# **PROMOTING**



Northwestern Ontario Regional Conference
Fall 2014



# The District of Thunder Bay Social Services Administration Board

## Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Initiative

Presentation to the
2014 Northwestern Ontario Regional Fall Conference
September 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014

# Community Homelessness Prevention Initiative (CHPI)

CHPI consolidated five provincial programs to be administered through MMAH:

#### **MCSS**

- Consolidated Homelessness Prevention Program
- Emergency Energy Fund
- Emergency Hostel Services
- Domiciliary Hostel Program

#### **MMAH**

Provincial Rent Bank

# **CHPI Service Categories**

Province identified four service categories for CHPI:

- Emergency Shelter Solutions
- Housing and Related Supports
- Services and Supports
- Homelessness Prevention

## **CHPI Investments**

# The TBDSSAB made the following investments through the CHPI program:

Funded Program	Provincial Service Category	Funding Amount	
Emergency Shelters	Emergency Shelter Solutions	\$936,000	
SOS Project	Emergency Shelter Solutions	\$35,000	
Housing Security Fund	Homelessness Prevention	\$1,023,000	
Poverty Reduction Implementation	Homelessness Prevention	\$35,000	
Housing Outreach Program (HOP)	Services and Support	\$64,000	
Luther Court Social Service Program	Services and Supports	\$78,000	
The Habitat Program	Housing and Related Supports	\$192,000	

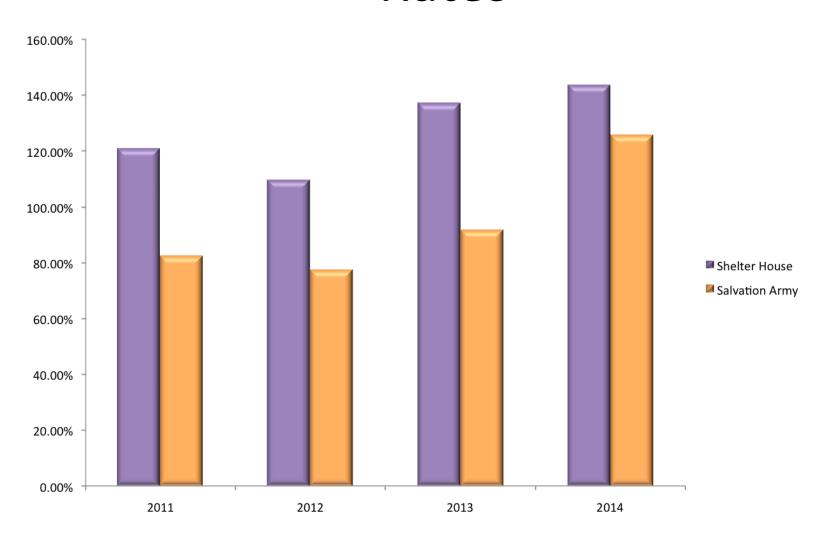
# **Funding Concerns**

- ➤ Cancellation of CSUMB for Ontario Works (\$940,000) and ODSP (\$890,000) recipients amounted to \$1.8 million reduction for the District of Thunder Bay.
- ➤ With loss of CSUMB included, TBDSSAB homelessness prevention envelope was reduced by \$1.3 million.
- ➤ Lobbying effort resulted in a Provincial commitment of a one-time transitional grant of \$730,000.

## Street Outreach Service

- > TBDSSAB provided \$35,000 for the pilot.
- Cooperation between two funded agencies was key (Shelter House and Salvation Army).
- More people were able to access emergency shelter.
- Imbalance in usage of emergency shelters was addressed.

# Emergency Shelter Utilization Rates

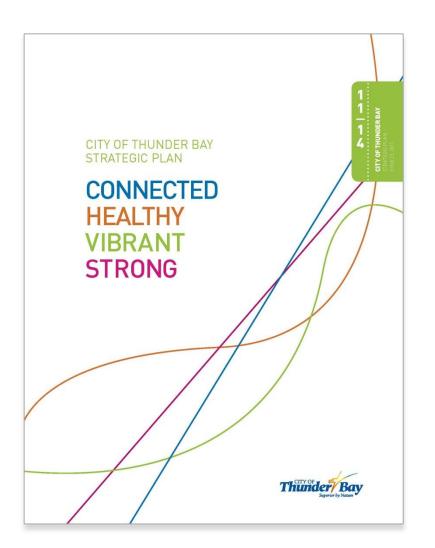


# Collaborating for Change: Effective Partnerships









# 2011 – 2014 City of Thunder Bay Strategic Plan

Principles we believe in:

