



Staff Report to Council - for Information

Title: Q3 2023 Housing Services Report

From: Tina Metcalfe, Director Human Services

Date: December 7, 2023

Report Purpose:

This report is for information.

Report Summary:

As the Service System Manager, Bruce County is responsible for the delivery and administration of provincially mandated social and affordable housing programs, as well as initiatives to prevent and address homelessness.

Within the continuum of housing, the Housing Services division focuses on programs and services related to deeply affordable housing and housing stability supports to emergency shelter and homelessness solutions.

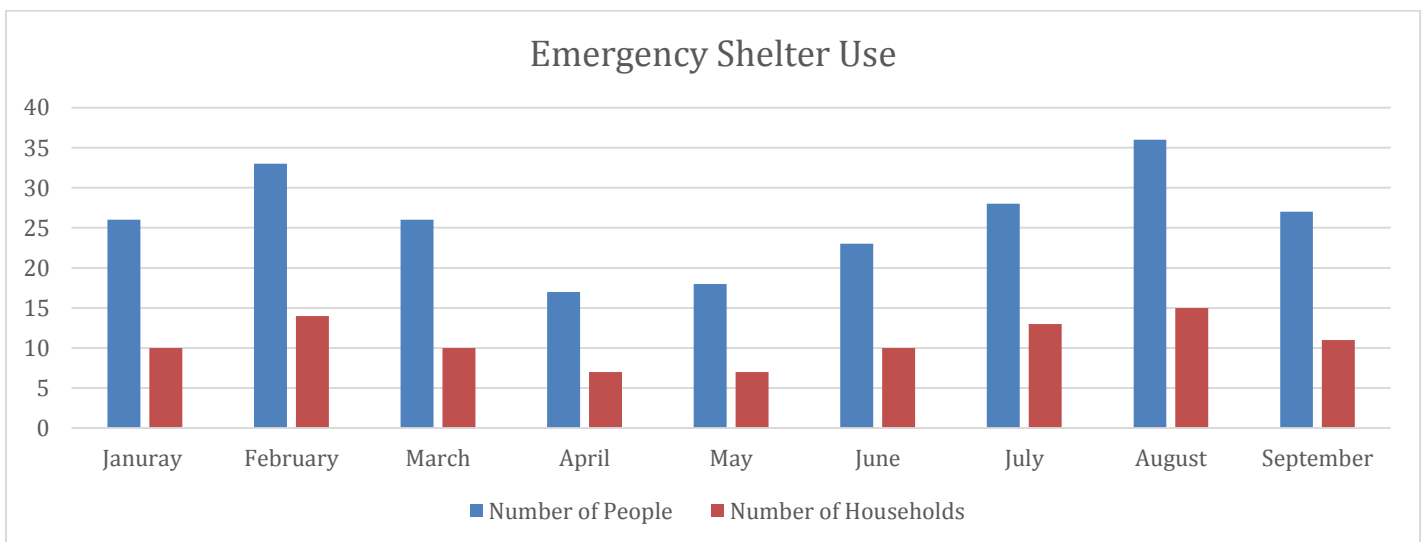
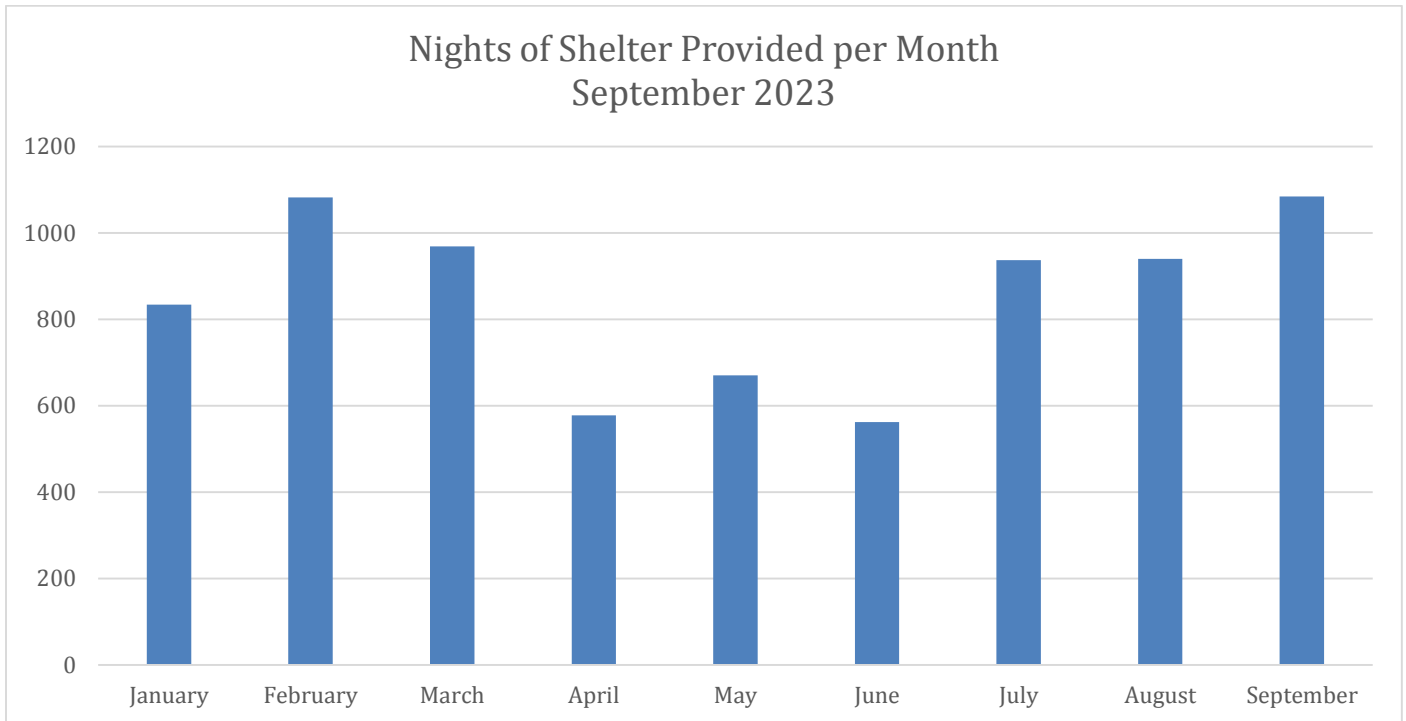
This report pertains to activities and information about programs and services up to the end of the third quarter of 2023.

