



August 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 homelessness prevention and support!



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Allyship in Research

Our colleagues Dr. Kyleen Myrah, Stephanie Laing, and Kerry Rempel have been leading a series of engagements on the topic of Allyship in Research, working with Lived Experience Co-Researchers Sherry Landry and Dorothy Goodeye. This followed last year's conclusion of their detailed, community-based research on Homelessness Vulnerabilities and Potential Mitigation Supports (see [KHRC Site](#), [Report A](#)'s summary of findings, and [Report B](#) on future research opportunities). August marked the public release of the resulting [Toolkit](#), following preliminary presentations at OC's fourth annual Research Innovation Partnerships Expo and the [Enactus Canada National Exposition](#).

The Allyship in Research Toolkit provides researchers and practitioners with a framework to embed lived and living experience, and allyship, into their work. The toolkit describes ways to incorporate authentic participation into the entire research process or program development

Allyship in Research Toolkit

A resource for those conducting research with participants of lived experience

Kelowna Homelessness Research Collaborative

<https://khrc.ok.ubc.ca>

process, identifies strategies for engaging in a co-research/con-construction process, and outlines the benefits of practicing in this way. To accompany the toolkit, Creating Allyship in Research videos (short and long versions) are available that provide insight from those with experience in the area of homelessness – from service providers to those with lived experience of homeless – highlighting why allyship in research is needed.

To view the toolkit, check out our [website!](#)

The Terminology of Being Homeless / Housed

On July 8th (Canadian Alliance to End Homelessness) held a webinar to discuss and answer questions about functional zero, how it is confirmed, along with clarifying the key definitions used at CAEH [\[VIDEO\]](#). While they cover numerous definitions and the sources from which they've been adopted, two of the more common terms include Homelessness and Housed.

- **Homelessness**

“Homelessness is the situation of an individual or family who does not have a permanent address or residence; the living situation of an individual or family who does not have stable, permanent, appropriate housing, or the immediate prospect, means and ability of acquiring it. It is often the result of what are known as systemic or societal barriers, including a lack of affordable and appropriate housing, the individual/household’s financial, mental, cognitive, behavioural or physical challenges, and/or racism and discrimination.” This definition includes: **Unsheltered / Emergency Sheltered / Provisionally Accommodated / and At Risk** of homelessness.

Source: [\[Canadian Observatory on Homelessness\]](#) / [\[ESDC – Reaching Home\]](#)

- **Housed**

Housed, therefore, can be derived from the inverse of the above: “Residing in a **stable, safe, permanent** and **appropriate** home.”

While these terms are often used colloquially, subjective judgement on what constitutes insecure housing can differ from [CMHC definitions](#) of inadequate or unsuitable housing, or the definitions within the BC Housing [Emergency Shelter Framework](#) (where “Housed or Housing” was defined as “accommodation allowing for tenancy of more than thirty days, under conditions in which the individual/family has Adequate Personal Space..”). Similarly, the concept of “affordability” differs across [BC Housing](#) (“rents equal to, or lower than, average rates in the private-market”) and [CMHC](#) (“shelter costs equal to or less than 30% of total before-tax household income”).

FYI: Canadian Housing Evidence Collaborative

[CHEC](#) is a network of “more than 30 academics from across Canada and beyond who are engaged in independent, in-depth research exploring the connections between income, housing and health”, with a mission to accelerate evidence-based solutions that advance Canada’s National Housing Strategy to ensure every Canadian has “housing that meets their needs and that they can afford”. Their [\\$14M dollars in research funding](#) helps launch a knowledge mobilization hub for the 5 respective teams / topic areas: older people experiencing homelessness, the north, sustainability, balanced supply, and affordable housing.

1. [Message](#) from Minister Hussen
2. [Blog](#): What might the 2021 Census let us know about housing need and the progress under the National Housing Strategy?
3. Featured [Article](#): Does Housing First policy seek to fulfil the right to housing? The case of Alberta, Canada
4. Featured [Report](#): LGBTQ2 Vulnerability in the Canadian Housing Sector

