Animating Community Plans:
Clarenville Bonavista Region

FINAL REPORT

February 28, 2011

List of Acronyms

Abbreviation	Description
CAB	Community Advisory Board
CDW	Community Development Worker
CMHC	Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation
HPS	Homelessness Partnering Strategy
HRLE	Human Resources Labour and Employment
HRSDC	Human Resources and Skills Development Canada
NLHHN	Newfoundland and Labrador Housing & Homelessness Network
NHI	National Homelessness Initiative
NL Housing	Newfoundland Labrador Housing
NLSA	Newfoundland and Labrador Statistics Agency (NLSA)
REACH	Regional Action Committee on Housing
THANL	Transition House Association of NL
VOFV	Victim of Family Violence

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1.0 INTRODUCTION

This report is provided in completion of one component of the research project undertaken for the Newfoundland and Labrador Housing & Homelessness Network (NLHHN) to support further animation of Community Plans in four regions of the province. Specifically, it provides information on the extent and nature of homelessness and housing instability in the Clarenville Bonavista region, with a focus on the following priorities, as identified by the Regional Action Committee on Housing[1]:

- Emergency/transitional housing for women and their children experiencing violence.
  Note: this would include this population having access to wrap around supports and services designed to address their unique needs and facilitate their move into permanent housing as soon as possible.

- Affordable housing (for a range of vulnerable populations)

In addition, this report identifies several strategic directions for the Regional Action Committee on Housing (hereafter referred to as REACH) to consider in its efforts to address the needs of these aforementioned priorities, and more broadly the housing and homelessness issues facing their region.

2.0 CONTEXT FOR THE PROJECT

2.1 Background

In December 1999, the National Homelessness Initiative (NHI) was announced by the Government of Canada to respond to urgent calls to address growing homelessness in Canada's cities – starting with an investment of $753 million over 3 years (2000-2002). The Government of Canada first identified 10 communities in 1999 to receive funding due to their pressing homelessness needs. Subsequently in 2000, 51 additional communities were selected (including St. John's) in consultation with provinces and territories, and in response to an outcry from communities which were already engaged in identifying and providing services to people who were homeless or at risk of homelessness.

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[1] The Regional Action Committee on Housing, which was incorporated as of August 2010, was formerly known as the Clarenville Community Advisory Board.

Designated communities must have an approved, up-to-date, and comprehensive community plan before they can receive funding – which goes directly to community projects. The plan must identify long-term solutions to address homelessness and how the community intends to continue these activities. Designated communities have to demonstrate in their plan that other partners will provide a matching contribution.[2]

In 2003, NHI was renewed to 2005, with a further $405 million in federal funding, and again for one year in 2006 with $134.8 million.

On December 19, 2006, the Government of Canada announced the new Homelessness Partnering Strategy (HPS) which provided $269.6 million over two years to help prevent and reduce homelessness. HPS focuses on a "housing first" approach to homelessness, and it put in place strategic partnerships and structures including long-term housing and stable supports to help homeless persons move toward autonomy and self-sufficiency.

On January 27, 2009, the Government of Canada announced it was extending funding for the HPS at current levels ($269 million) for two years, from April 1, 2009, to March 31, 2011, and would maintain annual funding for federal housing and homelessness programs until March 31, 2014, as part of its five-year commitment. Funding housing and homelessness programs for a five-year period would provide an opportunity to consider improvements to address housing and homelessness challenges, and to ensure that programs continue to effectively respond to the needs of Canadians.[3]

Since 2000, over $21 million has been invested through NHI and HPS in Newfoundland and Labrador to help address homelessness. This does not include the significant leveraging of provincial, municipal, private and community resources that have been mobilized initially around the St. John's Community Plan to address homelessness and as well and in recent years in a number of "Outreach" communities across the province. (See section 2.2)

As an example, the Government of Newfoundland & Labrador continues to play a critical role in supporting the sustainability of projects under HPS (as they did under NHI) by investing in their human resources, programs and services costs. These ongoing investments are significant, and without them, many of the community-based projects would not have come to fruition.

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[2] Human Resources and Skills Development Canada (HRSDC). Designated Communities. Available from http://www.rhdcc-hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/homelessness/designated_communities/index.shtml.
[3] Human Resources and Skills Development Canada General Information. Available from http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/homelessness/general_information/index.shtml.

Municipal governments in rural parts of our province are becoming increasingly aware of the issues of homelessness and housing instability in their communities through the efforts of their Community Advisory Boards and Committees on homelessness. It is hoped that this growing awareness will lead to key partnerships resulting in, for example, support, planning advice and approvals for their projects, and waiving of property taxes and permit fees on homelessness projects. Corporations such as the Iron Ore Company of Canada, Petro-Canada and Zellers have made significant contributions to several projects in both St. John's and Outreach Communities as well. Additionally, voluntary community-based organizations and community-minded individuals have given their time and energy to support local efforts under both NHI and HPS.[4]

2.2   Outreach communities

Under NHI, funding was allocated through a Regional Homelessness component designed to enable funding of proposals and projects in rural communities. This focus continues through HPS under its Outreach Communities funding component, which primarily targets smaller cities, rural or outlying areas, and the north. Outreach communities do not have to develop community plans, but their requests for funding must include proof of support from a wide range of community partners. This funding is expected to primarily support projects that fill specific gaps in the infrastructure of smaller cities and northern and rural areas to address homelessness. Outreach communities are encouraged to seek other partners including provincial and territorial governments and municipalities, but funding does not require a matching contribution from community partners.[5] Newfoundland and Labrador's annual HPS (Outreach) allocation for the most recent funding period of 2009-2010 is approximately $540,000 per year for a total of approximately $1.1M.

In the winter of 2007, the Happy Valley-Goose Bay Homelessness and Transitional Housing Working Group, supported by HPS and the St. John's Advisory Committee on Homelessness, undertook research on housing and homelessness issues. This resulted in the first Outreach Community Plan and the creation of the Happy Valley/Goose Bay Community Advisory Board on Homelessness. Soon after, a Community Development Worker (CDW) was hired: funded initially under HPS, this position is now being cost shared by the provincial Department of Human Resource Labour and Employment (HRLE) and HPS.

It soon became apparent to the housing and homelessness sector in this province, as well as Service Canada, that the success of the CDW initiative in Happy Valley/Goose Bay, as

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[4] Backgrounder – National Housing Initiative – St. John's, NL (2000 – 2006).
[5] HRSDC. Outreach Communities. Available from
http://www.hrsdc.gc.ca/eng/homelessness/outreach_communities/index.shtml.

well as in St. John's (which has been staffed since 2002), could be replicated more broadly through implementation of a Housing Development Facilitator - to assist Outreach Communities to develop housing-first strategies and partnerships to address homelessness. A proposal for such a position was submitted by Stella Burry Community Services to Service Canada. Under an agreement with Service Canada through an interchange agreement and using HPS Outreach funds, a federal government staff was secured for this position for the period of January 2008 - December 31, 2010. Of note, this position was vacated as of spring 2010.

2.3   The Outreach communities' development process

Early in 2008, homelessness and housing informational and educational sessions were presented by the new Housing Development Facilitator in Corner Brook, Grand Falls/Windsor, Clarenville, and Marystown. These sessions were well attended by a continuum of community and government stakeholders. Subsequent to these sessions, Community Advisory Boards/Committees/Networks (hereafter referred to as CABs for ease of reference) were formed in each of these communities:

- Clarenville – Community Advisory Board (renamed the Regional Action Committee on Housing)
- Marystown – Community Plan Advisory Committee (renamed the Burin Peninsula Housing and Homelessness Committee)
- Grand Falls-Windsor – Central Housing and Homelessness Network
- Corner Brook – Community Plan Advisory Committee (renamed the Community Coalition on Housing and Homelessness)

Each of these CABs has diverse community and government membership which could include, for example, representatives of persons with disabilities, shelters for women who have experienced violence, single parents, seniors, Regional Health Authorities, HRLE and the Rural Secretariat regions. Soon after forming, each of the CABs applied for and received HPS funding which was used to engage a consultant to prepare a community plan on housing and homelessness for their communities and surrounding areas.[6]

The resulting community plans began to quantify the extent of homelessness in their regions, including the populations most at risk. The plans delineate factors that contribute to homelessness, barriers (e.g. lack of supports and services) which impede people's

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[6] The Clarenville CAB's plan – "Homelessness Study" - is available for viewing at
http://www.nlhhn.org/PDF/ClarenvilleCommunityPlan.pdf.

access to adequate, affordable, accessible housing, and also begin to frame out the priority areas for action to address housing instability and homelessness in their regions.[7]

However, it was clear that an additional planning step was required in order to further refine the strategic directions delineated in these initial community plans. To that end, Mare White, GGI Inc., was contracted to do follow-up strategic planning sessions in each of the four Outreach communities. As noted in the background section of each of the resulting four action plans, the CAB community plans served as the basis of the day's discussions, supplemented by CAB members' backgrounds, expertise and knowledge of the regions and the issues at hand. The intent of the facilitated planning day was to arrive at a consensus on next steps in relation to each CAB's activity.

2.4   Areas of focus

As a first step in these action-planning processes, each Outreach CAB identified populations and areas of focus requiring follow-up research. REACH identified the following for the Clarenville Bonavista region:

- Single parents
- Low income individuals and families living in their own homes, as well those living in rental accommodations
- Seniors
- Youth
- Persons with disabilities (e.g. sensory, physical, mental health, intellectual)
- Women in the Newfoundland & Labrador Correctional Centre for Women (NLCCW) - which is located in Clarenville
- Victims of violence

2.5   Moving forward

It was also identified in these action plans that a critical step in the Outreach CABs' activities was to undertake in-depth follow-up focused research on their identified priority populations and areas. To that end, NLHHN sought and was initially provided funding in the amount of $80,000 from HPS to enable this current research process in each of the four regions.

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[7] Marie White. Summary Report: Clarenville Community Advisory Board on Homelessness – Planning Day. Pg. 1. November 27, 2009. This report is available for viewing at http://www.nlhhn.org/PDF/SummaryReportClarenville.pdf.

It was anticipated this research would identify two to three strategic directions to inform responsive and tangible short-term steps and longer-term solutions to addressing the priority areas and populations in these regions. As well, the evidence-based research would facilitate each Outreach CAB's efforts to engage other community-based housing and homelessness providers, as well as relevant government agencies, in addressing housing instability and homelessness in their regions. It was felt that this overall process would facilitate the Outreach CABs' capacity to update their community plans, as these are not static documents but reflect the changing environment and landscape in which housing instability and homelessness exists.

3.0   METHODOLOGY - Clarenville/Bonavista Region

This study used several methodologies:
- Pre-planning session
- Key informant interviews
- Focus groups
- Data collection

Each methodology is explained in more detail below.