Background:

Emergency Shelter Solutions

In Bruce County, the YMCA of Grey Bruce, delivers the emergency shelter solutions, through partnerships with local motels throughout the region. The YMCA provides crisis response and housing supports to adults, youth, and families experiencing homelessness. Emergency shelter services include outreach support and shelter diversion. The YMCA uses a Housing First approach to assist clients in finding more permanent solutions quickly.

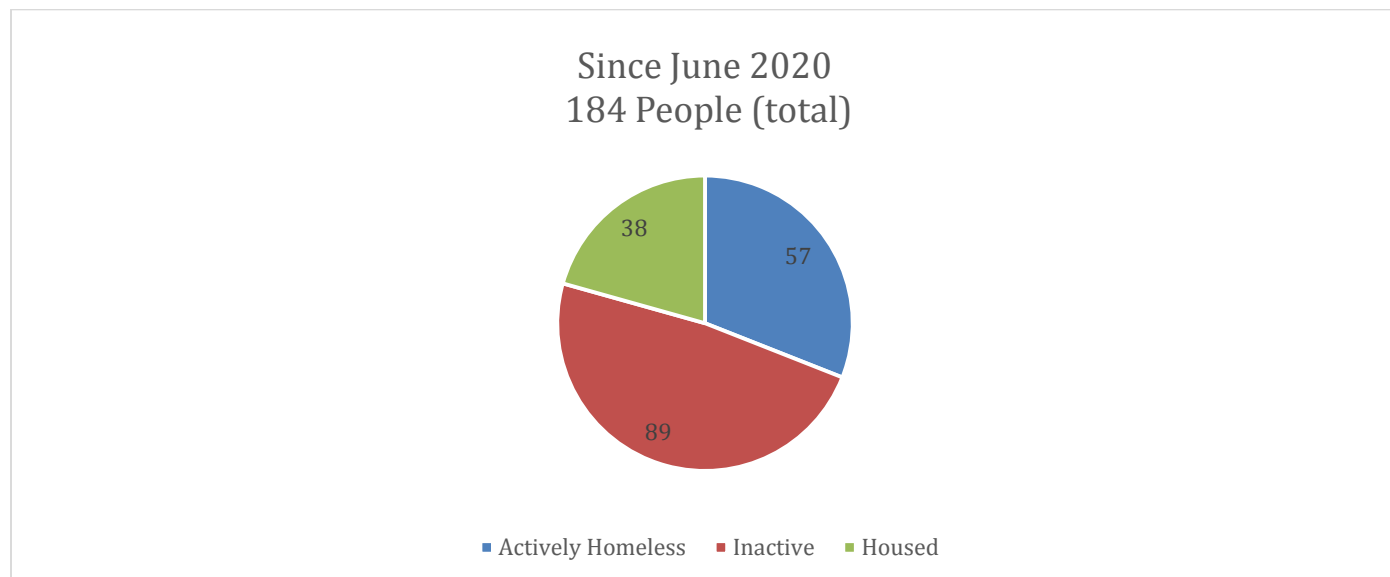
The graph below provides information on the number of nights of shelter provided to individuals and families up to September 30, 2023. Between January 1, 2023, and September 30, 2023, the YMCA has provided 7656 nights of shelter averaging 34.79 nights per household. Low vacancy rates and high rental costs has made it difficult for individuals and families experiencing homelessness to secure more permanent housing in Bruce County or surrounding areas.



