

**Member Inquiry Form**  
**Demande de renseignement d'un membre du Conseil**

**Subject: Funding for community programs re: homelessness**

**Objet : Financement des programmes communautaires de lutte contre l'itinérance**

**Submitted at:** Community and Protective Services Committee      **Présenté au :** Comité des services communautaires et de protection

**From/Expéditeur :**                      **Date:** September 17, 2020      **File/Dossier :**  
Councillor/Conseiller                      **Date :** Le 17 septembre                      CPS 05-20  
M. Fleury    2020

**To/Destinataire :**

General Manager, Community and Social Services Department / Directrice général des services sociaux et communautaires

**Inquiry:**

**COVID-19 has exposed gaps in daytime/evening/weekend programming for those in our community who are experiencing homelessness and who are vulnerably housed. Can the City specify what funding is allocated towards barrier free programs that allow for drop-ins/programming (specifically serving those who are homeless or vulnerably housed) during the daytime, evenings and weekends ?**

**Demande de renseignement :**

**La COVID-19 a entraîné l'annulation de certaines activités de jour, de soir et de fin de semaine pour les personnes en situation d'itinérance ou de précarité de logement à Ottawa. La Ville peut-elle indiquer le montant des fonds alloués aux programmes accessibles qui proposent des activités libres ou à heures fixes pour ces personnes le jour, le soir et la fin de semaine?**

**Response (Date: 2020-Oct-02)**

The City provides funding to day programs which serve residents experiencing who are vulnerably housed, homelessness, or who are street involved through Community and Social Services' Community Funding. In 2020, the total annual operating funding

provided to nine day program providers is \$3,721,048. Five of these day programs are in Rideau-Vanier Ward, three are in Somerset Ward, and one is in River Ward.

An additional \$222,524 plus PPE allocations were provided to seven day program providers under Ottawa's first Request for Offer (RFO) for social service agencies for extraordinary expenses related to the COVID-19 response. An additional \$157,781 was just provided to three day programs as part of Round 2 allocations.

Targeted funding was also provided to offset projected service gaps following the closure of the temporary McNabb Respite site on October 2, 2020. This includes \$22,714/month across four day programs/community health and resource centres.

The availability and hours of day programs have varied over the last six months, as day programs return to normal operating hours following partial or full closure during the initial phases of the COVID-19 response.

Two day programs will begin Saturday operations on October 3, 2020 as part of the transition of services from the McNabb temporary respite site.

As part of the second RFO for social service agencies as part of the COVID-19 response, additional funding was approved for:

- One day program to operate weekdays and weekends until 9 pm;
- One day program to operate on Sundays.

Once the above noted changes have been implemented, service availability will be as follows:

	Operational Day Programs	Total Day Programs
Weekday Business Hours	8	9
Weekday Evenings (with closing times of 6 pm or later)	6	9
Saturdays	4	9
Sundays	4	9

Day programs do not have service restrictions (other than youth or women specific services). However, in many centres, should a person be exhibiting aggressive or disrespectful behavior or if their behavior is putting anyone else at risk, they could/would be asked to leave.

As part of the work of the Unsheltered Task Force comprised of City Departments and Homeless Service Providers, an action plan was developed to address the needs of people sleeping unsheltered. A key challenge that has been reported by outreach services is the lack of indoor and outdoor spaces for people experiencing homelessness, particularly in the downtown core. The City is exploring options to provide this safe, designated space. Days and hours of operation for this space have not yet been determined.

Additionally, the City is also working across departments and in conjunction with City partners, including day programs, regarding implications of the second wave of COVID-19 and the onset of the winter months to develop sustainable solutions to address the needs of the unsheltered population.

**Réponse** (Date: le 2 octobre 2020)

La version française suivra

### **Council Inquiries**

#### **Demande de renseignements du Conseil:**

*Response to be listed on the Community and Protective Services Committee Agenda of October 15, 2020*

*La réponse devrait être inscrite à l'ordre du jour de la réunion du Comité des services communautaires et de protection prévue le 15 octobre 2020*