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# Housing and Homelessness 10 Year Plan Development

Focus Group – October 2012

where **lifestyle**  
**grows** good **business**

# United Counties of Leeds and Grenville

- UCLG, as the service manager, will be coordinating the development of a 10 year housing and homelessness plan
  - Steering Committee
  - Gathering Data
  - Writing Plan

# Background

## Ontario's Long Term Affordable Housing Strategy

### **Vision:**

To improve Ontarian's access to adequate, suitable and affordable housing, and provide a solid foundation on which to secure employment, raise families and build strong communities.

### **Principles:**

- People-centred
- Partnership-based
- Locally Driven
- Supportive
- Inclusive
- Fiscally responsible

# *Housing Services Act (HSA), 2011*

- Requires multi-year plans to address homelessness.
- High level strategic plans that:
  - treat housing as a whole system, and
  - address housing issues across the whole housing continuum from homelessness shelters to market housing.
- Are relevant and appropriate for the local community.
- Link to other municipal planning activities.

# *Housing Services Act (HSA), 2011*

## **Contains seven policy directions:**

1. Accountability and Outcomes
2. Goal of Ending Homelessness
3. Non-Profit Housing Corporations and Co-ops
4. The Private Market
5. Coordination with other Community Services
6. A Broad Range of Community Needs
7. Environmental Sustainability and Energy Conservation

# UCLG's Housing Role

The United Counties of Leeds and Grenville, as Service Manager:

- Owns and operates 667 rent-geared-to-income social housing units.
- Provides support to ten non-profit housing providers located throughout Leeds and Grenville.
- Administers various programs

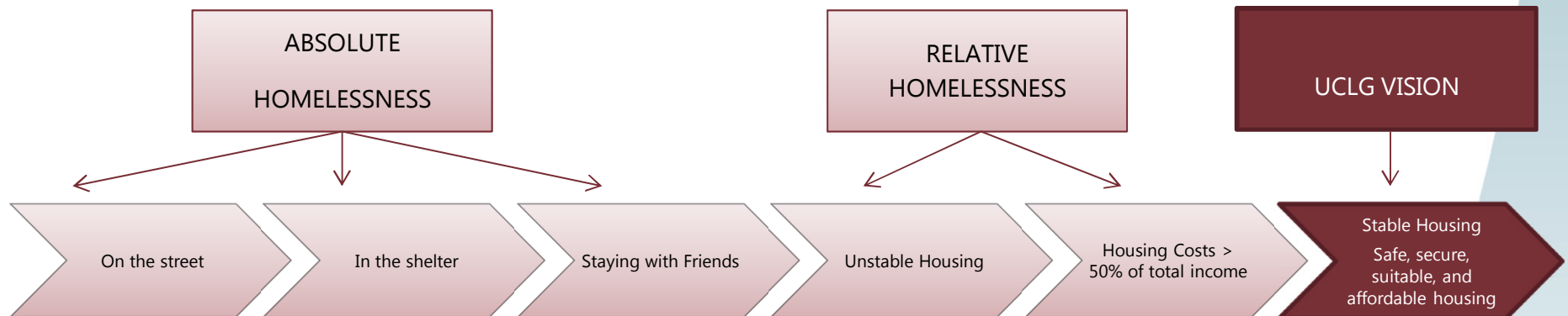
# Vision Statement

## **Draft Vision Statement:**

To encourage and support access to safe, secure, suitable, and affordable housing that reflects the changing needs of the community.

# Moving Towards Stable Housing

## Housing and Homelessness Continuum





# Affordable Housing Report (2008)

- Key Findings
  - Communities closest to Ottawa growing rapidly
  - Projection of 605 units/year needed to accommodate growth
    - Current Leeds Grenville population of 99,305
    - anticipate population of 119,350 in 2021
  - 490 applicants on Social Housing Register waitlist

# Affordable Housing Report (2008)

- Key Findings Continued
  - Aging population and growth in non-family and singles person housing
    - 27.05% of population in Leeds Grenville is 60 years of age or older
  - Housing needs to address low income wage earners
  - Employment trends due to economic shifts create demand for affordable housing
  - Affordability is an issue, especially in the rental sector

# Affordable Housing Report (2008)

- Key Findings Continued
  - Need for more diverse range of dwelling
  - Existing housing portfolio is aging
  - Lack of emergency shelters
  - Limited supply of supportive housing
  - Gaps for persons with severe mental illness, physical disabilities and developmental delays

# Housing Plan Process

- Focus Groups by sectors
- Surveys
  - On-line (*community partners/tenants*)
  - In person (*tenants/homeless*)
- Mail out / cheque inserts
- Meeting with community

# Focus Group



# Focus Group Questions

1. What do you see as the most pressing housing issues?

# Focus Group Questions

2. Are there recent successes you can point to that have helped address these issues?

# Focus Group Questions

3. What challenges stand in the way of addressing these issues meaningfully?



# Focus Group Questions

4. What priority actions should be undertaken to move possible solutions forward?
  - a. Who should be responsible?

# Next Steps

Reaching Clients

October/November 2012

Survey Link

*October/December 2012*

*Will be provided via email next week*

Community Consultation

Spring 2013



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