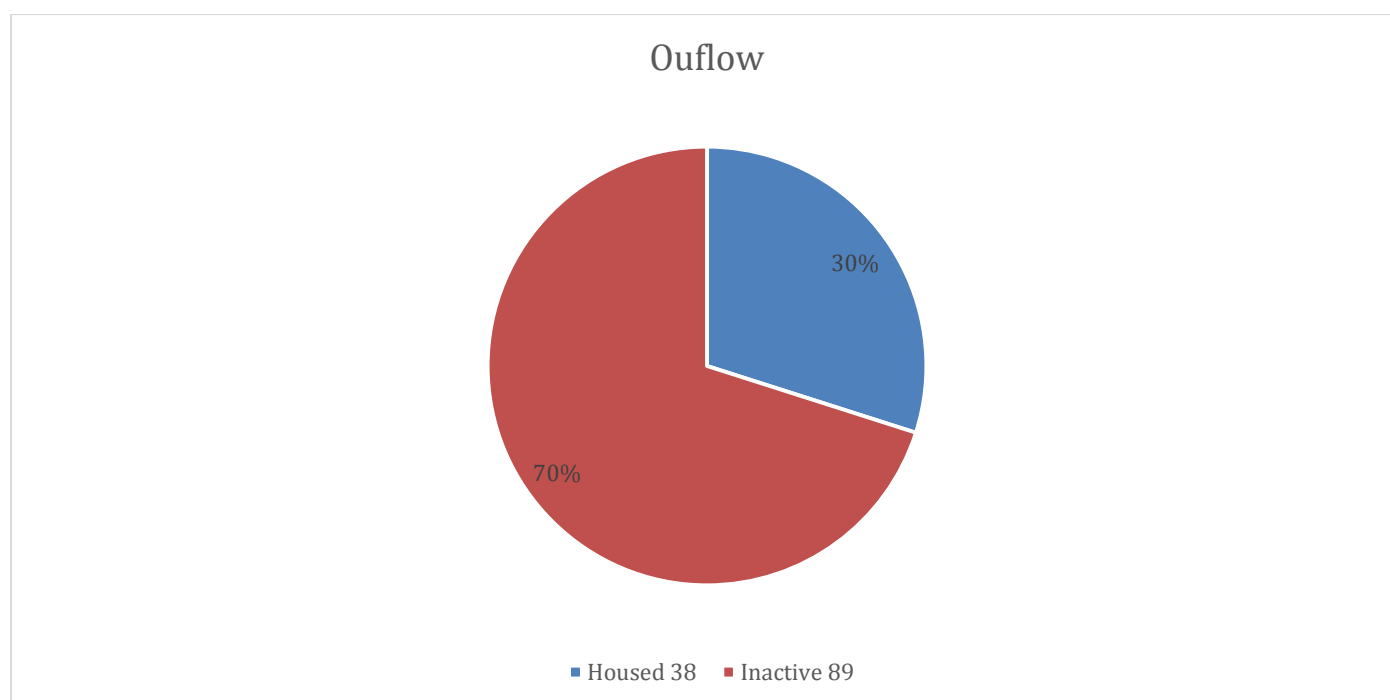
By-Name List

The By-Name List is a real-time list of all people experiencing homelessness and using homelessness response services in Bruce County. The By-Name List helps service providers prioritize needs, tracks changes in housing status, and provide information regarding demographics and chronicity.

