

Housing and Homelessness Crisis: A Focus on Urgent Housing for Women and Girls Experiencing or Fleeing Violence in the City of London, Ontario

Presentation to SPPC
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Presenting Team:
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LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



Our team would like to acknowledge the traditional owners of the land on which we meet.

INTRODUCTION

- Brescia University College and CityStudio Partnership
 - Experiential learning opportunity built on partnership with CityStudio London, London Community Recovery Network (LCRN), City Planning, Housing Services in the City of London & community leaders working in the local violence against women sector
- London's Strategic Plan 2019-23 recognized need for an urgent action on homelessness, with a focus on more accessible and safer housing options for women and girls as a priority

PROJECT OVERVIEW

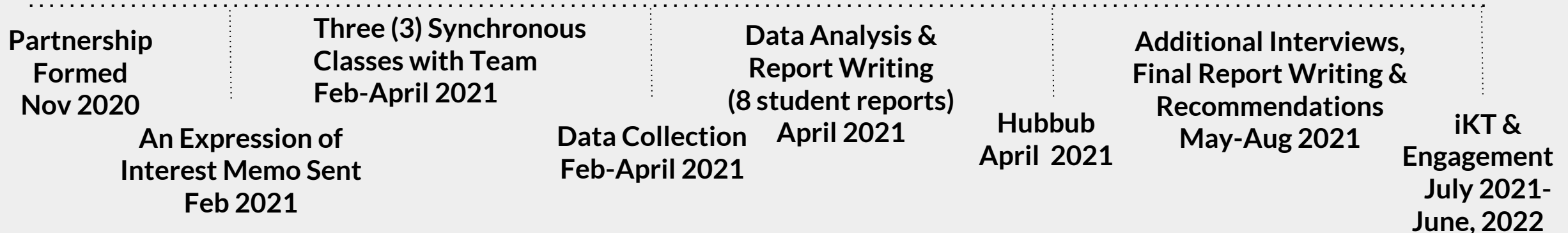


RESEARCH QUESTIONS

1. How does the housing system meet the needs of women and girls fleeing violence? More specifically, what special support should be put in place to help women and girls fleeing violence access / retain housing in response?
2. How has the COVID-19 pandemic impacted the risk for family violence and access to needed housing services?

PROJECT OVERVIEW

Phase 01	Phase 02	Phase 03	Phase 04
<p>Engage a Multi-Disciplinary Team:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Brescia Students II. CityStudio Staff III. LCRN Staff IV. Housing Services Staff V. LCCEWA and Safe Cities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Data Collection <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Secondary Data (gap analysis) - Primary Data (interviews) II. SWOT Analysis III. Data Analysis IV. Report Writing (8 student group reports) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Partnership with London Abused Women's Centre II. Conducting Additional Interviews III. Final Report IV. Recommendations 	<p>Integrated Knowledge Translation (iKT) & Engagement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> I. Final Student Presentations II. CityStudio Hubbub III. SPPC delegation IV. Conference Presentations V. Peer Reviewed Journal Article



ALL THAT DATA



PROJECT RECOMMENDATIONS

- A set of nine (9) recommendations outlined in the paper on SPPC agenda
- Developed collaboratively by London Abused Women's Centre Leadership Team (Megan Walker, Jennifer Dunn and Sandra-Lynn Coulter) and Brescia Team (Roula Hawa and Reeti Chopra)
- Consistent with the housing strategies in the City's strategic plan to create a safe London for women and girls

RECOMMENDATIONS

Ongoing opportunities to be provided by the city to engage with women and girls with lived experiences

Funding be provided by the City of London for priority access to housing, shelter and community services for women and girls fleeing violence

Prioritizing funding immediate access to longer-term, trauma-informed counselling, safety planning and emotional support

Proactive policies, planning and development for better housing infrastructure be implemented

An investment be made for a public relations campaign

Provide emergency shelter specific to the needs of women and girls escaping violence

Increased safety and affordability of long-term housing

Addressing lack of services for male perpetrators of abuse and violence against women and girls

Provide training on being trauma-informed to housing and homeless prevention staff

iKT & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT



KNOWLEDGE TRANSLATION & EXCHANGE

Findings from this community-university partnership will be shared in different venues.

PLATFORM	DESCRIPTION	LOCATION/DATE
The 2022 American Educational Research Association (AERA) Annual Meeting	Largest education conference in the world. Proposal for a paper presentation submitted on July 20, 2021	San Diego, California, US April 22 - April 25, 2022
The 2022 Canadian Society for the Study of Education (CSSE) Annual Conference--in conjunction with Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences.	Largest bilingual conference for practitioners & educational scholars in Canada. Proposal for a paper presentation to be submitted, Fall, 2021.	Montreal, Quebec, May 27-June 1 st , 2022.
The 2022 Canadian Association of the Study of Adult Education	Largest conference for adult educators in North America. Proposal for a paper presentation to be submitted, Fall 2021.	Location TBD. June 2 nd – June 5 th , 2022.
<i>Progress in Community Health Partnerships: Research Education and Action</i> , Johns Hopkins University Press .	Peer reviewed journal article (US). The first scholarly journal dedicated to Community-Based Participatory Research (CBPR). Mission is to identify and publicize model programs that use community partnerships to improve the health of people and communities.	Manuscript to be submitted, Winter, 2022.

NEXT STEPS

- We ask that the committee refer the recommendations shared to strategic planning staff for an assessment and timeline for implementation.
- We request that a copy of that report be sent to us.
- In addition to assessing our recommendations, we ask that a member of the City's Strategic Planning team join us as we move the City to the international stage.

ACKNOWLEDGMENT

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- Mischa Schlemmer and Jaimie Cudmore, CityStudio London
- Chris Green and Cathy Parsons, Economics Partnerships, City Planning, City of London
- Douglas Calderwood-Smith, Strategic Programs and Partnerships, Housing Division, City of London

Leaders in the Violence Against Women sector in London/Middlesex:

- Jessie Rogers, Anova
 - Megan Walker, London Abused Women's Centre
 - Jaclyn Seeler, Street Level Women at Risk
 - Dani Bartlett, Labour Programs and Services, United Way Elgin Middlesex
 - Shelley Yeo, former Anova
 - Carolyn Cofell, Family Services Thames Valley
 - Tracey Wicks, Women's Rural Resource Centre
 - Karna Trentman, Canadian Mental Health Association, Elgin-Middlesex
 - Jane Roy, London Food Bank
 - Katherine Krakowski and Max Doucet, Youth Opportunities Unlimited
- Dr. Tamara Thompson, Experiential Education, Brescia University College
 - Dr. Jen Pecoskie, Research Office, Brescia University College

Thank you to all the Brescia students enrolled in the Diversity and the Canadian Family (FSHD 3325B) course for their hard work on the project.

Questions/Comments?

Thank you!