

Feb. 24, 2023

London City Hall 300 Dufferin Avenue London ON N6B 1Z2

Attention: London City Council

RE: Health and Homelessness Summit, and the Whole of Community System Response

Street Level Women at Risk (SLWAR) is a Collaborative of 27 diverse organizations who have united under one model to assist individuals who identify as women engaged in survival sex work and experiencing chronic homelessness in London, Ontario to secure permanent housing with supports and begin working towards achieving their goals. Using a housing stability approach, SLWAR provides rapid response, housing finding services and housing allowances, intensive in-home support, and coordinated referrals and intentional connections focused on promoting choice and safety in sex work, long-term health and wellbeing, and community integration and belonging. As such, SLWAR is a long-term, person centred housing stability solution with no limit on the length of program participation and where the types and length of support provided are based on the needs of each participant.

SLWAR was pleased to be part of such a comprehensive, cross-sectoral process. We fully endorse the Health & Homelessness Whole of Community System Response. Individuals and organizations from across the community – from community health and social services, institutional healthcare, education, emergency services, business and economic development, land and housing development, City of London staff, and staff from other levels of government – came together with a commitment to do things differently, together.

Our organization strongly urges City Council to act in favour of this work by supporting this community plan and supporting the allocation of London Community Recovery Network funding to initiate implementation.

Thank you,

Cathy Nolan, Managing Director Street Level Women at Risk