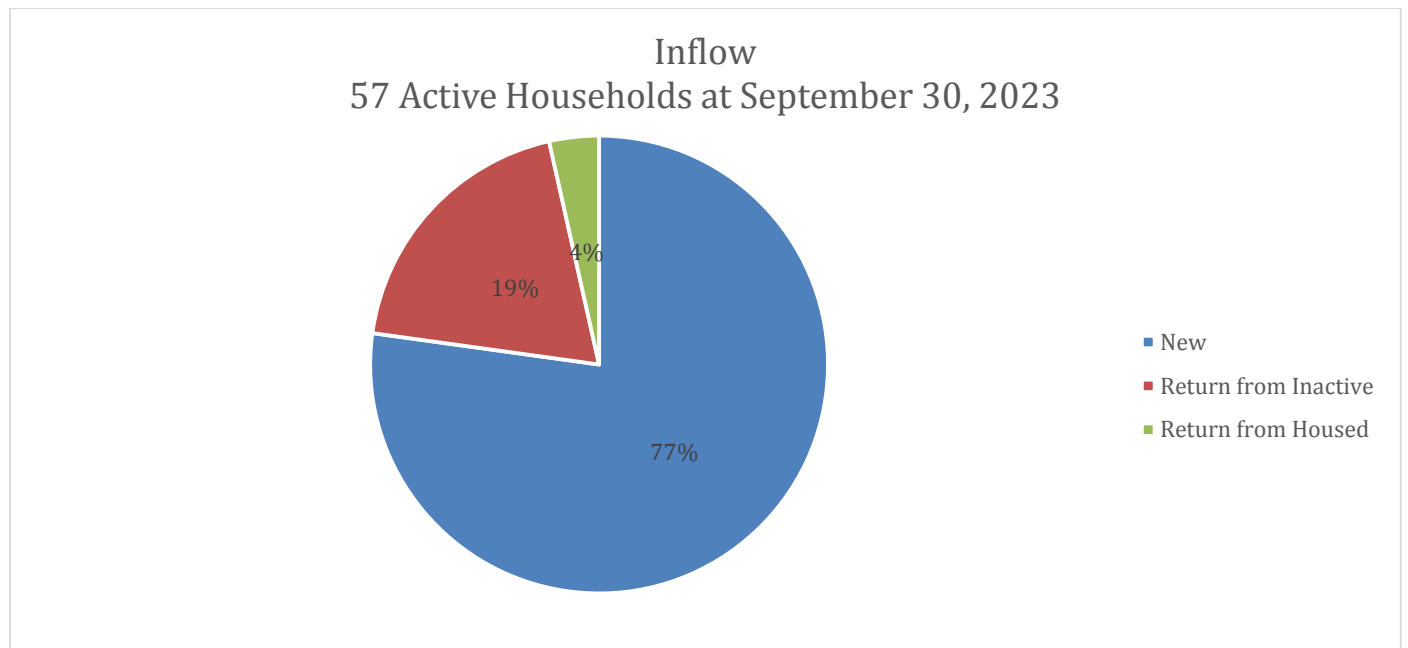
The graph below indicates that since June 2020, 184 people have been added to the By-Name List, and as of September 30, 2023, 38 households have obtained housing, 89 have moved to inactive, meaning there has been no contact for 90 days, and 57 households remain on the By-Name List.