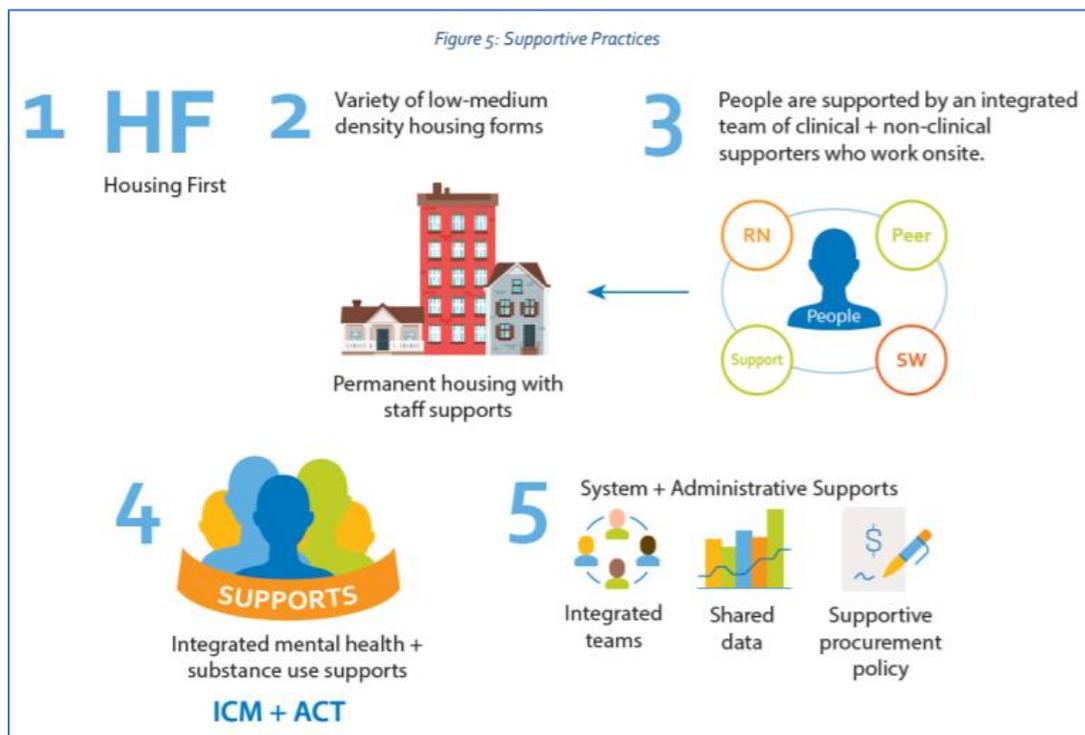
They’re also launching a podcast, the [Best Evidence Podcast](#)

Policy Radar: Complex Needs Housing

On Monday July 12th, Kelowna City Council endorsed the [Complex Needs Advocacy Paper](#). The paper takes a regional approach and overviews the issue, identifies opportunities to extend the continuum of care, provides a business case for action, while also providing an “advocacy brief” for use in conversations with provincial counterparts.

“People with complex needs experience overlapping health conditions, affecting their overall health and wellbeing. These include substance use disorders, co-morbid developmental disabilities, acquired brain injuries and Fetal alcohol spectrum disorder. Existing supports can be hard for people with complex needs to access because those supports are often provided by a multitude of different organizations, in a variety of locations across the community, creating barriers to access for people with complex needs. An integrated, systems-based model for delivering care seeks to correct this situation. The Advocacy Paper provides an in-depth and detailed look at the path ahead in delivering a responsive and comprehensive system of care for people experiencing complex needs.”

For more information, check out the City’s dedicated [Complex Needs page](#).



ICYMI: Webinars & Podcasts

- BNL/CA Community of Practice - Medicine Hat & Reaching Functional Zero Chronic Homelessness (July 15, 2021): [YouTube Link](#)
- 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, with recent guests including Dr. Andrew Boozary, Daniel McCulloch, and Cheyanne Ratnam.
- Spotify Podcast: [Homelessness in Kelowna](#) is now available on Spotify, with recent guests including Shane Worman, Phill Whatman, and Jeff Simla.

Research / Policy Roundup

1. Rewriting the Narrative on Homelessness in Mid-Sized Canadian Cities. Erin Dej et al. / Centre for Research on Security Practices, Laurier University
<https://www.homelesshub.ca/blog/%E2%80%9Cthey%E2%80%99re-not-here%E2%80%9D-homelessness-mid-sized-cities>
2. Indigenous Housing: The Direction Home [HUMA Report to Federal Parliament]
<https://www.ourcommons.ca/DocumentViewer/en/43-2/HUMA/report-5/>
3. Outcomes Associated with Providing Secure, Stable, and Permanent Housing for People Who Have Been Homeless: An International Scoping Review
<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/full/10.1177/08854122211012911>
4. Final report of the Canada-British Columbia Expert Panel on the Future of Housing Supply and Affordability
https://engage.gov.bc.ca/app/uploads/sites/588/2021/06/Opening-Doors_BC-Expert-Panel_Final-Report_Jun16.pdf

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

KHRC Research Blog

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

- [Addressing Poverty – Developments at the Local, Provincial, and Federal Level](#) (May 28 2021)
- [Achieving SDGs in the wake of COVID-19: Globally and Nationally](#) (June 28 2021)

We look forward to using this avenue to explore additional topics of interest to the community, and to communicate information and analysis for public uptake.

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

Follow us on social media for more regular updates on our activities as well as other items from the community, or homelessness broadly!



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