



homeward trust
edmonton

A woman with long black braids is sitting on a black leather couch, smiling and talking to another woman whose back is to the camera. The background shows an art studio with an easel and a colorful abstract painting.

Supported Referrals

An Approach to Ending Chronic Homelessness

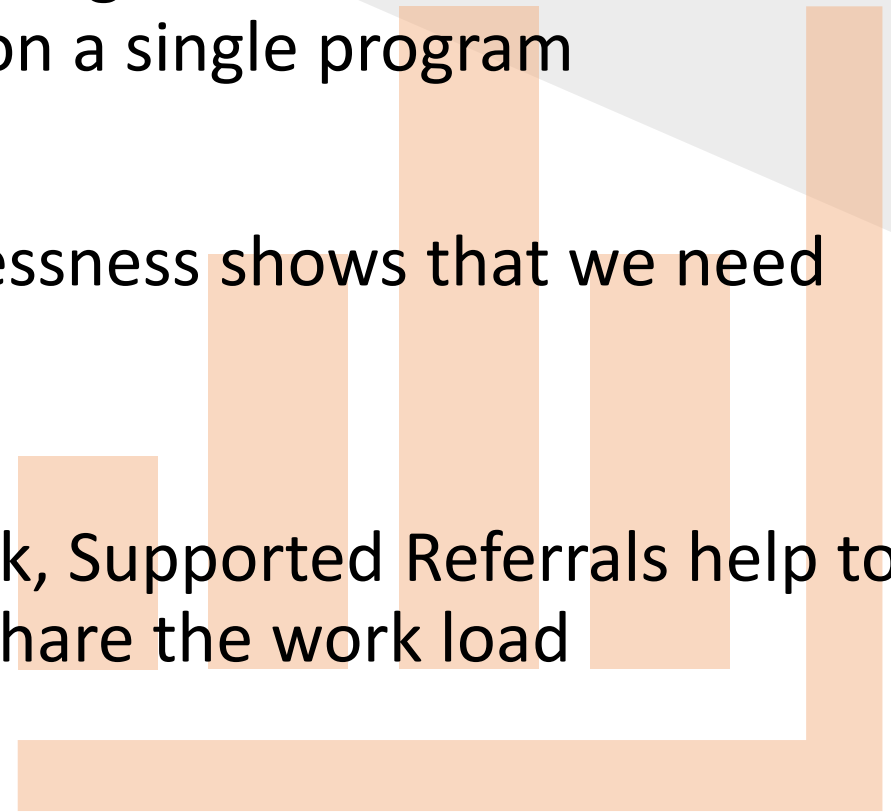
The Supported Referral Program

- An innovative pilot project until January 31, 2019
 - Government of Canada “HPS Innovative Solutions to Homelessness”
 - Government of Alberta Community and Social Services “Outreach Support Services Initiative”
- An upstream intervention to address inflow to chronic homelessness
- Agencies are provided funds to assist their participants with start-up related housing costs.



Why do Supported Referrals?

- There are 1000+ people waiting for Housing First in Edmonton and it's not realistic to place that much weight on a single program
- Edmonton's 10 Year Plan to End Homelessness shows that we need more effort and investment in diversion
- Agencies are already doing housing work, Supported Referrals help to supplement that work and collectively share the work load



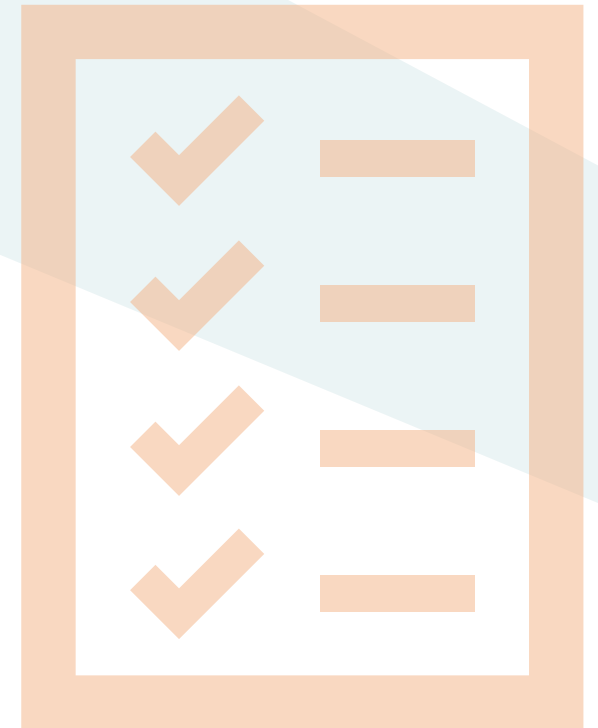
What Supported Referrals Agencies Access

