

# **Durham At Risk Housing Network: *Terms of Reference***

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## **Mission Statement**

The Durham At-Risk Housing Network (DARHN) aims to increase communication and information sharing among front-line housing workers in Durham Region.

As a network, we aim to improve the quality of life for our clients and enhance housing and homelessness initiatives in Durham.

## **Goals**

1. To provide a forum for networking, communication and information sharing for front line outreach workers in Durham Region who support individuals facing barriers related to homelessness.
2. To identify trends in service, recognize service gaps and barriers in Durham Region and make recommendations that appropriately address these barriers.
3. To identify resources that will address the needs of homeless people or those who are vulnerable to homelessness across the Durham Region.
4. To provide training opportunities to front line housing workers in Durham Region when available.

## **Membership**

Issues of homelessness require input from front line workers of Durham Region whose client base is at risk housing. Membership is open to all service providers working in the Durham Region who provide outreach services.

Members will be sought from agencies working directly with homelessness individuals including but not limited to youth, aboriginal peoples, women fleeing family violence, elderly and those with mental health or addictions service needs.

## **Meetings**

Meetings will be held on a bi-monthly basis at Community Development Council Durham (CDCD) headquarters or virtually. The Chair is responsible for creating meeting agendas and ensuring that meeting minutes are recorded. Minutes will be distributed to network members by the Chair within one week after the meeting.

## **Term**

Members participate on a voluntary basis.

## **Governance and Decision-Making**

Decisions at DARHN will be made according to a consensus-based model. Authority to approve decisions of the network rests with the Chair. All final decisions must be made at in-person or virtual meetings unless extenuating circumstances prevent this. The chair will use their discretion when finalizing decisions made by the Group to ensure that all decisions are representative of the best interests of the group.

## **Approval and Amendments**

The terms of reference should undergo a mandatory review after a period of two years. The current terms of reference will be valid from October 2020 to October 2022, at which time a full review will need to take place. In addition to this, the terms are subject to review and amendment at any time during the lifespan of this Group. Decisions regarding amendments will be made at bi-monthly meetings following review and consultation.