• Effective Partnerships

Quality of Life Pillar

• Goal 3: A Safe City



# Value of Collaborative Strategy



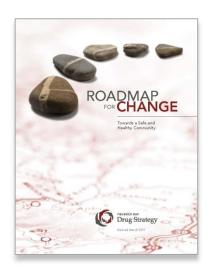
- Better use of existing resources
- Common voice for advocacy/increased resources
- Brings together community partners for evidence-informed action
- Community collaboration ensures sustainability

# City of Thunder Bay Positioned to Lead



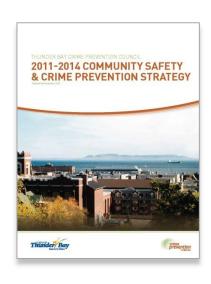
- Ensure an inter-sectoral response
- Co-ordinate existing community resources to mobilize community (FCM)
- Excellent fit with Crime Prevention Council

# City-Supported Collaborative Strategies





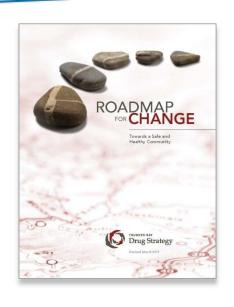






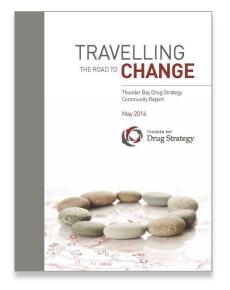






#### **Roadmap for Change**

Ratified by City Council – September 2011



#### **Travelling the Road to Change**

March 2012 – Priority actions identified for three years

**June 2013** – Update on progress of identified priorities

**May 2014** – Update on continued progress, planning for future



## **Vision**

To improve the health, safety and well-being of all citizens by working together to reduce the harm caused by substance use

## **Mission**

To implement the Thunder Bay Drug Strategy

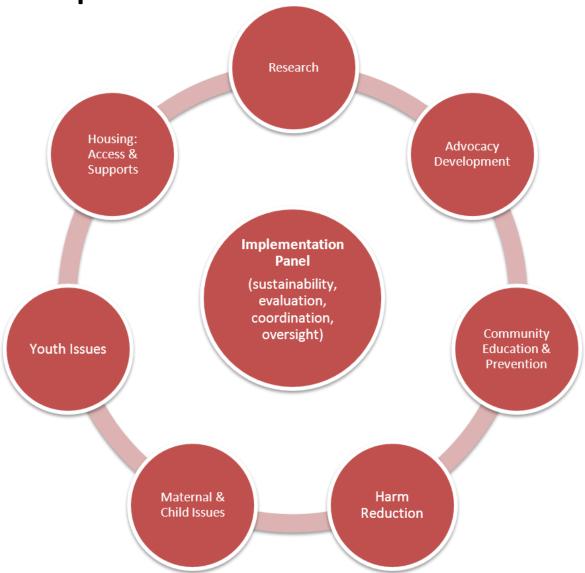
# **TBDS Implementation Panel Members**

- AIDS Thunder Bay
- Alpha Court
- BISNO
- Children's Aid Society
- Centre for Addiction & Mental Health
- City Council
- City of Thunder Bay
- Community Members
- Crime Prevention Council
- Consiel scolaire de district catholique des Aurores boreales
- CSSDP
- Dilico Anishinabek Family Care

- Drug Awareness Committee
- Elizabeth Fry Society
- Fort William First Nation
- FWFN Healing Strategy
- Ka-Na-Chi-Hih
- Lakehead Public Schools
- Northwest LHIN
  - NorWest Community
    Health Centres
  - Salvation Army
  - Shelter House
- St. Joseph's Care Group
- Superior North EMS
  - Teen Challenge
- Thunder Bay Counselling Centre

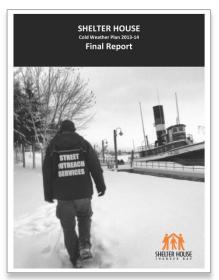
- Thunder Bay Catholic School Board
- Thunder Bay District
   Health Unit
- TBDSSAB
- TBRHSC
  - Thunder Bay Housing & Homelessness Coalition
- Thunder Bay Police
- Thunder Bay Indian Friendship Centre