- Agencies have access to funds for participants
- Ability to refer to By Name's List through Coordinated Access
- FIND Social Enterprise for furniture
- Common Data Base
- Community of Practice
- Trainings offered through Homeward Trust

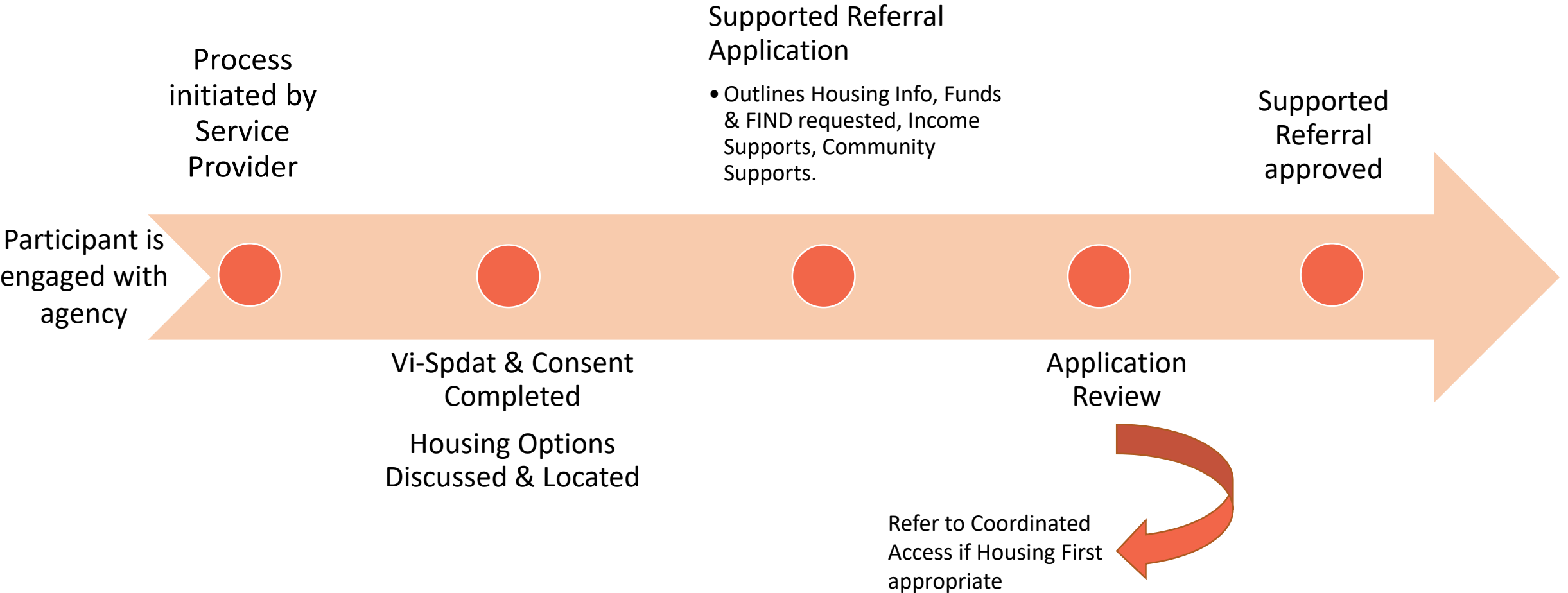


Ready To Start?

- When the agency wants to provide / broker supports
- Individual is able to live independently, does not want or need intense housing supports and is well connected to a support system
- When the individual scores 4-9 on common assessment tool (vi-spdat)



Supported Referral Timeline



Post Application Timeline

FIND pick

- Agency coordinates furniture selection and delivery

Set up

- Agency may ensure utilities are connected, groceries and other set up is completed.

Move in

- Agency may attend move in date, or meet with Landlord.