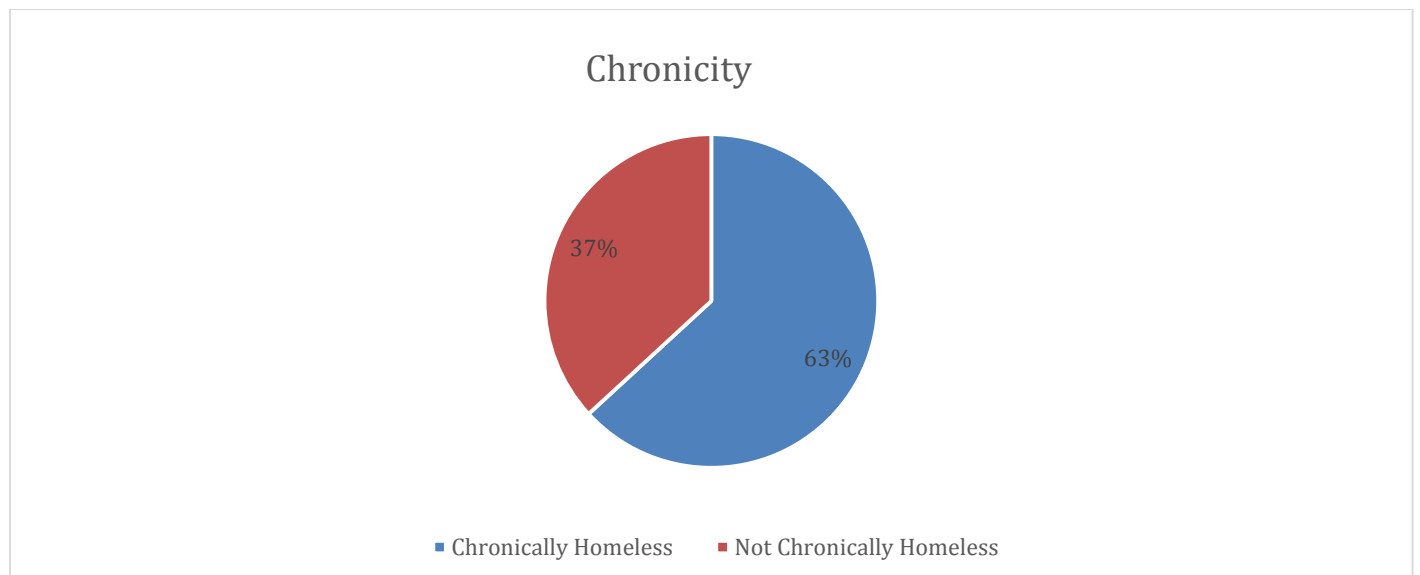
The By-Name List also tracks inflow and outflow of households. The outflow refers to households who are housed and those moved to inactive as indicated below.



Inflow, meaning someone is added to or reactivated on the By-Name List. There are three categories of inflow, return from inactive, return from housed, and newly identified.



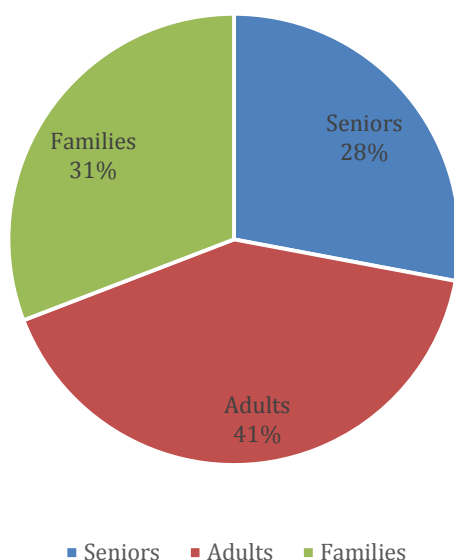
A person is considered chronically homeless when they have been living without a home for six months (not consecutive) in one year. In Bruce County, 63% of the residents experiencing homelessness meet the chronicity definition.



