21% of residents in Ottawa’s emergency shelters are single women.

Violence Against Women Shelters are full.

33% of residents in Ottawa’s emergency shelters are families. How many are single-mother-led?

Women are usually the primary caregivers.

Racialized, Muslim and Indigenous women face discrimination.

Women with disabilities need units to be accessible.

Indigenous experience of intergenerational trauma leads to need for culturally sensitive supports.

Housing: Women at Risk

Immigrant and Indigenous women new to Ottawa are unfamiliar with the local housing system.

Immigrant women may have larger families.

Some senior women have little or no retirement savings.

Housing and Homelessness

$588/month Full-time minimum wage

Average Rental Market:
Bachelor $836/month
1 Bedroom $1023/month
2 Bedroom $1232/month
3 Bedroom $1568/month

A significant over-representation of First Nations, Metis among shelter users in Ottawa.

Newcomers represented 20% of all shelter users in Ottawa; and 36% of families living in shelters

Source: Alliance to End Homelessness
Housing for All Women

Let’s Build a Strong Foundation

Consider How Housing and Homelessness Differs across Genders

Women who have experienced violence need housing that satisfies psychological and safety needs.

Trans persons are overrepresented among the homeless and vulnerable to negative treatment.

Women are more likely to be in poverty as they earn less and have more precarious work than men.

Women’s homelessness is less visible as they tend to couch surf or stay in unsafe conditions.

Make Housing Work for All women

Connectivity to transit, grocery stores, schools and culturally sensitive services.

Deeply affordable for people below low-income cut off.

Safe with supports.

Range of housing options: supportive, transition, second stage, larger units.

Funding from All Levels of Government

Municipal
$15 M in capital spending for new affordable housing is in 2019 City Budget.

Provincial
• Need increased funding for Violence Against Women Shelters.
• Need to renew Ontario Aboriginal Housing Fund.

Federal
Need to maintain and increase funding for social housing.

Respect we are building on the unceded land of the Algonquin people