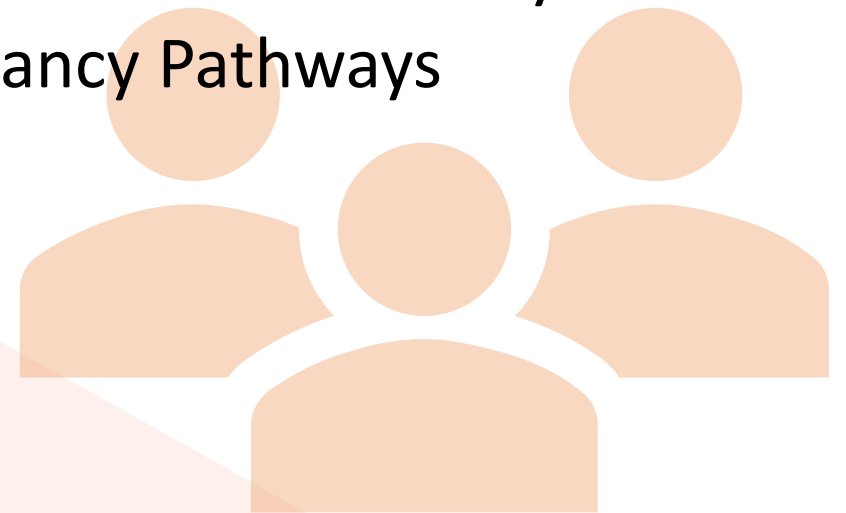
Follow up

- Once every month the Agency will check in on the participant for 6 months, as per the SR program requirements.

Participant is engaged with agency

Current Supported Referral Partner Agencies

- Bissell Centre
- Boyle Street
- Center to End All Sexual Exploitation
- Catholic Social Services
- E4C + E4C Youth Program
- HIV Edmonton
- Institute for the Advancement of Aboriginal Women
- Mustard Seed
- George Spady
- Norwood Child & Family
- Pregnancy Pathways



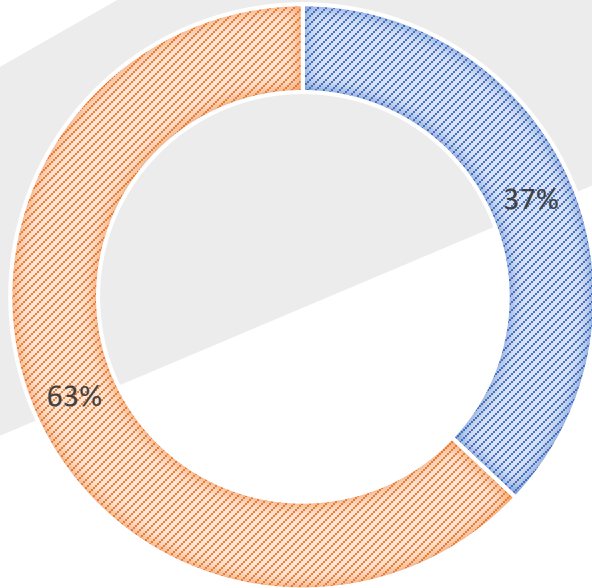
Supported Referral by Numbers.

- Currently we have housed 109 individuals through the Supported Referral program.
- Interesting things we're learning:
 - The average age is 41
 - Episodes of homelessness is 2.5 in a year
 - The mean vi-spdad score is 7



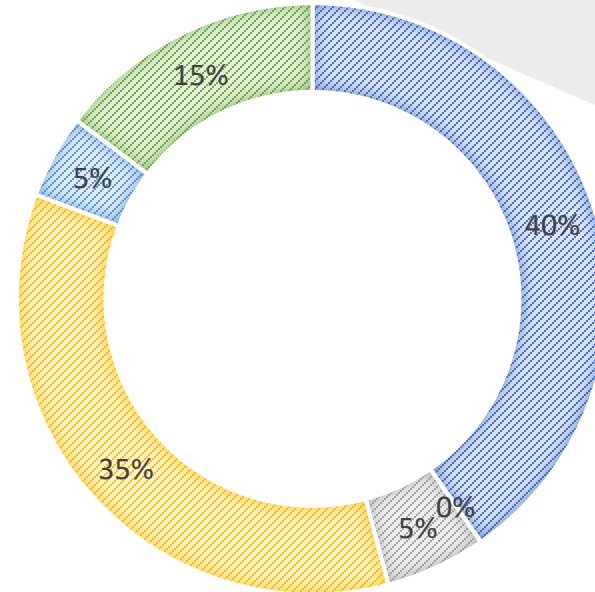
Who is Using Supported Referrals?