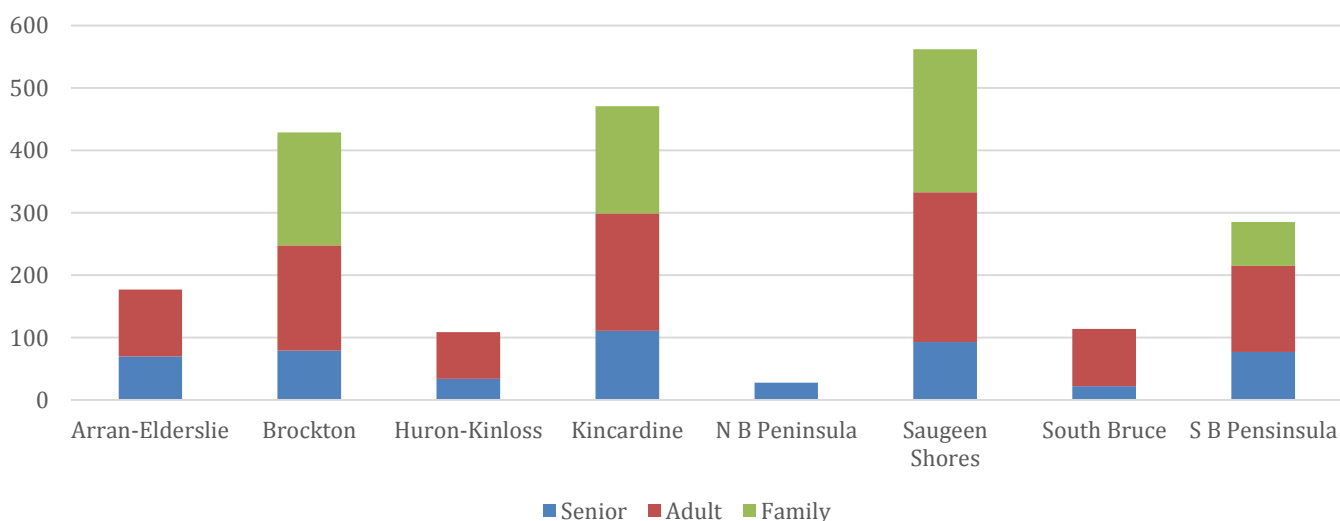
Bruce County's Centralized Waitlist

As Service Manager, Bruce County is responsible for managing the Centralized Waitlist. As at September 30, 2023, there was 1162 applicants on the waitlist: 1109 rent-geared-to-income (RGI), and 53 market rent applications. There are 342 families, 457 adults, and 310 senior applications on the waitlist. There have been 30 applicants housed between January 1, 2023, and September 30, 2023.

Waitlist Applicant Breakdown
September 2023



Registry Breakdown by Applicant Type and Municipality
September 2023



The number of applicants per municipality varies across the County and is based on availability of units in the area. For example, Northern Bruce Peninsula has one building focused on senior rentals, as well there are family units in Kincardine, Brockton, Saugeen Shores, and South Bruce Peninsula only.

Financial/Staffing/Legal/IT Considerations:

There are no financial, staffing, legal, or IT considerations associated with this report.

Interdepartmental Consultation:

There is no interdepartmental consultation associated with this report.

Link to Strategic Goals and Objectives:

Strategic Goals

Build a strong and inclusive community.

Report Author:

Tania Dickson, Housing Services Manager

Departmental Approval:

Tina Metcalfe, Director, Human Services

Approved for Submission:

Christine MacDonald, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer