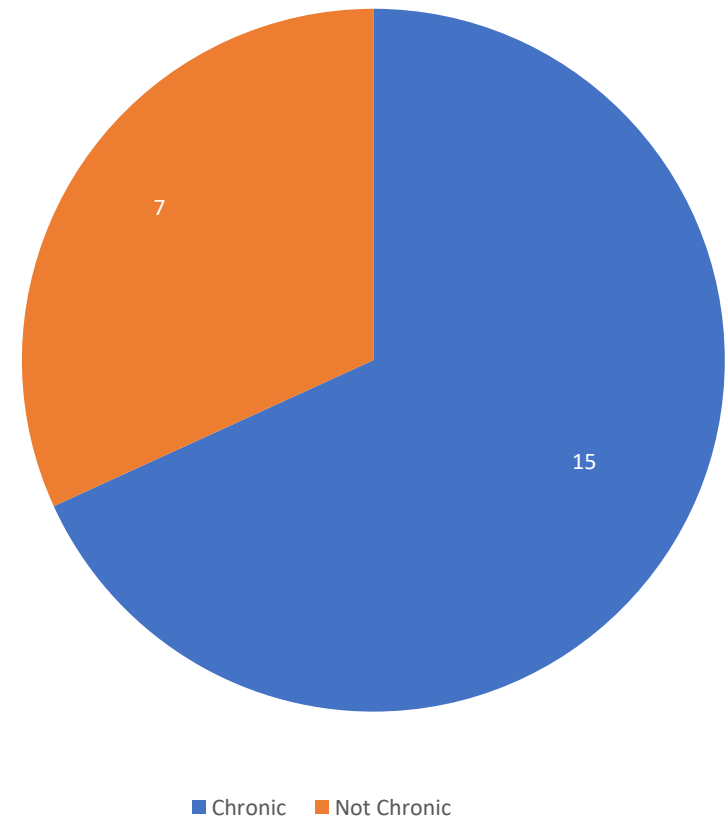


History of Homelessness

SPDAT

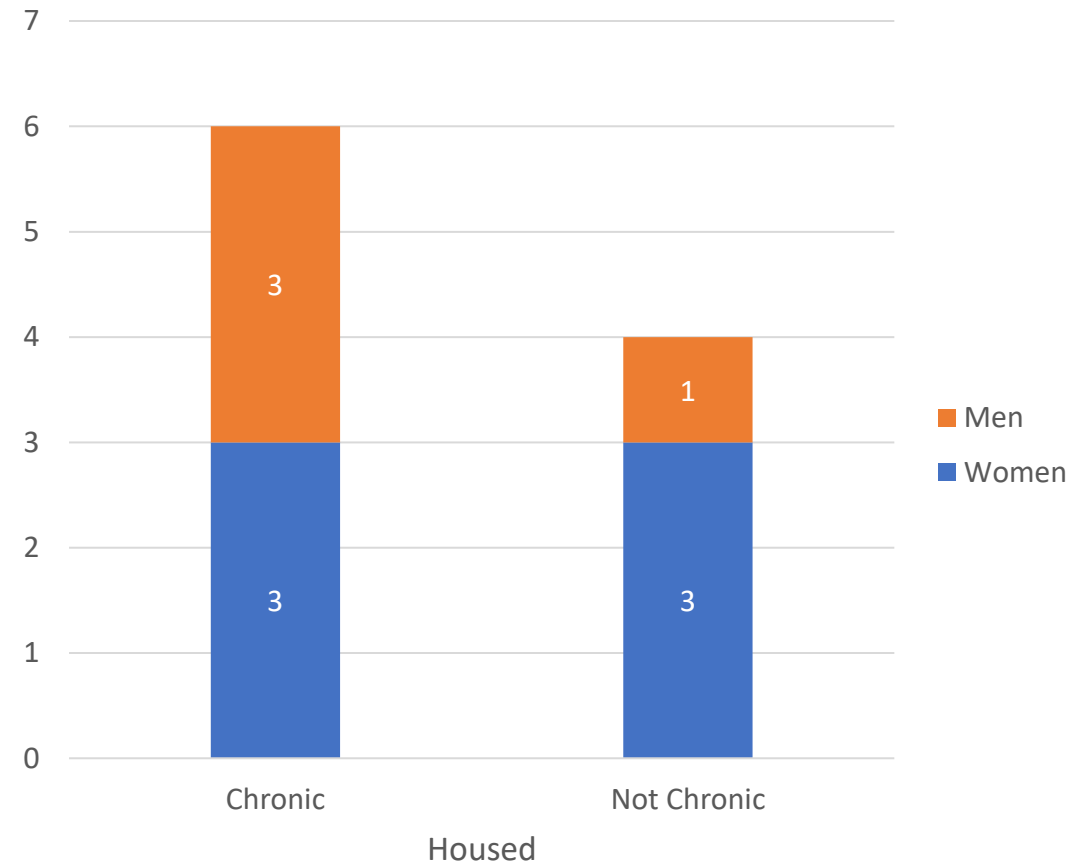


Length of Homelessness



Successes

- **10** folx moved from unhoused to **housed** on the BNL
 - 6 women
 - 4 men



Chronic By Names List Data – March 2022

	Active Homeless	Move-Ins	Moved to Inactive	Newly Identified	Aged In	Returned from Inactive	Returned from Housing
Total Chronic	77	6	7	17	2	0	1
Chronic Youth	3	0	1	2	1	0	0
Chronic Single Adults	73	6	6	15	1	0	1
Chronic Families	1	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chronic Indigenous	7	0	0	0	0	0	0
Chronic Veterans	0	0	0	0	0	0	0

