



April 2021 Newsletter

If you have questions, would like to share ideas, or are interested in partnering with or joining our team, please email us at ask.khrc@ubc.ca – we look forward to connecting with you! You can also check out our [website](#) for more information on our work. If you aren't already on our mailing list, subscribe now and you'll receive periodic updates on our activities, research opportunities, and events!

Follow us on social media for more regular updates on our activities as well as other items in and around topics of homelessness prevention and support!



Allyship in Research

Join KHRC's Dr. Kyleen Myrah, Kerry Rempel and Stephanie Laing for a virtual showcase of their project, "Using Allyship to Enhance your Research Process with Marginalized Populations" at Okanagan College Research and Innovation Partnerships Expo.

Tuesday May 4th, Morning Workshops Second Session – 10:35 – 11:20am

[Register Today!](#)

How does one conduct authentic, ethical and community-engaged research with marginalized populations? Our work has studied vulnerabilities towards homelessness and the role research can play in developing solution-oriented projects to meet the gaps identified. With our lived experience advisors as co-researchers, we have developed a framework (with supporting educational tools) that incorporates allyship into the research process. Workshop attendees will learn how our process was guided through a lived experience lens, ensuring those with established relationships and experience play a central role as an "ally" in building the critical trust required for this type of research.

The team also looks forward to presenting their findings at the upcoming National Exposition of the funder, Enactus (***Thursday, May 13, 8:00am – 10:00am Pacific***)

[Add to Calendar](#)

KHRC Review: Homelessness and Pandemics

Hot off the (virtual) press, KHRC's latest article reviewing available research at the intersection of disease outbreaks and homeless populations. The thematic content analysis spans six themes within identified works: (1) education and outreach, (2) adapting structure of services, (3) screening and contact tracing, (4) transmission and prevention strategies, (5) shelter protocols and (6) treatment, adherence and vaccination.

- **Babando, J., Quesnel, D.A., Woodmass, K., Lomness, L., Graham, J.R.** (2021). Responding to pandemics and other disease outbreaks in homeless populations: A review of the literature and content analysis. *Health and Social Care in the Community*. <https://doi.org/10.1111/hsc.13380>

Items related to vaccinating “easy to miss” populations were summarized and discussed in greater detail in the related research summary available on our [Community Reports and Summaries](#) page:

- [Homelessness and Pandemic Vaccinations – An Annotated Bibliography & Summary of Prior Research \(March 18 2021\)](#)

KHRC Research Blog

KHRC is committed to communicating research findings to as wide an audience as possible. In February we launched the KHRC [Research Blog](#) to cover discussions and summaries of ongoing research projects and emerging findings of potential interest to our community:

- *The Complex Connections between Homelessness and Health Inequities in BC*
- *Fitting the “Service Box”: Unintended Consequences of Funding and Service Dynamics*
- *Checking the Research to Inform Best Practices: Vaccinating those Experiencing Homelessness*

We look forward to using this channel to explore additional topics of potential interest to the sector.

Policy Radar: Strategies, Budgets, and Basic Income

These first few months of 2021 have seen a number of higher-level developments of potential relevance to the homelessness and broader support sector, including the release of both a Federal and a Provincial Budget, as well as the conclusion of the BC Expert Panel on Basic Income.

- CAEH offers one analysis of [What Budget 2021 means for ending homelessness](#)
 - BC Budget 2021: <https://www.bcbudget.gov.bc.ca/2021/default.htm>
- Analysis from The Tyee on [What's in BC's Budget for Homelessness?](#)
 - Federal Budget 2021: <https://www.budget.gc.ca/2021/home-accueil-en.html>

The British Columbia Expert Panel on Basic Income concluded that “moving to a system constructed around a basic income for all as its main pillar is not the more just policy option”. They did, however, over [65 recommendations to improve existing social programs](#).

Census 2021: Online Submissions Starting May 3rd

While it can be logistically challenging to support inclusion of all easy-to-miss populations, Census data is used to make informed decisions at the local, provincial, and federal level. Starting on May 3, 2021, the census questionnaire can be completed online at census.gc.ca

Read more about [How your community benefits from the census](#)

Community Spotlight: Elaine McMurray (Citizen of the Year)

A big congratulations to Elaine McMurray for receiving the 2020 Fred Macklin and Sarah Donaldson Treadgold Memorial Award – Citizen of the Year. This award recognizes “outstanding voluntary contributions and community service to the city of Kelowna”. Thank you Elaine for your steadfast service in support of your community!

In 2020, the contributions that Elaine McMurray made to Kelowna were vast and impactful. She volunteered for St. Vincent de Paul as an agent of systemic change, ensuring the voices of those with lived experience of homelessness in our community were heard. Also in 2020, Elaine helped to launch a national action plan to end homelessness, focusing on social justice. She stepped up to help those most vulnerable in our community through anti-stigma campaigns and by securing and helping to implement a COVID-19 rent relief grant – providing citizens at risk of homelessness with food and rent supports.

Through her role as a member of Lived Experience Circle on Homelessness, she has gone above and beyond advocating for people’s needs, and has played an instrumental role in planting seeds of change to shift perception and understanding of homelessness in our community.



<https://www.kelowna.ca/our-community/news-events/civic-community-awards/fred-macklin-and-sarah-donaldson-treadgold-memorial>

ICYMI: Webinars & Podcasts

- April’s CAEH Webinar on Lived Experience & Ending Homelessness can be accessed on the CAEH Training & Technical Assistance [Webinar Archive](#) or via [YouTube](#)
- Spotify Podcast: [On the Way Home](#) (CAEH / Blue Door) is a podcast that brings together the voices and issues involved in ending homelessness in Canada
- Spotify Podcast: [Homelessness in Kelowna](#) is now available on Spotify, with episodes featuring discussions with Gerard “G” Joyal, Trevor Moss, Stephanie Ball, Darren Caul, and on local homelessness topics
- [International Webinar Series on Housing First](#): “HF and the Costs”, “HF and Influencing Policy”, and “The 10-20%”, with the latter related to the 10-20% of clients who are unsuccessful in ending their homelessness through participation in a HF program.

Upcoming: International Webinar Series on Housing First - [HF and Women](#) (9:30am EDT, May 5, 2021)

This webinar will examine research and work on the pathways to Housing First for women, families/mothers experiencing homelessness, as well as domestic violence and HF.

Research Roundup

1. Arum, C., Fraser, H., Artenie, A. A., Bivegete, S., Trickey, A., Alary, M., ... & Stratthdee, S. A. (2021). [Homelessness, unstable housing, and risk of HIV and hepatitis C virus acquisition among people who inject drugs: a systematic review and meta-analysis](#). *The Lancet Public Health*.
2. Siersbaek, R., Ford, J. A., Burke, S., Cheallaigh, C. N., & Thomas, S. (2021). [Contexts and mechanisms that promote access to healthcare for populations experiencing homelessness: a realist review](#). *BMJ Open*, 11(4), e043091.
3. Canham, S. L., Humphries, J., Moore, P., Burns, V., & Mahmood, A. (2021). [Shelter/housing options, supports and interventions for older people experiencing homelessness](#). *Ageing & Society*, 1-27.
4. Ijadi-Maghsoodi, R., Feller, S., Ryan, G. W., Altman, L., Washington, D. L., Kataoka, S., & Gelberg, L. (2021). [A sector wheel approach to understanding the needs and barriers to services among homeless-experienced veteran families](#). *The Journal of the American Board of Family Medicine*, 34(2), 309-319.
5. Fleury, M. J., Grenier, G., Sabetti, J., Bertrand, K., Clément, M., & Brochu, S. (2021). [Met and unmet needs of homeless individuals at different stages of housing reintegration: A mixed-method investigation](#). *PloS one*, 16(1), e0245088.

For weekly posts on homelessness research in Canada and around the world, check out the Homeless Hub's [Research Matters Blog](#)

If you would like to continue to receive updates on our activities, research opportunities, and events, please [subscribe](#) to our mailing list, and if you have any questions email us at ask.khrc@ubc.ca

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