3.1   Pre-planning session

It had been proposed that there be an initial teleconference with each of the four Outreach CABs to brief them on the overall research approach and obtain any comment or feedback on how the information gathering process could best be conducted in their respective regions. In an initial meeting with the NLHHN selection committee for this project, however, it was agreed that instead of a teleconference, the consultants would meet in person with each Outreach CAB. It was felt this was critical to ensuring they were integrally involved in the research for their region at the outset.

It was understood that the information gathering and consultations in each region would have the same purpose – primarily to inform animation of the Outreach CABs' plans through a focus on priority areas and populations, but also to identify the depth and scope of community development activity in their region. The specific consultative approach would be tailored to each region depending on, for example, priority issues identified, the continuum of service providers to engage, and access to people who were at risk of, had experienced or are experiencing homelessness.

3.1.1 Pre-planning with REACH

On April 28, 2010, a pre-planning session was held with available members of REACH including representatives from, for example, the Clarenville-Bonavista Rural Secretariat region, HRLE, a local Family Resource Centre, Eastern Health, and local municipalities. The project manager from GGI, as well as one of two consultants who would be conducting fieldwork, were in attendance. A number of methodological issues were discussed (see the pre-planning meeting agenda in Appendix "A") including refining the priority populations and areas, defining the scope of the region to which the research applies, identification of potential key informants and data collection.

3.1.2 Defining the region to which the research applies

The Clarenville Bonavista region is large, encompassing over 100 communities. It mirrors the Clarenville-Bonavista Rural Secretariat region, extending from Norman's Cove/Chapel Arm to Bonavista to Swift Current and Port Blandford, and serving all communities in between. During the pre-planning session, REACH identified that it would be important to try and capture views of informants across the region. It was explained by the consultants that consultations would be done in person in the Clarenville and Bonavista areas and, as possible, in outlying parts of the region. In lieu of in-person interviews, telephone interviews would be conducted.

3.1.3 Review of priority populations identified in REACH's s Summary Report

At the pre-planning meeting, as previously referenced, discussion also was held on the priorities listed in REACH's Planning Day - Summary Report (November 2009):
- Single parents
- Low income individuals and families living in their own homes, as well those living in rental accommodations
- Seniors
- Youth
- Persons with disabilities (e.g. sensory, physical, mental health, intellectual)
- Women in the Newfoundland & Labrador Correctional Centre for Women (NLCCW), which is located in Clarenville
- Victims of violence

It was agreed that while all of the identified vulnerable populations were important, in an effort to more strategically define and focus the priorities, the following would be the subject of the research in the Clarenville Bonavista region:

- Emergency/transitional housing for women and their children experiencing violence
  Note: this would include this population having access to wrap around supports and services designed to address their unique needs and facilitate their move into permanent housing as soon as possible.

- Affordable housing - Of note, REACH felt strongly that all of the priority populations delineated in their Summary Report were in need and so it was agreed that in researching affordable housing for the region, these diverse populations would be considered.

3.2 Interviews

3.2.1 Identification of key informants

REACH members were asked to identify service providers and community stakeholders who could best inform the extent and nature of homelessness and housing instability in the Clarenville Bonavista region, with a focus on the priority populations and areas identified in section 3.1.3. It was anticipated that these informants also would have the knowledge and backgrounds to identify housing and homelessness concerns which were not priorized in their community plan or summary report, and the extent of community development (both generally and as well specific to housing and homelessness) being undertaken in their region.

It was suggested to REACH that informants be drawn, as relevant and practical, from a range of potential informant groups including:

- Provincial government
- Municipal governments
- Community based service providers
- Faith groups
- Local youth groups
- Local housing providers
- Individuals/groups doing community development work in relation to housing and homelessness

In consultation with REACH, both at the pre-meeting and in the ensuing weeks before the on-site visit, 10 key informants were identified. Of these, nine interviews were completed with representatives of the following:

- A community based organization focused on community preservation and development
- Crime/violence prevention
- Eastern Health (including mental health and addictions)
- Faith groups
- Local municipalities
- RCMP
- Seniors

3.2.2   Identification of people who are at risk of, have experienced or are experiencing homelessness

The second key informant group was those who are at risk of, have experienced, or are experiencing homelessness. REACH was asked to identify and connect the consultants to six to eight representatives of this informant group who also fit their priorities, i.e. women and their children experiencing violence and populations in need of affordable housing. The focus was on gathering information on the lived experience of those experiencing/facing homelessness, the extent to which their needs were being met, any service gaps in meeting their needs, as well as their suggestions for how these gaps could best be filled.

REACH also was asked to identify the supports these informants might need during the interview process, and who could provide this support. Those individuals who agreed to participate were not required to provide their names to the consultants and were interviewed in individual face-to-face or telephone interviews, in a focus group or group interview setting. An honorarium of $20.00 was provided to each individual who participated.

Seven informants were identified and interviewed. These included three single mothers – one of whom had been in an abusive relationship, and a woman with disabilities. The remaining informants were widows.

REACH reviewed the draft key informant guides at the pre-planning meeting with edits made as required. As well, the focus of the interviews with those who are at risk of, have experienced or are experiencing homelessness was discussed.

The key informant guides are provided in Appendix "B".

3.3 Focus group with REACH

A focus group was held with REACH members on June 3, 2010. As with the key informant interviews, this session was designed to inform the priority populations and areas, any other pressing concerns regarding homelessness and housing instability in the region and the degree and scope of community development – generally and in relation to housing and homelessness in the region. The focus group guide is found in Appendix "C".

For ease of reference, throughout the report, the term "participants" will be used to refer to those who took part in the focus group.

3.4 Data Collection

The service providers and community based key informants, as well as participants in the REACH focus group, were asked if they could identify any data which could inform the priority populations and areas. Of note, there were few data sources identified via these consultations.

Information also was sought from a range of other sources for each of the four Outreach regions under consideration, including the Clarenville Bonavista region, as follows.

3.4.1 Statistics Canada

Relevant information was drawn from the most recent data available from Statistics Canada (2006) including, for example:

- Total private dwellings
- Number of owned dwellings
- Number of rented dwellings
- Average value of owned dwelling
- Median monthly payments for rented dwellings
- Median monthly payments for owner-occupied dwellings

3.4.2 CMHC

Recent CMHC documents were reviewed to gather relevant data on, for example, the vacancy rates in the four Outreach regions (as available).

Documents reviewed included:

- Canadian Housing Observer 2009 –with a feature on affordable housing
- Rental Market Report Newfoundland and Labrador Highlights, Spring 2010[8]

3.4.3   Human Resources Labour and Employment

A request was made for HRLE contacts in the four Outreach regions who could provide data on the extent to which they have temporarily housed individuals/families (and specifically who) in hotels/motels, etc., due to housing crisis; how often this occurs; and approximate numbers.

The response received was that this information is not readily available in HRLE's systems databases. It was noted that there might be some record of emergency placements across the province through HRLE's emergency on call system, but it would not be an accurate reflection of the information being sought.

3.4.4   Newfoundland Labrador Housing

NL Housing was contacted and the following information was requested and received for each of the four Outreach regions:

- The number of NLHC units in each of the larger cities/towns in each region
- The number of occupied /vacant units in each community
- Waiting lists – and whether there is a preponderance of one group or another (e.g. is the list mainly comprised of seniors? singles?)
- Number of Affordable Housing Initiative (AHI)[9] units constructed in each of the communities in the last two years and for whom (i.e. were these built for seniors? single parents?)

3.4.5   Newfoundland and Labrador Statistics Agency (NLSA)

Information was sought from the NLSA on core housing need (see section 4.2) in the four Outreach regions and, as well, vacancy rates for the Marystown Burin and Clarenville

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[8] CMHC conducts the **Rental Market Survey** (RMS) every year in April and October to estimate the relative strengths in the rental market. The survey is conducted on a sample basis in all urban areas with populations of 10,000 and more (St. John's, Bay Roberts, Gander, Grand Falls-Windsor, and Corner Brook). The survey targets only privately initiated structures with at least three rental units, which have been on the market for at least three months. The survey collects market rent, available and vacant unit data from sampled structures. Further information is availablefrom http://www.cmhc.ca/en/hoficlincl/homain/stda/suretaanme/suretaanme_002.cfm.

[9] For an explanation of the Affordable Housing Initiative, see Appendix "D".

Bonavista regions – as CMHC provides this information only for communities over 10,000 people.

Staff of NLSA replied stating that data on core housing need is available from CMHC who fund the housing portion of the Census and who, therefore, retain this data on behalf of Statistics Canada. Of note, this core housing data is available through an interactive tool called Housing in Canada Online (HiCO) – available from the following CMHC site: http://www.cmhc.ca/en/corp/about/cahoob/cahoob_002.cfm.

Similarly, NLSA noted they obtain information on vacancy rates from CMHC.

3.4.6 Salvation Army

Information was requested of regional Salvation Army informants who had participated in the consultation process for this research for any statistics on emergency accommodation placements, which the Salvation Army facilitates in the four Outreach regions. Specifically, information was sought on the numbers for whom they have to find accommodation - e.g. placement in a motel/hotel, due to being homeless or at risk of homelessness as a result of, for example, addictions, family break-up, and/or poverty related issues.

3.4.7 Transition House Association of Newfoundland & Labrador (THANL)[10]

Transition houses on the island of Newfoundland were contacted and asked if in the 2008 – 2010 time period, they had received referrals of women and their children experiencing violence from any of the four Outreach regions. Specifically, they were asked:

- Did you get referrals from any of these communities and/or their local shelters for women and their children experiencing violence?
- If so, could you tell me how many women and if they were youth/adult/senior, if they had children and from what community or region of the province they came.
- If so, could you tell me why they were not able to be accommodated in their own region/community?

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[10] THANL includes transition houses across the province: Nain (Nain Transition House), Happy Valley-Goose Bay (Libra House), Labrador City (Hope Haven), Corner Brook (Corner Brook Transition House), Gander (Cara House), Marystown (Grace Sparkes House) and St. John's (Iris Kirby House).

The intent was to try and identify the degree of mobility of women and their children experiencing violence away from each of the four Outreach regions, reasons for this mobility, and information on where they are directed (e.g. shelters in other regions).

3.4.8 Women's Centres

Information requests were sent to several women's centres/regional councils across the island, asking if in the 2008 – 2010 time period they had received referrals from any of the four Outreach regions. Specifically they were asked:

- Did you get referrals from any of these four communities and/or their local shelters to assist women and/or women and their children find accommodations?
- If so, could you tell me how many women and if they were youth/adult/senior, if they had children and from what community or region of the province they came?
- If so, could you tell me why they were not able to be accommodated in their own region/community?