GENDER



■ Male ■ Female ■ No Response

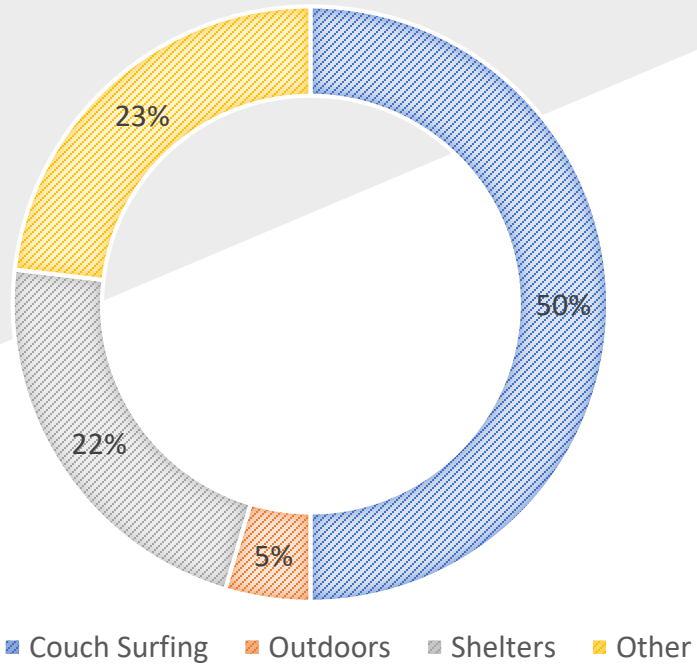
ETHNICITY



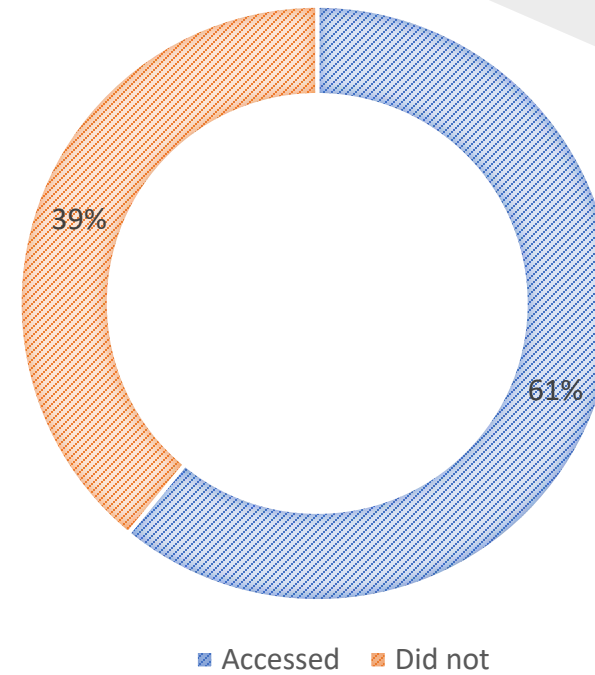
■ Indigenous ■ Inuit ■ Metis ■ Caucasian ■ No Response ■ Other

Other Noteworthy Stats

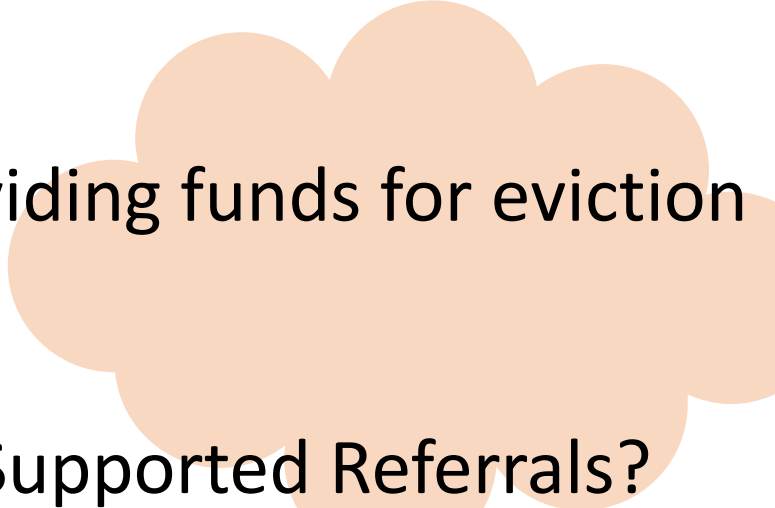
LOCATION OF ASSESSMENT



FIND



Supported Referral FAQs

- Does the Supported Referral funding have a dedicated worker?
 - What is the reasoning behind not providing funds for eviction prevention or housing crisis?
 - What does Diversion have to do with Supported Referrals?
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Panel Discussion

Phaidra Jenner,
Supported Referral Program Coordinator



Dorothy Wibabara,
Diversion Specialist



Michelle Muchetu,
Intensive Support and Outreach Navigator



Julie Strome,
Team Lead; Outreach Housing & Community Bridge