All Active Homelessness By Names List Data

March 2022

	Active Homeless	Move Ins	Moved to Inactive	Newly Identified	Returned from Inactive	Returned from Housing
Total	94	2	0	31	0	3
Youth	9	10	1	6	0	1
Single Adults	82	11	8	22	0	2
Families	3	4	0	3	0	0
Indigenous	10	1	2	2	0	0
Veterans	0	0	0	0	0	0



Aim Statements

OVERVIEW: ST. THOMAS ELGIN

APRIL 2022



Ending homelessness in Canada

Definitions: Chronic Homelessness

- Chronic homelessness refers to individuals experiencing homelessness over a long period of time.
 - These individuals are experiencing homelessness and either experienced homelessness
 - for a total of six months or more over the past year and/or have
 - recurrent experiences of homelessness over the past three years (at least 18 months in total).

Definition: Functional Zero

- Functional zero chronic homelessness is a dynamic milestone proving a community has ended long-term homelessness.
 - Means that there are three or fewer individuals experiencing chronic homelessness in a community sustained for three consecutive months. Or, for larger communities with more than 4,000 people experiencing homelessness on the community's By-Names List, chronic homelessness accounts for less than 0.1%, sustained for three consecutive months.

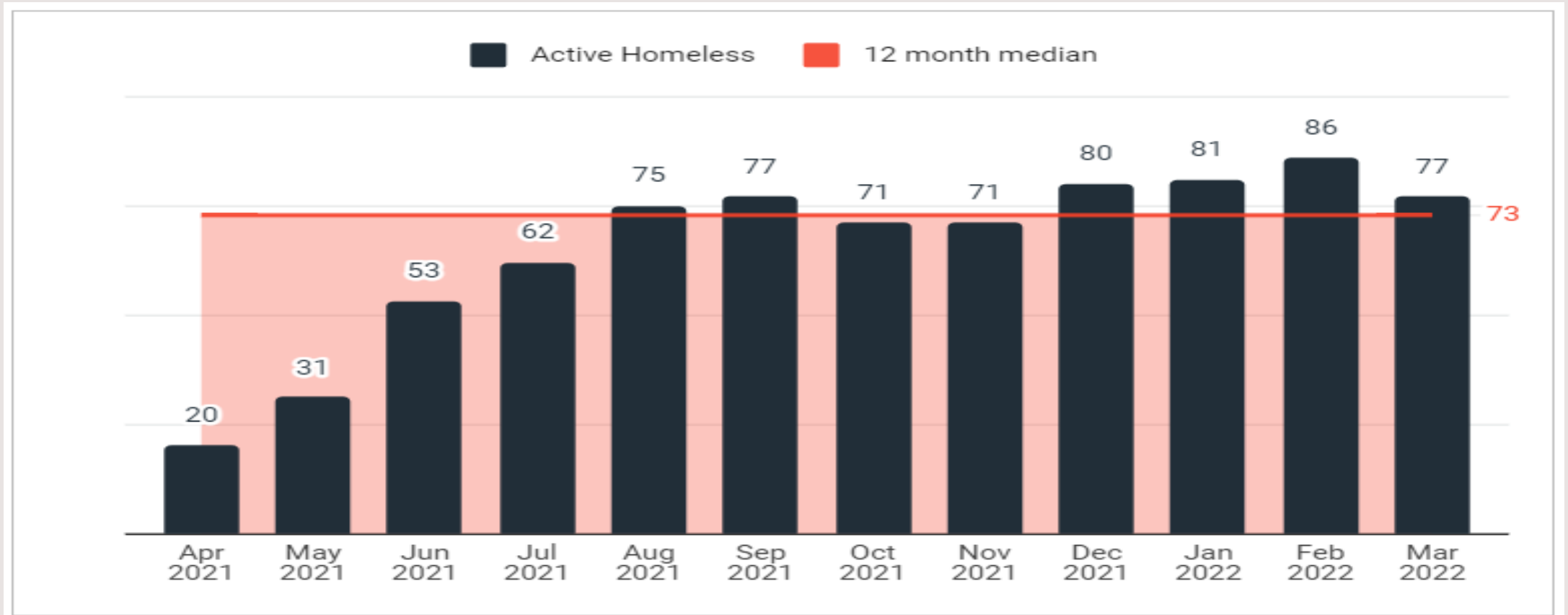


Overall Aim Statements

