

Community Resources for Durham Tenants – What Landlords Need to Know

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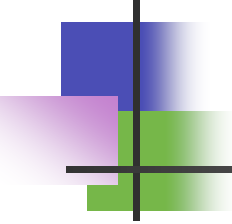
Housing Services Overview

- Department of Social Services - Housing Division
 - Provides operating and “rent geared-to-income” (RGI) subsidies for 42 social housing providers, 90+ properties, 6,800 rental units
 - Ensures the appropriate administration of Regionally funded RGI program for 4,800 households and maintains the RGI waiting list. Includes rent supplement program with private landlords
 - Administers \$2.1 million in regional and provincial funding for homelessness prevention programs and emergency hostel assistance
 - Property management services for 1,293 units at 23 sites owned by the Region through the Durham Regional Local Housing Corporation



Eviction Prevention Programs in Durham Region

- Housing Outreach Workers
 - Assist households with maintaining their current tenancies and assist people who are currently homeless or at risk of becoming homeless to secure permanent housing
- Services include:
 - Negotiating rent with a prospective landlord
 - Providing assistance for housing-related transportation
 - Making referrals to other services (e.g. credit counselling or Ontario Works)
 - Working with a household on budgeting, or how to do an effective housing search



Housing Outreach – Community Based Programs

- John Howard Society
 - Oshawa, Whitby, Clarington
 - 905-579-8482 905-623-6814

- Community Development Council Durham
 - Ajax, Pickering
 - 905-686-2661 or 1-866-746-3696

- North Durham Homelessness Outreach
 - Brock, Scugog, Uxbridge
 - 905-985-3553 or 1-877-406-8723



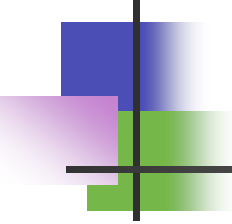
Eviction Prevention Programs in Durham Region

Community Development Council Durham:

- Rent Bank
 - Available to eligible households to cover up to two months rent arrears. Paid directly to the landlord. Apply through Community Development Council Durham

- Energy Funds and Enbridge Winter Warmth
 - An interest-free loan program to help qualified Durham residents with energy-related emergencies. Apply through Community Development Council Durham

- Community Trust
 - An interest-free loan program to help qualified Durham residents with emergency expenses that affect the stability of their current housing. Community Development Council Durham



Income Programs for Low Income Households

- Ontario Works – Region
 - Basic financial assistance to Ontario residents in financial need. Provides temporary financial support for shelter and food costs based on household size according to provincially determined funding scales
- Ontario Disability Support Plan – Province
 - Provides on-going benefits to persons with permanent barriers to financial self-sufficiency (i.e. employment)



Other Types of Financial Assistance

- Child Tax Benefits - Federal
 - Child Tax Benefit (under 18)
 - Income under \$41k – \$113.62/child
 - National Child Benefit Supplement (under 18)
 - Income under \$24k - \$176.50 to \$148.50/child
 - Universal Child Care Benefit (under 6)
 - \$100/child
- Trillium Benefits - Provincial
 - Starts July 2012
 - Combines provincial energy and property tax credit and the provincial sales tax credit into a combined monthly payment

Support for Mental Health Issues

- Durham Mental Health Services

- Crisis Service (905 666-0483)
- Family Support
- Case Management



- Canadian Mental Health Association

- Day programs (905-436-8760)
- Education and training





Other Support Programs

- Inform Durham
 - <http://www.informdurham.com>
 - Searchable database of services and resources in Durham Region sponsored by the United Way

- Food banks in Durham
 - www.durham.ca – Food Resource Directory or Food Banks in Durham
 - St. Vincent's Kitchen, Oshawa (King/Albert) - \$1.25 meal

- Red Cross
 - If household unable to return home due to fire, flood, etc.– provides 72 hour emergency accommodation, food, clothing, personal needs



No Place to Go?

Homeless Individuals and Families

- Cornerstone, Oshawa
 - Single men
- Muslim Welfare Home, Whitby
 - Single women with/out children
- Joanne's House, Ajax
 - Youth 16-21
- Emergency Motel Program
 - Couples with children, single dads, single moms with older sons

Women Leaving Abusive Rel'ps

- Bethesda House
- Herizon House
- Denise House
- Y's Wish



Bed Bug/Hoarding Information for Tenants

- Durham Region Health Department
 - Bed Bug Fact Sheet and tips for unit preparation
- Tenant help with unit preparation or de-cluttering
 - Private companies can assist tenants with unit preparation – hourly fee
 - Tenants can check with Ontario Works/ODSP Worker or with CDCD for Community Trust funds



Going Forward – New Opportunities in Durham

- Housing Services Act
 - Development of a 10 year plan to address housing and homelessness issues in this community
- Housing Strategy
 - Background Reports 1-3 completed
 - Final Background Report and Community Consultation on a Housing Strategy in 2012/13
- Investment in Affordable Housing in Ontario
 - \$14.9 million announced for Durham Region
 - Includes a program to improve affordability for renters, and more new rental development



Improving Rent Affordability

- Investment in Affordable Housing in Ontario
 - Housing Allowance – paid to tenant
 - \$400/mth for Families – 5 year maximum
 - Rent Supplement – paid to landlord
 - \$400/mth for Households without Dependents – up to 10 years per household
 - \$300/mth for Seniors – 5 year maximum
- To be rolled out in 2012/13 and 2014/15 to applicants on the social housing waiting list



QUESTIONS?