

STREET CRIME FORUM - JUNE 23, 2004

SESSION 2 - DISCUSSION GROUP E

HOUSING (MORE OF IT)

PARTICIPANTS

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- Tolerant housing
- Low barrier shelters
- Specialized housing for people coming out of jail
- Lack of release plans for provincial jails; also no resources to do it
- Location – outside of D.T.E.S
- Discharge plan is often only a shelter bed in D.T.E.S.
- Need many models of housing – youth, recovery, coming out of jail
- Hotel partnerships
 - Support worker on site
- Levels of government need to purchase and renovate SROs
- Increase MHR shelter allowance
- Studies show the cost of providing housing is less than the cost of homelessness
- Need to change the image of the homeless, addicted, mentally ill through public education. “human face”
- Need to focus on the financial benefits of prevention/housing
- Give input on city housing plan (August/September) for public consultation
- Address housing in the context of its community
- Specialized resources and supports for the folks that need the most resources
- Place for people to just sleep – safe, as long as they need
 - No barriers
 - In places where people already are
 - 24/7
- Use resources better
 - what about pretrial centre
 - Woodwards
 - empty SROs
 - target top 3%
 - safe mat program
 - enhance SROs/partnerships