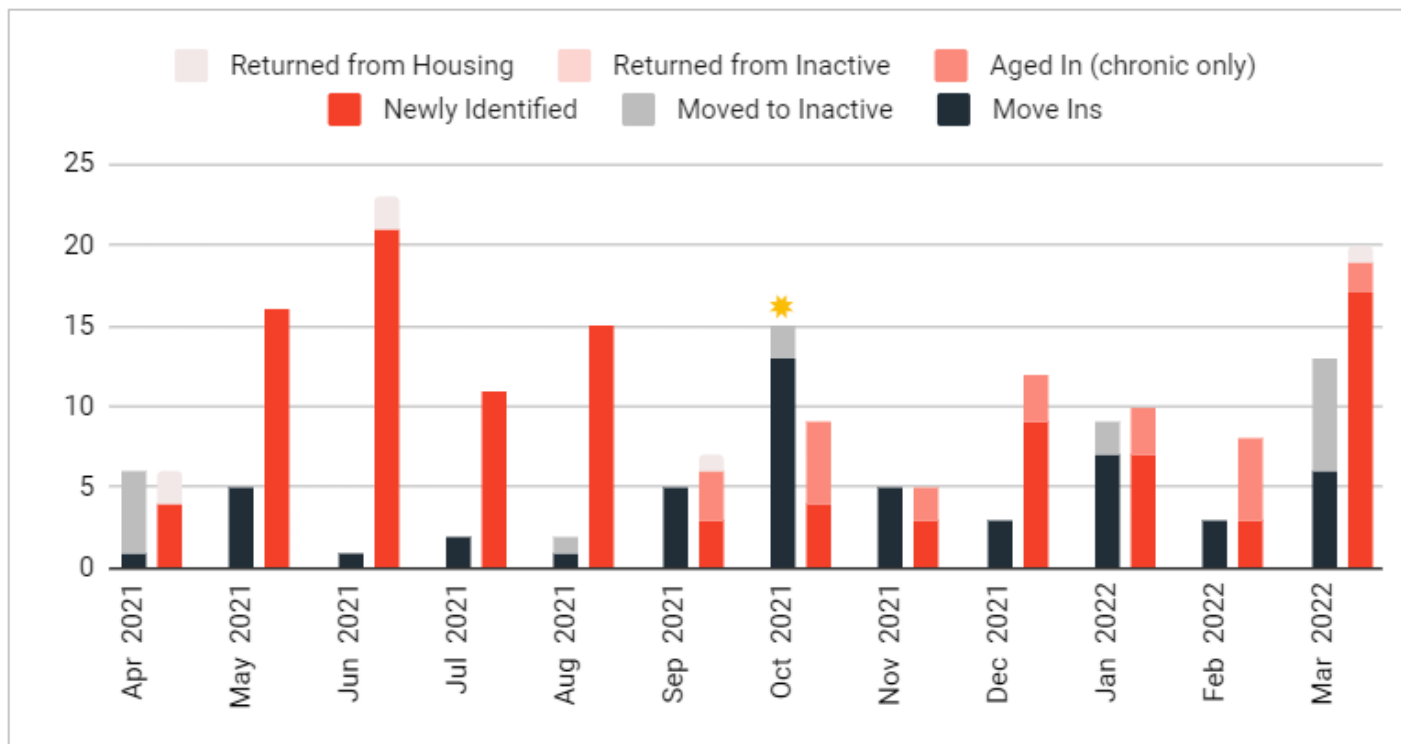
St. Thomas Elgin will reach
chronic functional zero by
2024/12/31

St. Thomas Elgin will reach
veteran functional zero by
2023/12/31

Active Chronic: 12 Month Snapshot



By-Names List Analysis: Inflow/Outflow (Active Chronic)



★ = outflow > inflow

	Most recent	12 month avg.
Inflow		
Newly Identified	85%	73%
Aged In	10%	
Returned - Inactive	0%	0%
Returned - Housing	5%	5%
Outflow		
Move-Ins	46%	81%
Moved to Inactive	54%	19%

St. Thomas-Elgin 2022/04/22

	All Active Homelessness	All Chronic Homelessness	Veteran Homelessness
Total	87	70	0
Single Adults	75	66	0
Youth (aged 16-24)	9	3	0
Indigenous	9	6	0
Families	3	1	0

Action Cycle Aim Statement

- St. Thomas-Elgin Veteran By-Name List
Aim for this Action Cycle:
 - We will aim to move from a 6 to 10 on the Veteran By-Name List Scorecard by June 30 and submit reliable data for June, July, and August to achieve a Veteran Quality By-Name List by September 30, 2022.

Action Cycle Aim Statement

- St. Thomas-Elgin Chronic Reduction Aim for this Action Cycle:
 - By September 30, 2022, reduce the number of people actively experiencing chronic homelessness by 20% below baseline. This equates to reducing by 17 people to move the number from 77 currently active in March 2022 to 60 people actively experiencing chronic homelessness.