

# **Community response to housing insecurity and homelessness in East Vancouver**

**Presented by**

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**and**

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Neighbourhood House**

# Agenda

- Collingwood – one example
- Partnerships
- Current Activities
- Past Projects and resources
- Potential for neighbourhood house involvement
- Q & A



# Collingwood Neighbourhood House: community development in Vancouver

- 2003 Morning Star breakfast program starts
- 2005 Showers and clothing added
- Community partners joined with CNH to form the Renfrew-Collingwood Homeless Committee
- 2008 outreach and rent supplements
- 2012 rent bank further integration



# Community Partnerships

- Collingwood Neighbourhood House
- Collingwood Community Policing Centre
- Renfrew Park Community Association
- Evergreen Community Health Centre
- St Nicholas & Dimitros Greek Orthodox
- First Lutheran Church
- St. Mary's Church
- Windermere Family of Schools
- G&F Financial Credit Union
- UBC Nursing Program
- Individual residents

# Funding Partnerships

- Collingwood Neighbourhood House (United Way)
- BC Housing (Outreach and rent supps)
- City of Vancouver (HAW)

# Morning Star Program

- Breakfast and bag lunches for 70-90 individuals
- Showers – from 6-16 participants
- Clothing and toiletries
- UBC Nursing Students and Evergreen Nurse Clinician



# Outreach Services and Rent Supplements

Outreach at work:

Worked with a 49 year old man, to coordinate health, income and shelter supports to assist in housing stabilization

# Community Development and Advocacy

## Agency service issues

- Within our own multi-use agencies
- With other service providers
- With broader Renfrew-Collingwood neighbourhood
- With government and funders





# Previous Projects

## *You Count Renfrew-Collingwood*

A community homeless count

- 140 community volunteers
- 8 people on the street
- 57 “hidden homeless”
- Led to future actions by RCHC

[www.cnh.bc.ca/homelesscount.htm](http://www.cnh.bc.ca/homelesscount.htm)



**HOW RENFREW COLLINGWOOD RESPONDED COLLABORATIVELY  
TO HOMELESSNESS TO CREATE INCLUSIVITY  
IN AN EVOLVING NEIGHBORHOOD**

# Widening the Circle of Community

**PRODUCED BY:  
RENFREW COLLINGWOOD HOMELESSNESS STEERING COMMITTEE**

**APRIL 2009**

# Previous Projects

## Inter-Schools Competition

- Friendly competition amongst elementary and secondary schools on ideas to address homelessness





Cory Leung,  
Windermere High  
School Student  
Council accepts  
HAW 2010  
Declaration from  
Gregor Robertson,  
Mayor City of  
Vancouver





# Neighbourhood house support

Food Security

Housing Development

Vancouver Rent Bank

Funding to support community  
development



# Neighbourhood Houses and homelessness

New York and Toronto involvement

Metro Vancouver neighbourhood houses  
ready for action: Building Welcoming  
and Inclusive Neighbourhoods (BWIN)



# Challenges and Next Steps

- The Neighbourhood House approach
- Raising awareness about integrated services
- Creating awareness and education opportunities for community members around homelessness

■ **Thank You**