# Implementation Structure



# What have we accomplished?





- Continued coordination (2012-2014)
   Centre of Excellence consultation process
- Kwae Kii Win Centre research Enhanced Withdrawal Management Services pilot project
- SOS Pilot Project
- Recognized as a leader for innovative and progressive recommendations
  - Sudbury Drug Strategy
  - Other communities
  - Canadian Drug Policy Coalition Report

# Karen Lewis, Director - Corporate Strategic Services

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- Increase collaboration between Salvation Army & Shelter House
- Provide Street
   Outreach Services
   (SOS) program
- Provide brief day admissions to Shelter House





The mobile unit completed 948 transports

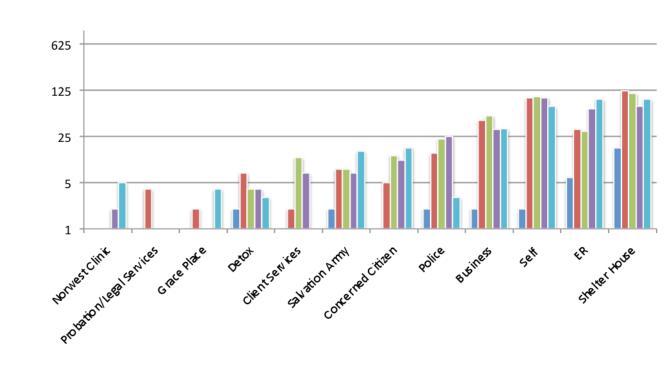
	December	January	February	March	April	Total
Transports	22	155	185	218	368	948
Daily average of transports	6	5	7	7	13	
Unable to transport**	12	56	66	46	93	180

**Objective 2: Provide Street Outreach Services (SOS)** 



Most transfers took place between local businesses, the TBRHSC Emergency Department, Balmoral Withdrawal Management Centre and Shelter House.

- •TBRHSC emergency: 34% (22% from, 12% to)
- •Businesses: 23% (23% from)
- •Balmoral Withdrawal Management Centre: 19% (2% from, 17% to)



High users of services for transfers



- Shelby Ch'ng,
   Bridal Unveiled
   on steering
   committee
- Opportunities to work with Downtown BIA

We call the service if there is an intoxicated individual. We try to see if we could get them to Shelter House safely instead of stumbling down the street.

~ Head of Intercity Security

**Business perspective on the value of SOS** 



- •Health issues exceeded expertise
- Assessment and triage very difficult (changing states from pick up to delivery, changes during stay)
- •2014-15: Working with TBRHSC/Superior North EMS and Balmoral Centre Withdrawal Management Services for alternatives

Month	Total Admissions	Total Hours	
February	21	40 hours	
March	20	31 hours	
April	28	41 hours	

**Day Service Room: Challenges** 



**Increased Efficiency For EMS And Police Services** 

Supporting Northwest Local Health Integration Network Priorities

Improved Perception of Safety in the Community

"The SOS team is very helpful....They saved excessive nursing time for people...
They would stay with the patient and that was great... They did make things
easier for the ER nurses. We really would like to see them (the SOS team) come
back." ~ Emergency Nurse, TBRHSC

A nurse is likely to feel more at ease discharging a patient to a team member of the mobile unit. The SOS team has experience with the patient population. They are able to have a dialogue with the patient, so that they can be informed of all the options available to them. ~ Emergency Nurse, TBRHSC

SOS provides the required help in the form of transportation, shelter and offers information on available programs and services. When not dealing with disorder and substance use issues, police can be engaged in more proactive core policing functions. It would be a great benefit to the TBPS to have the SOS program continue. ~ Inspector Sylvie Hauth, **Thunder Bay Police Service** 

#### **Social Impact of SOS**



- Health and safety of both staff and service users are of utmost priority.
- Policies, procedures and training developed with risk assessment tools from Ministry of Labour.

#### **Staff Training components**

- Policies and Procedures
- NVCI / de-escalation
- Thunder Bay Police
- Superior North EMS
- Balmoral Withdrawal Management
- Boundaries
- Peer Debriefing/ Vicarious Trauma
- Scenario/Role play
- Safe Encampment
   Outreach





- Shelter House
- Salvation Army
- Balmoral Withdrawal Mgmt. Centre
- Superior North EMS
- Thunder Bay Police Service
- Neighbourhood to Build City of Thunder Bay – Drug Strategy
- Tbaytel
- NorWest Community Health Centres
- SafetyLine
- The District of Thunder Bay Social Services
   Administration Board









Neighbourhoood

to Build









### **Steering Committee Members & Funders**





**Questions?**