

The logo consists of a blue square with rounded corners containing a white house icon with a blue cross inside. To the right of the icon, the text "The Housing *Plus* Research Project" is displayed in a bold, black, sans-serif font, with "Plus" in a blue italicized font.

The Housing *Plus* Research Project

Housing *Plus* agencies and the University of Ottawa are partners in a three-year research project that will help tenants, service providers and the university to work together to strengthen existing programs and services. This is a groundbreaking project – it is the first collaboration of its kind and will use a unique approach to researching, measuring and evaluating housing.

Housing *Plus* organizations have been working together successfully for many years to deliver supportive housing services in Ottawa. This project will increase understanding of how and why supportive housing is successful and help develop innovative ways to improve services. The research project involves a team of researchers who will develop a tool for evaluating supportive housing in Ottawa, a tool that can also be applied by other agencies and community groups.

What is “supportive housing”?

Supportive housing, also known as Housing *Plus*, combines affordable housing with on-site services that help people live stable and successful lives, and contribute to building stronger and safer neighbourhoods.

What is a “collaborative community”?

Researchers use the term “collaborative communities” to describe groups of professionals and consumers of services who are working together to address a shared challenge. In this project, a collaborative community consists of the staff and tenants of Housing *Plus* organizations in Ottawa. Together with University of Ottawa researchers, this community is working together to develop tools for evaluating the implementation of supportive housing in Ottawa.

What will the project do?

This research project will enable the community to learn about the successes and challenges in providing Housing *Plus* services in the city. Then, the collaborative community will work to develop strategies for improving the delivery of Housing *Plus* in the city, and to support agencies in adopting these innovations.

The project also involves a team of researchers from the University of Ottawa who are studying the development of this collaborative community. The researchers will draw lessons about how these communities evolve towards a shared understanding of good practice in delivering Housing *Plus* services. The research will also produce lessons to guide the development of future collaborative communities.

Who is conducting the research?

The research team consists of academics from the University of Ottawa, Carleton University and the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health. The team has partnered with the Ottawa Supportive Housing Network, a coalition of ten non-profit housing agencies. The study is being funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council.

A joint collaboration of:



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With funding from:



Social Sciences and Humanities
Research Council of Canada

Conseil de recherches en
sciences humaines du Canada



More detailed information on the research project is available at:

www.HousingPlus.ca