Again, the intent was to try and identify the degree of mobility of women and their children experiencing violence away from each of the four Outreach regions, reasons for this mobility and information on where they are directed (e.g. shelters in other regions).

3.4.9 Choices for Youth (Choices)

Choices was contacted and asked to provide data on the number of male youth who are coming from the four Outreach regions seeking its shelter services, and the reasons they are not able to be accommodated in their own communities.

The intent was to try and identify the degree of mobility of male youth away from each of the four Outreach regions, reasons for this mobility and information on where they are directed (e.g. shelters in other regions).

3.4.10 Naomi Centre (Stella Burry Community Services)

Naomi Centre was contacted and asked to provide data on the number of female youth who are coming from the four Outreach regions seeking its shelter services, and the reasons they are not able to be accommodated in their own communities.

The intent was to try and identify the degree of mobility of female youth away from each of the four Outreach regions, reasons for this mobility and information on where they are directed (e.g. shelters in other regions).

3.4.11 RCMP/RNC

Efforts were made to contact RNC/RCMP in each of the four Outreach regions to identify if they are taking homeless individuals into their facilities because there is nowhere else for them to stay. Specifically, information was sought on how often this happens and the demographics of those involved.

3.4.12 Other

Efforts were made to identify the extent to which individuals in the four Outreach regions avail of hospital emergency departments because they have no place to stay/live. Specifically, information was sought on how often this happens and the demographics of those involved.

Efforts also were made to ask regional informants working in mental health in the four Outreach regions about the preponderance of individuals with mental illness who come seeking housing assistance.

3.5   Limitation to the research

One of the limitations to the research in the Clarenville Bonavista region was the lack of available and standardized data to inform the housing and homelessness landscape in this region – whether that be in relation to, for example, vacancy rates, core housing need, and/or demographics of those seeking housing assistance, as well as the type and frequency of their requests. Without comprehensive and accurate data being readily available, it is difficult to make evidenced based decisions in relation to the identified priorities. This research therefore, has relied on a mix of qualitative information, anecdotal evidence, the consultants' extensive knowledge of issues related to housing and homelessness and a range of quantitative sources in developing the strategic directions outlined in section 7.0.

4.0 FINDINGS

The following presents the findings in relation to the research priorities identified by REACH for its region.

4.1 Emergency/transitional housing for women and their children experiencing violence

Note: this would include this population having access to wrap around supports and services designed to address their unique needs and facilitate their move into permanent housing as soon as possible.

4.1.1 Extent and level of need for emergency/transitional housing

Information was sought on the extent and level of need for emergency/transitional housing in the Clarenville/Bonavista region for women and their children experiencing violence including, for example, why they are in need, services of which they currently avail and gaps therein.

The focus group felt there was a significant need in the region for such emergency/transitional housing. Some of the key informants concurred with this perspective. As an example, one key informant - a long time member of the RCMP – said they know the need for such housing exists because they have seen women who are experiencing violence and who have no housing options usually return to abusive relationships.

> *"...because there is no emergency shelter locally, either in Bonavista or Clarenville, a very high percentage of women end up back in their own home and the cycle continues."*

A government informant stated that abusive relationships were one of the main referral sources in relation to their work: on a weekly average, they see one woman in an abusive relationship. This informant stated that many of these women do not leave their home environments because they do not have access to the resources needed to so do. Another key informant, whose role includes supporting victims of violence, stated they knew of four or five women from the Clarenville/Bonavista region who are currently in shelters in other regions. An informant conducting a needs assessment for the Clarenville area said that although the need for emergency/transitional housing is not an area of their research, it had come up in some discussions – though not as a predominant issue.

While most informants and the focus group participants identified the need for emergency/transitional housing for women and their children who are experiencing violence in their region, two informants (outside the larger centres in the region) were not as convinced this need was evidenced. One did state, however, that this could be due to the dynamics of their own community, i.e. women who do leave abusive relationships in that community turn to their family for shelter, as they do not want to leave their home towns. The other informant conceded there might be a bigger need for emergency/transitional housing in a larger community such as Clarenville.

4.1.2   Perspectives of women who have experienced violence and/or homelessness

One of the individuals from the Clarenville Bonavista region who had experienced homelessness was a single mother with a child who had been in an abusive relationship. She stated she left the relationship when she was pregnant – describing being scared and having nowhere to go. She indicated that emergency shelter would have really helped her in that situation.

Although this individual had applied for Income Support, she stated that it took two months to receive her first payment and so she had to move in with a family member. She described this time lag as inappropriate because it potentially placed her family in an unsafe situation.

A second woman from the region – a single parent who has mental health issues – has not been able to access stable housing since her marriage break up. She is not willing to leave her home community because she wants to be close to her child (who is not in her custody). Currently, she is staying with a friend but this is only short term. She felt that access to supportive and transitional housing would provide her the support needed to get her life back on track.

4.1.3   Range of supports and services available to women and their children experiencing violence

Focus group participants stated that currently the only real option available to women and their children experiencing violence in the Clarenville Bonavista region is to leave the region to access women's shelters in Gander, Marystown or St. John's. They felt this was an untenable situation noting that women who find themselves in these situations do not want to have to leave their communities and/or uproot their children, so they stay with friends, their family or the abuser to stay in the area.

Data obtained from THANL shelters on the island of Newfoundland for the 2008 – 2010 period[11] indicates there is some movement of this population of women and their children experiencing violence to shelters in other regions, as presented in table 4.1. Of note, the numbers only reflect the women and children who actually were admitted and do not, for example, cover any crisis calls received from women in the Clarenville Bonavista region.

Table 4.1 THANL Referral Data: 2008 – 2010

Shelter	Location	Number of referrals from Clarenville Bonavista
Cara Transition House	Gander	2009 – 4 women (including 1 youth and 1 senior) and 3 children 2008 – 2 women (1 of whom was a senior)
Grace Sparkes House	Marystown	No referrals reported from the Clarenville Bonavista region
Iris Kirby House	St. John's	2009-2010[12] – 6 women and 5 children
Transition House	Corner Brook	2009 – no referrals from the Clarenville Bonavista region 2008 – 2 women from Eastern Newfoundland, although neither one was from the Clarenville Bonavista region

Other options identified for this population included seeking shelter locally through, for example, the RCMP, HRLE or the local ministerial committee. The RCMP informant said that when faced with a situation where a woman is experiencing violence, their role is to "*seek and find options, in a referral capacity only.*" It was stated that the Salvation Army could provide a hotel room for a woman escaping violence for one night during the transition period from the abusive environment. However, an informant from the Salvation Army stated that, in their tenure in the region, they had not had to support any individual (or family) in this regard. As referenced earlier, information in relation to HRLE's efforts to temporarily house individuals/families (and specifically who) due to housing crisis is not readily available.

NL Housing will place women who have experienced violence on their priority list for housing. As of July 2010, they had 16 Victim of Family Violence (VOFV) applications for the province – with none from the Clarenville Bonavista area at the time the request for this data was filled. While these applications are prioritized, NL Housing said that there is a steady demand of requests from the population in question, keeping the number of applications between 14 and 18 weekly, and thus there is sometimes a waiting period for accommodations. Annual statistics were requested from NL Housing but these are not recorded/compiled monthly or annually.

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[11] Note that some shelters provided data for the 2008 – 2010 period calendar year; some for the fiscal year.
[12] Iris Kirby operates on a fiscal year and so this data covers the period from April 2009 to August 2010.

While the Clarenville Area Citizens' Crime Prevention Committee has recognized the need for a range of supports and services for women who are victims of violence, their role is not direct service. They focus on developing and delivering educational programs, and encouraging and supporting provincial and federal legislation promoting safer homes and communities.[13] As identified by a key informant, "*For now all they can do is be an advocate for women in these situations of violence…sadly there's nowhere to put them in their own town or region for that matter…."*

An Eastern Health informant identified that they also support women experiencing violence through an advocacy role – e.g. they connect with HRLE on behalf of their client. This informant commented, *"We do what we can, but it can be hit or miss – it really depends on who you get on the other side of the phone."*

Other supports identified in the region which informants and/or focus group participants felt could provide some level of support and service to women experiencing violence and their children included Victims Services, Mental Health and Addictions, the Ability Employment Corporation, the Regional Coordinating Coalition Against Violence, the Healthy Baby Club and the Neighbourhood of Friends Family Resource Center.

4.1.4 Gaps identified for women and their children experiencing violence who need emergency/transitional housing

Some key informants posed the rhetorical question as to how there could be gaps in services when these services/facilities do not currently exist in the area/region? The main gap identified by focus group participants and key informants is the lack of existing emergency/transitional housing in the region for women and their children experiencing violence. The overall sentiment from focus group participants and informants, including the woman who had experienced violence and homelessness, is that the short-term informal supports in place for women in these situations are insufficient to address their immediate and pressing need for emergency housing, and to achieve a level of stability in their lives.

4.1.5   Filling gaps

Focus group participants and key informants felt that emergency/transitional housing for women and their children experiencing violence should be available in the region. Given this perspective, they were asked what a model of emergency/transitional housing might

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[13]Clarenville Crime Prevention Committee. Available from http://www.clarenvillecrimeprevention.nl.ca/.

look like if it were to be available in the Clarenville Bonavista region and who might administer it.

There was some consensus from key informants and focus group participants that there should be a regional multi-unit staffed emergency shelter facility – in a safe secure building. As stated by one service provider,

> *"...a shelter facility is necessary with a coordinator, a budget to operate and professional service...If not then these victims of violence get sent three hours away with no family supports, only strangers, and usually end up back home in the violent situations they came from."*

The majority of focus group participants and key informants felt this shelter space should be available in Clarenville because, for example, this town is a regional centralized service centre, and thus has a broader base of supports and services available (e.g. Legal Aid and Victims Services) than in other parts of the region.

One key informant felt that Bonavista had a sufficient population in its surrounding communities to warrant shelter space there, and that residents in this area would not want to leave and go to Clarenville to access a shelter – in keeping with the sentiment expressed earlier that women escaping violence wanted to remain in their home communities. It was felt that these units could assist in catering to the needs of the broader region.

Overall, it was felt that any shelter space should be flexible in nature. For example, the extent of support received and length of stay would vary depending on the individual accessing the service. The shelter would need to have full time security and, as well, transportation would have to be available for anyone in the region needing it to access the shelter space. Additionally, there should be an ability to transition to supportive housing.

It was highlighted by some that a formally constituted organization would be needed to operate an emergency/transitional shelter. As stated by one informant, "A *group has to come together specifically for this purpose. It is too big for a volunteer group."*

Although focus group participants had definite opinions on what a model of emergency/transitional housing should be for the Clarenville Bonavista region, they recognize that it is first necessary to secure the commitment and resources to support such housing in the region and then address its location and operation.

4.1.6 Other populations requiring emergency/transitional housing

Focus group participants indicated that they also saw a need for emergency/transitional housing for a range of other populations including those with complex needs (e.g. mental health issues and addictions), as well as other populations experiencing violence (e.g. male youth). It was indicated that these populations also have had a difficult time trying to navigate systems and access the supports they need.

4.1.7 Partnerships

It was stated that there is potential for a broad range of partners to be involved in the operation of emergency/transitional housing in the region including the provincial government (e.g. HRLE), REACH, organizations that serve and support victims of violence, mental health services, the RCMP and local youth groups. Several key informants also reiterated the importance of municipal involvement for supporting emergency/transitional housing in the region.

4.1.8 Awareness raising campaign

Some felt there is a need to raise awareness in the broader community (including with municipal leaders) about the issues facing women and their children experiencing violence, and more generally about homelessness. Of note, this latter sentiment was expressed during the planning process held with REACH in July 2009.

4.2 Affordable Housing

In Canada, housing is considered affordable if shelter costs account for less than 30 per cent of before-tax household income. The term "affordable housing" is often used interchangeably with "social housing": however, social housing is just one category of affordable housing and usually refers to rental housing subsidized by the government.

Affordable housing is a much broader term and includes housing provided by the private, public and not-for-profit sectors, as well as all forms of housing tenure (i.e. rental, ownership and co-operative ownership). It also includes temporary as well as permanent housing. In other words, the term "affordable housing" can refer to any part of the housing continuum from temporary emergency shelters through transitional housing, supportive housing, subsidized housing, market rental housing or market homeownership.[14]

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[14] CMHC. Canadian Housing Observer 2009 with a feature on Affordable Housing. Pg. 15.

For renters, shelter costs include rent and any payments for electricity, fuel, water and other municipal services. For owners, shelter costs include mortgage payments (principal and interest), property taxes, and any condominium fees, along with payments for electricity, fuel, water and other municipal services.[15]

Core housing need

The term *acceptable housing* refers to housing that is adequate in condition, suitable in size, and affordable.

- *Adequate* housing does not require any major repairs, according to residents.

- *Suitable* housing has enough bedrooms for the size and make-up of resident households, according to National Occupancy Standard (NOS) requirements. Enough bedrooms based on NOS requirements means one bedroom for each cohabiting adult couple; unattached household member 18 years of age and over; same-sex pair of children under age 18; and additional boy or girl in the family, unless there are two opposite sex children under 5 years of age, in which case they are expected to share a bedroom. A household of one individual can occupy a bachelor unit (i.e. a unit with no bedroom).

- *Affordable* housing (as described above) costs less than 30 per cent of before-tax household income.

A household is in **core housing need** if its housing does not meet one or more of the adequacy, suitability or affordability standards and it would have to spend 30 per cent or more of its before-tax income to pay the median rent (including utility costs) of alternative local market housing that meets all three standards.[16]

National context

As can be seen from table 4.2, as of 2006, 12.7% of all Canadian households are in core housing need. There was a significant difference in core housing need between Canadian homeowners (6.3%) and renters (27.2%) reported at that time, as can be seen in Table 4.3.

Additionally low-income households are reported in 2006 to have the highest core housing need (see Table 4.4).

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[15] Canadian Housing Observer. Pg. 81.
[16] Canadian Housing Observer, 2009. Pg. 81.

Table 4.2 Households in core housing need, Canada, 1991, 1996, 2001 and 2006

Year	1991	1996	2001	2006
Percentage	13.6%	15.6%	13.7%	12.7%

Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). Canadian Housing Observer, 2009 . Ottawa: CMHC, 2009.

Table 4.3 Households in core housing need, owners and renters, 1991, 1996, 2001 and 2006

Year	1991	1996	2001	2006
Owner	6.0 %	6.9%	6.6 %	6.3%
Renter	26.6 %	31.7 %	28.3 %	27.2%

Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). Canadian Housing Observer, 2009. Ottawa: CMHC, 2009.

Table 4.4 Households in core housing need by income (2006)

	≤ $27,607	$27,608 to $45,652	$45,653 to $67,847	≥ $67,848
Income	51.0%	11.2%	1.3%	0.0%

Source: Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC). Canadian Housing Observer, 2009. Ottawa: CMHC, 2009.

Provincial context

In 2006, it was reported that the core housing need in Newfoundland and Labrador was 14.2%, which translated into 27,305 households.[17]

The highest house price rises in Canada in 2010 occurred in Newfoundland and Labrador, up 16.2% (to July 2010). In Newfoundland and Labrador, the average MLS residential price reported for 2008 was $178,477.00. This increased to $206,374 in 2009 and, as of July 2010, was reported to be $238,729.00.[18] Over the course of this 2008 –2010 time frame then, the average residential price increased by 33.8%. Further, the overall vacancy rate for the province was reported in the spring of 2010 to be 1.1%. [19]

4.2.1 Extent and level of need for affordable housing in the Clarenville Bonavista region

All key informants and focus group participants felt that affordable housing is an overarching issue for individuals and families in the Clarenville Bonavista region. [20]

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[17] Canadian Housing Observer. Pg 12.

[18] Global Property Guide. *Canadian housing slowdown*. Further information is available from www.globalpropertyguide.com/North-America/Canada/Price-History.

[19] RENTAL MARKET REPORT NEWFOUNDLAND AND LABRADOR HIGHLIGHTS. CMHC. SPRING 2010. PG 1.

[20] The core housing need and vacancy rates for the Clarenville Bonavista region are not available as CMHC captures this information only for communities of more than 10,000.

Several factors are seen to contribute to this situation, most notably that Clarenville is a regional service centre resulting in more people moving into the town to access these services and needing housing, a low vacancy rate, and the high cost of housing. In addition, it was felt that the upswing in industrial development occurring in Long Harbour as well as Come By Chance is contributing to housing pressures in the region. For example, Vale Inco is constructing a commercial hydromet plant at Long Harbour to process Voisey's Bay ore. This facility, which is scheduled to be up and running in 2013, is expected to employ hundreds of workers during the development phase. It is anticipated that this influx of workers will result in a demand for housing that will contribute to an increase in both existing and new housing prices and further restrict housing availability and affordability in the region.

As can be seen from table 4.5, in 2006 the average rent was $500 in Clarenville and $475 in Bonavista; and the average value of a privately owned dwelling was approximately $126,000.00 in Clarenville although only $57,000.00 in Bonavista. Given the on-going upswing in the housing market in the ensuing years, as well as the economic expansion in the region, it is felt these rental and home ownership costs have substantially increased in the intervening years.

Table 4.5 Statistics Canada 2006 Census

	Clarenville	**Bonavista**
Total private dwellings	2,250	1,648
Total private dwellings occupied by usual residents	2,049	1,485
Number of owned dwellings	1,410	1,220
Number of rented dwellings	640	265
Average value of owned dwelling	$126,392	$57,338
Median monthly payments for rented dwellings	$500	$475
Median monthly payments for owner-occupied dwellings	$ 758	$384

As can be seen from Table 4.6, the increase in housing costs (both rental and for home ownership) would create significant affordability issues for persons living on low income in the region – such as many lone parent families and one person households.

Table 4.6 Statistics Canada 2006 Census

Town	Median income in 2005 Lone-parent families ($)	Median income in 2005 One-person households ($)
Clarenville	26,780	18,909
Bonavista	19,065	14,489
Swift Current	0	15,156
Port Blandford	0	15,333
Norman's Cove	22,355	16,519

It was noted that in this market environment, landlords could charge high rent and have no trouble finding tenants. In particular, it was said that this compounds the difficulties faced by people on Income Support and the "working poor" when trying to find appropriate places to live, as it results in them taking money which should be used on basic needs to help pay for housing.

When asked to comment on what "affordable housing" means for the Clarenville Bonavista region, key informants and focus group participants felt that anything in the community that is considered affordable as defined above, i.e. less than 30 percent of one's income, is not "liveable." It was expressed that there are some private rentals and even an apartment building in the region that could be considered affordable, but these were described as substandard and/or "not good places to live". One key informant stated that affordable housing should provide individuals both comfort and dignity and currently this is not the case.

One of the focus group participants stated that they receive at least one call per day from individuals who find themselves with nowhere to live and this was considered a fraction of those in the region. Similarly, a government informant whose role includes case management, said they also address at least one case of homelessness a day and these are only the ones that "manage to get all the way" through to them. This informant felt the homelessness issues are probably ten- fold of what they see. Further, another focus group participant stated that the day before the focus group was held, they had received three calls from individuals who considered themselves to be homeless.

There were some populations which were considered to have a more pressing need for affordable housing and these are presented below.

Youth

Focus group participants and key informants indicated there is no housing and few supports available to youth who are in need of these resources. It was felt that these youth end up homeless and couch surfing while they struggle to find permanent

accommodations. A key informant in Bonavista expressed, for example, that, *"Affordable housing for youth and youth at-risk is an area which needs attention."*

Male

Data obtained from Choices shows that five youth (male) between the ages of 20 and 26 who are from the Clarenville Bonavista region, have accessed their shelter in the last two years. These youth cited no housing options in the region or eviction as reasons for accessing this shelter.

Female

Naomi Centre in St. John's which houses and supports young women ages 16 – 30 received a number of requests for admissions from young women in the Clarenville area for the 2008-2010 period, as can be seen from Table 4.7 below.

Table 4.7 Requests to Naomi Centre

Year	Request for admission
2008	One admission – a young woman with addictions issues who had no other accommodations. Two requests for shelter could not be accommodated due to the women either not fitting their age mandate or because the Centre was full.
2009	One admission – a young woman who did not have other accommodations. Two requests for shelter could not be accommodated due to the Centre being full.
2010	No admissions to date. Two requests from young women were not accommodated due to the Centre being full. One of the young women had family issues while the other young woman was involved with Corrections.

Women

The Women's Centre in St. John's also has received housing related requests from young/adult/older women in the Clarenville area. Sixteen such contacts were identified for the last two years. It is important to note that this number could include the same women contacting the Centre more than once. As well, the Centre receives numerous calls from women in rural Newfoundland who do not disclose their location.

Widows

One issue identified in the Port Union area is older women who are widowed and trying to maintain family homes on single and often small incomes (e.g. pension; Income Support). Three of four participants in a focus group held in Port Union were widows, all of whom indicated they need access to affordable housing, as they cannot afford to heat their homes, replace old appliances, maintain their property and/or do needed repairs. Two of these women had remortgaged their homes and one had to sell and move in with family.

Women in the Correctional Centre

The sentiment from the focus group participants and key informants was that on release, women from the Correctional Centre usually leave the area and return to their home communities, so additional supports and services for this population is not necessarily a priority. It was suggested by two key informants (including one from the justice system), however, that it might be beneficial for some newly released women to have accommodations available to them for short-term stay so as to "clear their heads" and reorient themselves before heading home.

Of note, through its Just Us Women's Centre, SBCS has been providing a range of supports and services to women in the Correctional Centre since 2009. This has included numerous group based sessions, as well as case management, referrals, peer support and employment related services.

Persons with disabilities

One of the informants identified as being at risk of homelessness has various medical and disability issues, which impact their ability to work. They are living in an inaccessible house, which prevents them from engaging in basic acts of daily living including cooking and cleaning, but they cannot afford other accommodations.

4.2.2   *Range of supports and service available to those in need of affordable housing*

Focus group participants and key informants felt the only real affordable housing option currently available to populations in need in the region is that provided by NL Housing. There are currently 51 NL Housing units in Clarenville – 40 non-profit units and 11 rent supplement units (accommodations provided by private landlords) and nine units in Bonavista – all non–profit. However, it was felt that due to the finite supply of this housing, in the face of wait lists, people do not always have timely access to what they need.

Of note, data received from NL Housing as of July 2010, reported that Clarenville has four individuals/families on the wait list – all of whom have applied for housing in the Gander region (which encompasses Clarenville). Bonavista also has four individuals/families on the wait list – three of whom have applied for housing in the Gander region (which encompasses Bonavista) and one of whom has applied to the Avalon region. (See Appendices "E" and "F" for more detailed information on the availability of NL Housing units in the region, as well as the number of applicants from communities in the region.)

The most recent data received from NL Housing (August 10, 2010) also indicates that there are three units vacant in Clarenville – two of which are available and one of which is unavailable (due perhaps to major repairs).

Two of the informants who are at risk of, have experienced or are experiencing homelessness, spoke to the type of support they had received in their search for housing. One cited receiving great support from those running a local Healthy Baby Club. Another said that accessing Income Support and NL Housing was a great help: they had lived in many "dumps" and so are happy living in NL Housing where everything (e.g. heat) is included.

4.2.3   Gaps identified for the populations needing affordable housing

Focus group participants and key informants reiterated the lack of affordable housing in the region. They stated this results in people being forced to live in inappropriate and unacceptable housing, with friends, or in multigenerational homes, or to leave the area to seek shelter in other regions. Of note, to date NL Housing reports there have been no affordable housing projects under AHI in the Clarenville Bonavista region.

It also was felt there was a gap in the number of services and supports offered to help people find appropriate and affordable housing. Besides HRLE and NL Housing, it was felt there was little formal assistance available in this regard.

4.2.4   Filling Gaps

All key informants and focus group participants felt that first and foremost there was a need for more affordable and accessible housing in the region for low-income individuals. Comments from key informants included:

> *"[There is a need for] more affordable units for single moms, families, youth and youth with addictions and the disabled. More spaces/units is the answer."*

"So [few] affordable housing units are available…we need additional units."

Several suggestions were offered for growing the affordable housing stock in the region including the provincial and municipal governments providing increased tax breaks and/or incentives to the private sector (e.g. subsidies for building affordable housing, easier acquisition to vacant/crown land) to encourage development, and the creation of new NL Housing units. As well, it was stated that there should be more subsidies available for low-income individuals so they can afford to rent from private landlords.

In general, when individuals who are at risk of, have experienced or are experiencing homelessness were asked what would have helped them, they felt they just needed sufficient money to be able to afford a suitable place to live. All said that a lack of affordable housing in the region has created many barriers and challenges in their lives.

Two single parents felt that more affordable apartments are needed in the area – e.g. something that is well maintained with at least two bedrooms. The widows from Port Union said they would be happy with anything they could afford to heat. As well, they said they would like to see apartment buildings built in Port Union which had small, affordable units and with on-site maintenance provided.

Comments included:

> *"More housing units need to be built – something similar to a seniors' complex where income is taken into account."*

> *"It doesn't need to be big... I would just like to be able to afford to live by myself."*

4.2.5 *Partnerships*

Focus group participants and key informants felt that many of the critical partnerships needed to address regional housing and homelessness issues, including housing affordability, have already evolved through REACH including that with HRLE, the Rural Secretariat, Ability Employment Cooperation, Eastern Health and NL Housing, as well as some local municipalities. In terms of new partnerships, the Salvation Army informant identified partnership opportunities through ongoing support with counselling, professional services, advocacy, referrals/accommodations, and commitment to be part of the solution to bring an emergency shelter and additional affordable housing units to the area. As well, an informant from a local senior's organization expressed commitment to

the issues and an interest in working with all organizations involved in addressing homelessness, violence against women and the lack of affordable housing.

Other partnership opportunities identified by focus group participants and key informants included that with the local ministerial association which could offer counselling services; service clubs (e.g. the Lions Club) which could offer financial assistance through donations or fundraising; organizations with proven experience in undertaking housing and alleviating homelessness such as Stella Burry Community Services (St. John's) for their knowledge; local youth groups; the Chamber of Commerce; HPS; and Child Youth and Family Services.

Focus group participants and key informants all expressed a need for municipalities to play a larger role in addressing homelessness. It was felt they should be vocal advocates for addressing local housing and homelessness priorities.

5.0   FUNDING TO ADDRESS IDENTIFIED PRIORITIES IN THE REGION

Focus group participants thought governments at all levels could make funding available to support the creation of both emergency/transitional housing and more affordable housing in the Clarenville Bonavista region. Examples included: HPS - federal government; NL Housing and the Poverty Reduction Strategy – provincial government; and the support of municipal governments. Some key informants who did offer a comment regarding funding sources concurred and also suggested funding could be available from local service groups (fundraising) and perhaps the Historic Society (donations).

Participants in the focus group referenced opportunities for creation of new affordable housing through AHI, but were less certain of funding sources and opportunities for the creation of emergency/transitional housing for the region. They expressed concern that there would not be funding available for such capital investment, recognizing that funding would also be necessary for ongoing operations including supportive services. Focus group participants did feel that while discussions are ongoing regarding the potential for capital investment to support emergency/transitional housing in the region, government agencies should provide short term assistance to individuals who find themselves homeless and /or those who are experiencing violence, and accommodate them in local hotels, bed and breakfasts, etc.

6.0 COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT

Focus group participants and key informants were asked if there were any organizations or agencies in the region doing community development or capacity building both in relation to housing and homelessness and in general. Focus group participants reported that capacity building was being undertaken through the Rural Secretariat (e.g. local planning) and the Family Resource Centres (e.g. daily networking with families/parents). Eastern Health and the Ability Employment Corporation also were identified as undertaking community development, but no examples were given of their activity in this regard or their contribution to capacity building.

One key informant said REACH is the only organization focused on housing and homelessness. Another said the Eastern Regional Committee against Violence holds workshops, distributes promotional materials, undertakes counselling and holds social gatherings. The CYN in Bonavista, BayNet, was noted by an informant as supporting youth and addressing their issues through, for example, access to their drop in centre, and a range of programming.

7.0 STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Based on the information garnered through this research process and in the context of the work being done by NLHHN, the following strategic directions are presented for REACH's consideration.

7.1 Emergency/transitional housing

The research identifies the need for a number of emergency/transitional housing units in the Clarenville Bonavista region. While the priority population identified for the region was women and their children experiencing violence, the available evidence does not support the need for this housing to be solely dedicated to this population's needs. Rather, they are one of a number of populations who at any given time might find themselves homeless and with no options for shelter. Of note, while all recognize the importance of responding to individuals' and families' need for appropriate and affordable housing, sometimes there is a need to provide temporary emergency housing while longer-term options are enabled.

These emergency/transitional housing units, therefore, should be available to accommodate the broader need in the region. To that end, it will be important for some of these units to be strategically and geographically dispersed throughout the region to ensure ease of access and availability for those living in more rural areas. Given that Clarenville is a regional and centralized service centre, at least half of the total units should be located there.

Of note, it will be imperative that REACH develop/strengthen strategic partnerships with community-based and government service providers with a proven expertise in supporting individuals and families who are at risk of, have experienced or are experiencing homelessness (due to, for example, exposure to violence, mental health issues, family breakdown). This will enable informed decision making on the design and implementation of a responsive emergency/transitional housing model founded on effective practices.

Partners and appropriate support services also will be critical for facilitating individuals' and families' timely transition from emergency/transitional housing units to more stable and appropriate accommodations and as required providing wrap-around supports and services. The ultimate goal must be moving these populations to a place of stability and on the path to self-sufficiency.

7.2   Affordable housing

As identified in section 4.2, 14.2% of Newfoundland and Labrador households are in core housing need. Data available from other regions in the province, shown in Table 7.1, highlights that the affordable housing crisis facing some individuals and families in the Clarenville Bonavista region is not unique to this region. This is an overarching and pervasive issue for urban and rural communities across the province.

Table 7.1 Regional Core Housing Need

Location	Households not in core housing need		Households in core housing need		% of total households not in core housing need	% of total households in core housing need
	Owners	**Renters**	**Owners**	**Renters**		
Newfoundland and Labrador	138,655	25,805	13,690	13,615	85.8%	14.2%
Gander[21]	2,775	1,030	110	290	90.5%	9.5%
Grand Falls - Windsor	3,560	990	270	345	88.1%	11.9%
Corner Brook	7,210	1,760	435	910	87.0%	13.0%

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[21] The 2006 data was not available from CHMC. This reflects core housing need in 2001.

Addressing the many affordable housing concerns identified for a range of populations in the Clarenville Bonavista area, as in other regions, has to be comprehensive in scope and nature. There is no one strategic direction or solution which will meet the diverse needs and circumstances of those in core housing need. However, REACH has many opportunities to facilitate partnerships and encourage policies, programs and initiatives, which could result in an increased affordable housing stock in the region.

In CMHC's *Canadian Housing Observer 2009 –with a feature on affordable housing* many such opportunities are delineated. REACH should review this document to identify opportunities for influencing the private and non profit sectors, as well as governments at all levels, in their efforts to create affordable housing in this region. Examples include:

- Private sector – identifying opportunities for renovating and converting existing buildings, for infill development, and using creative designs to achieve cost efficiencies.

- Municipal governments – determining if there is available land which could be donated for affordable housing; taking concrete steps to create a "welcoming" environment for affordable housing development through for example, adopting affordable housing policies, changing zoning and allowing variances, allowing density bonusing[22], accelerating approval processes and reducing or waiving municipal fees.

- Federal/provincial governments – REACH should engage in discussions with NL Housing to identify strategies for encouraging developers to develop affordable housing projects in the region under AHI. As well, REACH should focus on raising awareness in their region about the array of government programs designed to contribute to housing stability. For example, the federal governments' Residential Rehabilitation Assistance Program (RRAP), Emergency Repair Program, Home Adaptations for Seniors' Independence and Shelter Enhancement Program, as well as the provincial government's Supportive Living Community Partnership Program (an initiative under the Poverty Reduction Strategy) and the Provincial Homelessness Fund.

REACH also should support NLHHN's September 2010 policy recommendations to the provincial government. These recommendations are designed to encourage the development of a comprehensive housing and homelessness framework that envisions

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[22] Density bonusing is a tool used by municipalities to allow developers to build at a higher level of density (i.e. greater floor area or number of units per hectare) in exchange for the provision of affordable housing units in the development.

government, community and private sector partners working together to implement a series of policies designed to end homelessness and ensure housing stability for all.[23] Of note, one of the policy recommendations is focused on increasing access to stable, quality affordable housing. All aspects of this recommendation would support REACH's efforts to increase the affordable housing stock in the Clarenville Bonavista region.

This recommendation includes:

- Strengthen the Residential Tenancies Act (RTA 2000) by incorporating mechanisms for annual rent increases, above-guideline requests, rent freezes & remedies for properties with outstanding deficiencies, and mediation of disputes. Ensure that the Act covers the rental market more comprehensively, and that the Residential Tenancies Division has sufficient capacity to carry out its expanded responsibilities.

- Renew and expand the Residential Energy Efficiency Program (REEP) to include the private and non-profit rental housing market currently excluded from participation.

- Increase and index Income Support shelter allowances - and expand and index rent supplements - to help bridge the actual private rental housing affordability gap for low-income individuals and families.

- Double the Provincial Homelessness Fund to $2 million, beginning in 2011. Amend PHF guidelines to permit the use of funds for building purchases and for co-location of proposed capital space with affordable housing projects (as permitted by HPS).[24]

7.3   Data collection

As referenced in section 3.5, there is a need for the various stakeholders (community and government) working in/supporting the housing and homelessness sector to have consistent and reliable mechanisms for collecting and reporting on quality data, which is deemed critical for informed decision-making. To that end, REACH should support NLHHN's policy recommendations to government designed to "retool the homeless response system." Specific, to the data collection process this is noted to include the following:

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[23] Bruce Pearce. Draft NLHHN Policy – NL Housing & Homelessness Framework. Pg.2.
[24] Draft NLHHN Policy. Pg. 10.

- Develop a user-friendly knowledge framework for assuring quality evidence for quality decision-making across the full spectrum of housing and homelessness issues, in collaboration with NLHHN and allied community organizations, NL Statistics Agency, HPS, CMHC, HRLE, HCS, Regional Health Authorities, Justice and other stakeholders.

- Utilize HIFIS (Homeless Individuals & Families Information System) as a tool for developing knowledge and informing action in the homelessness sector, and explore Developmental Evaluation as the baseline tool for assessing social innovation initiatives in the supportive housing sector.

- The knowledge framework must also address key information gaps (the lack of rental market information in small/rural communities, and for residences with less than 3 units).[25] Develop the Housing Affordability Indicator promised in the Poverty Reduction Strategy Progress Report (2010).[26]

In the interim, as these policy recommendations are being considered and discussed by community and government stakeholders, it is recommended that REACH immediately develop and implement a simple tracking system to begin the process of quantifying the extent and scope of homelessness in the Clarenville Bonavista region. Data to collect would include, for example, the number of individuals/families seeking support with their housing issues (new contacts and repeat contacts); the type of support required; services they have accessed in the past and, if these were not sufficient, why not?; and services and supports to which they are referred by REACH.

7.4   Awareness of housing and homelessness

In REACH's Planning Day – Summary Report (November 2009) it was identified that there is a need to develop and implement a communications strategy designed to raise the profile of homelessness in the region – in particular what homelessness is, what it "looks like" and how it can be addressed. As noted by one REACH member who participated in the planning day, "*When you start to put a face to homelessness, people start to consider what is in their own communities*."

It was acknowledged by REACH at that time, and outlined in the Summary Report, that a key element of this communications strategy would be a series of consistent messages developed and disseminated by REACH and their partners, including for example:

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[25] See footnote #7.
[26] Draft NLHHN Policy. Pg. 15.

- What does being homeless really mean? (Substandard rental housing; inadequate and unsafe housing; living in a car; couch surfing….)

- What is the true picture of homelessness in the region? (Who is impacted and why?)

- Who is/could be at risk? (*You are only a pay cheque away*…..)

- What are the social/economic impacts of housing on individuals and communities? (Housing is a determinant of health. Housing impacts a community's wellness…)

- What will happen if we do nothing? (Intensification of the problem…)

- What are the solutions to homelessness? (Affordable housing, services…)

- Whose responsibility is it to help solve homelessness?

This summary report also detailed approaches for raising the profile of housing and homelessness issues. It listed a number of potential venues and avenues for disseminating these key messages, as well as the possibility of conducting information sessions on topics and issues which could support individuals and families in maintaining their own homes and/or accessing affordable housing. [27]

REACH has begun this awareness raising process through its activities and initiatives to date including, for example, holding a Pancake Breakfast in concert with other communities across the province as a means of raising awareness of housing and homelessness in their region and raising some funds to support local activities; supporting the Walking the Red Road initiative; securing a Community Development Worker staff person through funding from a Job Creation Partnership grant and Targeted Wage Subsidy; engaging membership to its Committee from a range of community and government stakeholder groups; and linking people to services. During this current research process the need for a continued focus in this regard was evidenced. In particular, the need to raise awareness of regional affordable housing and homelessness issues with municipal leaders and engage their support in identifying and enabling solutions to these issues was evidenced.

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[27] Marie White. *Summary Report*. Clarenville Community Advisory Board on Homelessness – Planning Day. November 2009. Pgs. 6-9.

REACH should develop and implement a coordinated and comprehensive communications strategy, building on its efforts to date and on the process outlined in its November 2009 Summary Report. This strategy should profile both the need for emergency/transitional housing in the region, as detailed in strategic direction #1 and ways and means to enable affordable housing in the region, as detailed in strategic direction #2.

7.5   Summary of strategic directions

Emergency/transitional housing

REACH should facilitate discussions and strategic planning with community-based and government service providers and partners to enable the creation of a continuum of emergency/transitional housing units to respond to the needs of individuals and families across the region who are experiencing homelessness (due to, for example, exposure to violence, mental health issues, family breakdown) and who have no other options for shelter.

Affordable housing

REACH should facilitate partnerships with the private sector, other non-profit and community based organizations and all levels of government to encourage policies, programs and initiatives, which could result in an increased affordable housing stock in the region.

REACH also should support NLHHN's September 2010 policy recommendations to the provincial government designed to encourage the development of a comprehensive housing and homelessness framework that envisions government, community and private sector partners working together to implement a series of policies designed to end homelessness and ensure housing stability for all.[28]

Data collection

REACH should support NLHHN's policy recommendations to government designed to "retool the homeless response system".

In the interim, as these policy recommendations are being considered and discussed by community and government stakeholders, it is recommended that REACH immediately

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[28] Bruce Pearce. Draft NLHHN Policy – NL Housing & Homelessness Framework. Pg.2.

develop and implement a simple data tracking system to begin the process of quantifying the extent and scope of homelessness in the Clarenville Bonavista region.

Awareness of housing and homelessness

REACH should develop and implement a coordinated and comprehensive communications strategy, building on its efforts to date and on the process outlined in its November 2009 Summary Report. This strategy should profile both the need for emergency/transitional housing in the region and ways and means to enable affordable housing in the region. This strategy must recognize and respond to the need to raise awareness of regional affordable housing and homelessness issues with municipal leaders and engage their support in identifying and enabling solutions to these issues.

8.0   CONCLUSION

REACH is a dedicated, committed and passionate body focused on addressing housing instability and homelessness in the Clarenville Bonavista region. Its members bring to their table expertise, knowledge and unending opportunities for strategic partnerships, including that with NLHHN, which are fundamental to addressing the issues facing the priority populations and areas outlined herein.

When the individuals who had experienced homelessness were asked about hopes for their futures, responses included having a nice place to live, going to school and getting a job. These aspirations are held by many of us. Through animation of the strategic directions outlined in section 7.0, REACH will support citizens in their region who are at risk of or who are experiencing homelessness, to address the barriers and challenges which impede their ability and capacity to move forward on a path towards housing stability.

APPENDIX "A"- Clarenville CAB Pre-planning Meeting Agenda

Community Animation - Pre-Planning Meeting
Clarenville Community Advisory Board on Homelessness

Wednesday April 28, 2010
9:00-12:30

Agenda

1.   **Welcome & introductions**

2.   **Overview of the *Community Animation* research methodology**

3.   **Discussion of approach for Clarenville area research**

The following list of topics will be discussed:

- *Defining the region to which the research applies*

- *Review of priority populations and areas delineated in Clarenville's November 27, 2009* Summary Report *and further refinement as necessary.*

- *Identification of key informants who could best inform research on these priority populations and areas*

NOTE: Please give some thought in advance of the meeting to who you think should be interviewed from your region. Suggested informant groups from which representatives **could be drawn** include:

- Provincial government (HRLE, RHA)
- Municipal government
- Community based providers
- Faith groups
- Corrections
- Local youth groups
- Local housing providers
- Specific groups doing community development work in housing and homelessness

Identification of people who are experiencing/have experienced homelessness

We will be interviewing, as a separate key informant group, individuals who are experiencing or who have experienced homelessness. Again, please give some thought in advance of the meeting to who we might be able to interview as well as challenges therein.

- Group interview with the CAB

- Overview of the two-day visit to the region

- Identification of relevant regional data sources (to cover data which is not already gathered from overarching bodies such as e.g. NLHC/CMHC)

Data sought could include:

- What is the general demographic (total population/any preponderance)?

- Demographic/numbers of people at-risk of homelessness?

- How many designated affordable housing units in the community?

    (NLHC, private)

- How many shelter/emergency beds? Who are the providers?

4.   Areas of focus for the key informant discussions

This discussion will focus on the questions to be asked of key informants. A handout on the proposed questions will be distributed at the meeting.

5.   Challenges envisioned as the research begins/moves forward

6.   Next steps

- *Liaison person*

- Timing of the research

- GGI's process for scheduling visits

7.   Other

APPENDIX "B"- Key Informant Guides

Animating Community Plans – Clarenville region (Bonavista, Southern Hr, Port Blandford, Swift Current, Norman's Cove, Chapel Arm)
Key informant guide
May 9, 2010

Background

1. What is your role/responsibility within your division/agency/organization? More specifically:

1a. What is your involvement in housing/homelessness?
1b. What is your involvement with/awareness of the Clarenville Community Advisory Board on Homelessness (CAB)

Emergency shelter *for women who are experiencing violence*

2. What is the extent and level of need for emergency shelter in the region for women who are experiencing violence? (Why are they in need? Numbers?)

3. What shelter/housing have they accessed in the past? (Who provides this?) Is this appropriate (affordable, safe, meeting their needs, accessible)? If not, what is needed?

4. What supports and services does your organization/agency provide to women who are experiencing violence and who require emergency shelter? (Prompt for priority activities/actions) Are future enhancements to these efforts likely? If so, what?

5. What other organizations/agencies provide supports and services to this population? Describe. Do you know if they have future expansion plans? If so, what?

6. Overall, what are the existing gaps in services and supports for women who are experiencing violence and who need emergency shelter? Impacts?

6a. What is needed to fill these gaps? (Probe for who should meet these needs)

6b. If emergency shelter were to be available in this region, what would it look like? (Prompt: one central location with several units and if so where would be the logical place to put it? Units throughout the region?) What are the benefits of this model/structure?

6c. Who in this region might administer the emergency shelter? (Prompt for a specific community or government provider)

Affordable housing

7. What does "affordable housing" mean in this region?

8. What is the extent and level of need for affordable housing in the region? (E.g. Who is in need? Numbers? Why)

9. What housing options are available to those requiring affordable housing (e.g. rentals, subsidized/non-profit units)? Where is this housing (which communities)? Who provides it and is it appropriate, affordable, accessible and safe?

9a. What else is needed? (What are the gaps?)

10. What supports and/or services does your organization/agency provide to those requiring affordable housing? (Prompt for priority activities/actions) Are future enhancements to these efforts likely? If so, what?

11. What other organizations/agencies provide supports and/or services to those in need of affordable housing in this region? Describe.

11a. Do you know if they have future expansion plans? If so, what?

12. Specifically to the women in the Correctional Centre (given their unique needs), what housing, supports and services do they require on release? Who provides these? What else might be needed?

13. Overall, what are the existing gaps in services and supports for people in this region who need affordable housing? What is needed to fill these gaps? (Probe for who should fill gaps)

Partnerships

14. Would you/your organization be interested in partnering with the CAB to determine solutions to these priority areas/populations? If so, how? If not, why not?

15. What other partnership opportunities are there to address these priority areas/populations? (Prompt for existing as well as potential partnerships – and what each could contribute)

16. What funding is available or could be available to address these priority areas/populations?

Other needs?

17. From your perspective, are there other priority housing/homelessness needs in your region – other than the two under discussion? If so, what. Why?

Community development – housing and homelessness

18. Are there any organizations/agencies in this region doing community development/capacity building – from which you can see concrete activities and results? If so, who and what are they doing?

18a. Is there duplication of effort in what these orgs/agencies are doing?

19. Are there any organizations/agencies in this region doing community development work in relation to housing and homelessness? If yes, who and what are they doing?

19a. Is this duplicating efforts of those just identified (in question #18)?

20. In your opinion, what would be the critical areas of focus for a regional community development staff person/facilitator to undertake in relation to housing and homelessness?

21. Have you any additional comments?

ASK: does the informant have any other relevant data/statistics to support information provided during the interview.

Animating Community Plans

Key informant guide for persons who are homeless/who have experienced homelessness
May 9

Note: This interview guide to be used in all regions.

Note: The interviewers are aware of the need to be extremely sensitive in their discussions with the target population and will be very respectful of their lives and experiences.

1.0   Tell us a little about yourself

❖ Age/place of birth
❖ Family status
❖ Educational background
❖ Employment history
❖ Source of income

For those communities who have included youth (at risk/complex needs) as a priority, please ask the following question (#2) of the <u>youth</u> you interview

2.0 What is there for youth ages 16 - 29 to do in this region? (Prompt for social/recreational/employment programs/services/activities in and out of school)

2.1 Did you participate in these programs/activities? If yes, in what? If not, why not?

2.2 What do you think are the gaps in programs and services for youth in this region? (What is missing?)

3.0 What housing challenges have you faced? (Where have you lived? Where do you live now? Problems associated with where you are living?)

4.0 Have you had other challenges in your life? If so, do you feel comfortable talking about these? (E.g. violence, addictions, mental health issues)

5.0 What if anything has helped you with your challenges and concerns? (Probe in particular for help in relation to housing) Why were these helpful?

5.1 What has not been helpful and why not?

6.0 What else would have helped you? (Probe for supports and services to meet a range of needs – e.g. financial, family related, employment opportunities, personal development)

7.0 In terms of housing what would really make your life better? (Prompt for type/location of housing AND other needed supports to ensure stability of housing – e.g. help with managing finances)

8.0 What would you hope your life would be like a year or two from now?

9.0 Do you have anything else you would like to say?

Reminder: Please provide the individual with his/her $20.00 for participating in the interview

APPENDIX "C"- Focus Group Guide

**Animating Community Plans – Clarenville region (Bonavista, Southern Hr,
Port Blandford, Swift Current, Norman's Cove, Chapel Arm)
CAB Focus group guide
May 9, 2010**

Priority areas

Emergency shelter *for women and their children who are experiencing violence*

22. What is the extent and level of need for emergency shelter in the region for women and their children who are experiencing violence? (Why are they in need? Numbers?)

23. What emergency shelter, supports and services are available to women and their children who are experiencing violence? (Prompt for who provides each and whether there are priority activities/actions)

24. What are the gaps in housing, supports and services for this population which requires emergency shelter?

3a. What is needed to fill these gaps and meet needs? (Probe for the emergency shelter model/structure) Who should fill these gaps?

Affordable housing

25. What does "affordable housing" mean in this region?

26. What is the extent and level of need for affordable housing in the region? (E.g. Who is in need? Numbers? Why are they in need?)

27. What housing, supports and services are available to these populations requiring affordable housing? (Prompt for priority activities/actions) Gaps? Who should address these gaps and how?

6a. Are future enhancements to these efforts likely? If so, what?

Partnerships

28. What partnership opportunities are there to address these priority areas/populations? (Prompt for existing as well as potential partnerships – and what each could contribute to solutions)

29. What funding is available or could be available to address these priority areas/populations?

Community development - housing/homelessness

30. Are there any organizations/agencies in this region doing community development/capacity building – from which you can see concrete activities and results? If so, who and what are they doing?

9a. Is there duplication of effort in what these orgs/agencies are doing?

31. Are there organizations/agencies in this region doing community development work in relation **to housing and homelessness**? If yes, who and what are they doing?

10a. Is this duplicating efforts of those just identified (in question #9)?

32. In your opinion, what would be the critical areas of focus for a regional community development staff person/facilitator to undertake in relation to housing and homelessness?

33. Have you other comments?

ASK: does the informant have any other relevant data/statistics to support information provided during the interview.

APPENDIX "D"- Affordable Housing Initiative

Under the AHI, the federal government, through Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation, provides contributions to increase the supply of affordable housing. Through bilateral agreements, the provinces and territories match the federal investment (sometimes with contributions from other parties, e.g. municipalities, private sector, or non-profit sector). These contributions can be a grant, a stream of ongoing subsidies or the value of in-kind contributions (e.g. land). The share of the federal funding available in each province or territory, and the overall terms and conditions that must be met are set out in the agreements.

Within these terms and conditions, each provincial or territorial housing agency has designed its own housing program and is responsible for program delivery, including the selection of housing projects that receive funding. Project proponents can be from the non-profit, private or public sectors (e.g. municipal non-profit housing corporations).

Eligible for funding are projects that focus on new rental housing, major renovation and conversion, or homeownership (initially restricted to remote areas and urban redevelopment areas, but expanded in 2004), subject to a maximum funding amount.

Federal funding for the AHI was allocated in two phases. The first allocation ($680 million) was in 2001, and the second ($320 million) in 2003. Rental units produced have to rent at prices at or below median market rent. Under the second phase, the maximum federal funding is 50 per cent of capital costs to a maximum of $75,000 per housing unit to reduce rents to levels affordable to low-income households (the maximum was set at $25,000 under the first phase).

In 2004/2005, new program flexibilities under the AHI were introduced in the areas of homeownership programs, targeting of AHI-funded programs, cost-sharing arrangements and provision of rent supplements.

On September 4, 2008, the Government of Canada announced funding for housing and homelessness programs at $387.9 million per year for five years (total $1.9 billion) to March 31, 2014. From this amount, the government renewed the funding for AHI and CMHC's renovation programs at current levels for two years, from April 1, 2009 to March 31, 2011. As evaluations of the AHI and renovation programs are underway, their two year renewal, with a five-year funding commitment, provides an opportunity to consider improvements to how the federal government will address housing and homelessness challenges and to ensure that programs continue to respond to the needs of Canadians10. Further funding for affordable housing was provided through the Federal Budget, Canada's Economic Action Plan, of January 2009. It provided $675 million in support of housing for low-income seniors, housing for persons with disabilities and

Northern housing to be delivered through the AHI. These housing measures are being implemented through amendments to agreements between the federal government and each province and territory.[29]

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[29] Canadian Housing Observer. Pg. 21.

APPENDIX "E"- NL Housing Units By Region/ Community and Housing Program

Key	
NP	Non Profit Owned Units
RS	Rent Supplement (private landlords)
MAR	Market rental
PGPW	Provincial Government rentals (e.g. physicians in rural areas)
CS	Community Centres
COM	Commercial Rental

Count	Total	NP	RS	MAR	PGPW	CS	COM
Bay Bulls	1	1					
Bay de Verde	1	1					
Bay Roberts	1	1					
Bell Island	92	89	2	1			
Branch	1	1					
Brigus	5	5					
Carbonear	27	26	1				
Chapel Arm	1	1					
Clarke's Beach	15	15					
Colinet	2	2					
Colliers	3	3					
Conception Bay South	33	24	8	1			
Conception Harbour	8	8					
Cupids	8	8					
Dildo	1	1					
Dunville	10	10					
Fermeuse	1	1					
Fox Harbour	1	1					
Freshwater, Placentia Bay	8	8					
Goulds	10	10					
Green's Harbour	3	3					
Hant's Harbour	1	1					
Harbour Grace	13	13					
Heart's Content	1	1					
Heart's Delight	11	11					
Heart's Desire	3	3					
Holyrood	14	14					
Jerseyside	4	4					
Lower Island Cove	2	2					

Count	Total	NP	RS	MAR	PGPW	CS	COM
Makinsons	1	1					
Marysvale	4	4					
Mount Carmel-Mitchell's	3	3					
Norman's Cove-Long Cove	3	3					
Northern Bay	1	1					
Ochre Pit Cove	1	1					
Old Perlican	1	1					
Paradise	1	1					
Placentia	26	26					
Pouch Cove	1	1					
Riverhead, Harbour Grace	6	6					
Salmon Cove	3	3					
Shearstown	12	12					
Sibleys Cove	1	1					
South River	5	5					
Spaniard's Bay	15	15					
St. John's	3533	2563	842	124		4	
St. Joseph's, St. Mary's Bay	3	3					
St. Mary's	3	3					
Torbay	3	2	1				
Trepassey	2	2					
Upper Island Cove	2	2					
Victoria	10	10					
Western Bay	1	1					
Whitbourne	23	21	2				
Winterton	1	1					
Witless Bay	4	4					
Total For Avalon Regional	**4183**	**3171**	**878**	**124**	**6**	**4**	
Arnold's Cove	9	9					
Badger's Quay	3	3					
Bloomfield	5	5					
Bonavista	9	9					
Bunyan's Cove	4	4					
Cannings Cove	1	1					
Carmanville	2	2					
Catalina	5	5					
Centreville-Wareham	1	1					
Charlottetown, Bonavista Bay	1	1					
Clarenville	51	40	11				
Come-By-Chance	5	5					

Count	Total	NP	RS	MAR	PGPW	CS	COM
Dover	1	1					
Eastport	2	2					
Fogo	1	1					
Gambo	6	6					
Gander	190	113	77				
Gander Bay South	3	3					
Glenwood	8	8					
Glovertown	6	6					
Gooseberry Cove	1	1					
Hillview	1	1					
Horwood	1	1					
King's Cove	1	1					
Main Point	1	1					
Melrose	1	1					
Musgravetown	1	1					
Newmans Cove	2	2					
Newtown	1	1					
North West Brook	1	1					
Plate Cove East	1	1					
Port Blandford	1	1					
Port Rexton	1	1					
Port Union	1	1					
Pound Cove	4	4					
Rodgers Cove	3	3					
Salvage	1	1					
St. Brendan's	1	1					
Stoneville	1	1					
Sunnyside	1	1					
Trinity, Bonavista Bay	1	1					
Victoria Cove	1	1					
Wesleyville	2	2					
Total For Gander Office	**343**	**255**	**88**				
Badger	8	7	1				
Baie Verte	1	1					
Belleoram	6	6					
Birchy Bay	2	2					
Bishop's Falls	63	63					
Botwood	44	44					
Campbellton	3	3					
Comfort Cove-Newstead	4	4					

Count	Total	NP	RS	MAR	PGPW	CS	COM
Cottlesville	6	1	5				
Embree	2	2					
Grand Falls-Windsor	348	246	98	2	1	1	
Harbour Breton	5	5					
Head of Bay d'Espoir	1	1					
Hermitage	6	6					
Herring Neck	1	1					
La Scie	1	1					
Lewisporte	54	21	33				
Little Bay, Notre Dame Bay	2	2					
Lushes Bight-Beaumont-	1	1					
Milltown	3	3					
Moreton's Harbour	2	2					
Norris Arm	4	4					
Peterview	9	9					
Point Leamington	10	10					
Point of Bay	1	1					
Pool's Cove	1	1					
Robert's Arm	3	3					
South Brook	4	4					
Springdale	10	10					
St. Alban's	6	6					
St. Jacques-Coomb's Cove	1	1					
Summerford	2	2					
Triton	4	4					
Twillingate	3	3					
Virgin Arm	3	3					
Total For Grand Falls Office	**624**	**481**	**139**	**2**	**1**	**1**	
Baie Verte	1	1					
Cartwright	5	5					
Charlottetown, Labrador	1	1					
Happy Valley-Goose Bay	69	67	2				
Hopedale	15	14	1				
Labrador City	100	91	7	1	1		
L'Anse au Loup	1	1					
Makkovik	4	4					
Mud Lake	1	1					
Nain	34	31	3				
North West River	7	7					
Port Hope Simpson	8	8					

Count	Total	NP	RS	MAR	PGPW	CS	COM
Rigolet	1	1					
Wabush	1	1					
West St. Modeste	3	3					
Total For Happy Valley -	**251**	**234**	**11**	**5**	**1**		
Burin	53	52	1				
Creston	1	1					
Fortune	36	36					
Grand Bank	39	38	1				
Lawn	4	4					
Marystown		148	147	1			
St. Lawrence	26	25	1				
Total For Marystown Office	**307**	**302**	**1**	**3**	**1**		
Corner Brook	800	659	141				
Cow Head	2	2					
Cox's Cove	2	2					
Deer Lake	66	58	8				
Frenchman's Cove, Bay of	3	3					
Grand Falls-Windsor	2	2					
Hampden	6	6					
Hawke's Bay	1	1					
Lark Harbour	2	2					
Mount Moriah	1	1					
Norris Point	4	4					
Parsons Pond	1	1					
Pasadena	10	9	1				
Port au Choix	1	1					
Rocky Harbour	10	10					
Roddickton	8	8					
St. Anthony	24	18	6				
Total For Western - Corner	**944**	**785**	**159**				
Barachois Brook	2	2					
Cape St. George	1	1					
Channel-Port aux Basques	24	24					
Doyles	3	3					
Gallants	1	1					
Jeffrey's	4	4					
Lourdes	7	7					
McKay's	2	2					
Port au Port	24	24					
Ramea	1	1					

Count	Total	NP	RS	MAR	PGPW	CS	COM
Robinsons	1	1					
St. Andrew's	1	1					
St. David's	5	5					
St. Fintan's	2	2					
St. George's	16	16					
Stephenville	291	181	108			1	1
Stephenville Crossing	20	20					
Total For Western -	**405**	**294**	**108**	**2**	**1**		
TOTAL	**7057**	**5522**	**1384**	**124**	**18**	**6**	

APPENDIX "F" – Applications by Community (NL Housing)

Regional Office - Key	
AV	Avalon
CK	Corner Brook
GR	Gander
GS	Grand Falls
MN	Marystown
GY	Goose Bay (Labrador)

From Community	Total	Applicant REGION Choice						
		AV	CK	GR	GS	GY	MN	SE
	39	12	12	4		1	5	5
Arnold's Cove	1	1						
Badger's Quay	1	1						
Baie Verte	2			1	1			
Bay Bulls	2	1						1
Bay Roberts	2	2						
Bell Island	6	6						
Benton	2			1	1			
Bide Arm	2		2					
Bishop's Falls	4		1		3			
Black Duck Siding	1		1					
Blaketown	1	1						
Bonavista	4	1		3				

	Total								
Botwood	**7**		1	1	4				1
Boyd's Cove	**1**			1					
Brigus	**1**	1							
Burgeo	**1**	1							
Burin Bay Arm	**1**							1	
Burnt Point	**2**	2							
Carbonear	**2**	2							
Carmanville	**3**			3					
Cartwright	**1**						1		
Centreville-Wareham	**1**			1					
Change Islands	**1**			1					
Channel-Port aux Basques	**7**		1						6
Chapel Cove	**1**	1							
Clarenville	**4**			4					
Clarke's Beach	**2**	2							
Coley's Point South	**1**	1							
Colliers	**3**	3							
Conception Bay South	**20**	20							
Conne River	**1**					1			
Corner Brook	**112**		112						
Cottlesville	**1**					1			
Cottrell's Cove	**1**					1			
Creston	**2**							2	
Cupids	**1**	1							

	Total							
Deer Lake	**24**		22					2
Dover	**1**			1				
Dunville	**2**	2						
Eastport	**1**			1				
Elliston	**1**			1				
Fortune	**1**						1	
Frenchman's Cove, Bay of Islands	**2**		2					
Freshwater, Placentia Bay	**1**	1						
Gambo	**5**		1	4				
Gander	**42**	2		39	1			
Gander Bay South	**1**			1				
Glenburnie-Birchy Head-Shoal Brook	**1**		1					
Glenwood	**3**	1		2				
Glovertown	**1**	1						
Glovertown South	**1**			1				
Goulds	**5**	5						
Grand Bank	**1**						1	
Grand Falls-Windsor	**41**			1	40			
Grand le Pierre	**1**						1	
Happy Valley-Goose Bay	**22**	1	1			20		
Harbour Breton	**1**							1
Harbour Grace	**1**	1						
Harbour Main	**1**	1						
Heart's Delight	**1**	1						

	Total							
Holyrood	**3**	3						
Hopedale	**3**						3	
Humber Arm South	**4**		4					
Isle aux Morts	**1**							1
Jerseyside	**1**	1						
Joe Batt's Arm-Barr'd Islands-Shoal Bay	**1**			1				
Labrador City	**14**						14	
Lark Harbour	**2**		2					
Lewisporte	**6**	1				5		
Lourdes	**1**							1
Lower Island Cove	**1**	1						
Marystown	**4**			1		3		
Marysvale	**2**	2						
McKay's	**1**							1
Milltown	**1**				1			
Ming's Bight	**1**				1			
Mount Moriah	**2**		2					
Mount Pearl	**53**	53						
Musgrave Harbour	**1**			1				
Nain	**8**						8	
Noels Pond	**1**							1
Norman's Cove-Long Cove	**3**	3						
Norris Arm	**1**					1		
Norris Point	**1**		1					

	Total						
North West River	**2**					2	
Northern Bay	**1**	1					
Pacquet	**1**				1		
Paradise	**12**	12					
Pasadena	**13**		13				
Peterview	**1**				1		
Petty Harbour-Maddox Cove	**2**	2					
Placentia	**2**	2					
Point Leamington	**1**				1		
Port au Choix	**1**		1				
Port au Port	**6**						6
Port Blandford	**1**			1			
Port Union	**1**			1			
Portugal Cove-St. Philip's	**4**	4					
Pouch Cove	**5**	5					
Ramea	**1**		1				
Red Harbour, Placentia Bay	**1**					1	
Rencontre East	**1**	1					
River of Ponds	**1**		1				
Robert's Arm	**2**				2		
Rocky Harbour	**1**		1				
Roddickton	**6**		6				
Shearstown	**2**	2					
Sibleys Cove	**1**	1					

South Branch	**3**							3
South River	**1**	1						
Spaniard's Bay	**2**	2						
Springdale	**3**		1	1	1			
St. Alban's	**2**				2			
St. Anthony	**4**		4					
St. Anthony East	**4**		4					
St. George's	**3**							3
St. John's	**376**	373		1	2			
St. Lunaire-Griquet	**4**	2	2					
St. Vincent's-St. Stephen's-Peter's River	**1**	1						
Stag Harbour	**2**	1		1				
Stephenville	**49**	1	2				1	45
Stephenville Crossing	**10**	1	2					7
Summerford	**2**			1	1			
Torbay	**9**	9						
Tors Cove	**3**	3						
Victoria	**1**	1						
Wabush	**2**						2	
Witless Bay	**1**	1						
York Harbour	**1**		1					
Total	**1073**	**565**	**205**	**80**	**72**	**52**	**16**	**83**