

Calgary



We will begin shortly...

Calgary



Home Program Information Session

February 18, 2026

11:00 am – 12:00 pm MST



Calgary



Land Acknowledgement

Home Program Overview

Funds innovative one-time projects designed to pilot, test, and strengthen activities that increase **housing stability** and **successful tenancies** for Calgarians in housing need.



Community Grant (up to \$25,000)

Pilot projects that test new approaches to improving housing stability and successful tenancies for Calgarians in housing need.



Partnership Grant (\$25,001 to \$200,000)

Pilot projects delivered through partnerships that aim to reduce systemic barriers within the non-market housing system.



Sustainability Grant (only for previous grantees)

Previously funded Home Program projects seeking continuation support to scale, replicate, or transition toward longer-term sustainability beyond Home Program.



Home Program **Overview**

Affordable
Housing Provider

Non-Profit
Organization

Letter of Support

Indigenous
Organization

Information Session

February 18

Application Closes

March 27

Notification

June

February 23

Application Intake Opens

April

Application Review



Home Program **Priority Areas**

Community Inclusion and Integration

Homelessness Prevention
& Diversion Project by
Potential Place Society

Education and Skill Building

RentSmart Calgary
by The Community Housing
Transformation Centre

Financial Empowerment

Pathways to Housing
Stability by Centre for
Newcomers (CFN)

Initiatives that address housing instability for Indigenous people.

Homeward Bound: Indigenous Housing Initiative by the Aboriginal
Friendship Centre of Calgary (AFCC)

Initiatives that address housing instability for Black, racialized people and equity-deserving populations.

Tenant Landlord Relationships Focus Groups & Guides in 9
Languages by Bridge to Oasis Foundation (BTO)



Organization: Calgary John Howard Society (CJHS)

Grant Stream: Community Grant

Funding Amount: \$25,000

The Challenge

People with criminal justice involvement face significant barriers to employment, which undermines housing stability and increases the risk of homelessness and recidivism.

Without access to paid, transitional work, many struggle to secure housing or move into permanent employment.

The Project

CJHS piloted **SoJust Moving**, a social enterprise providing paid moving, maintenance, and renovation work to justice-involved individuals.

The model combines real employment, skills training, and mentoring while delivering housing-related services for non-profit housing providers, directly linking employment readiness to housing stability.

Key Activities

- Paid casual employment for justice-involved participants
- Hands-on training in moving, construction, and maintenance
- Moving, turnover, and maintenance services for non-profit housing
- Renovation work on CJHS housing assets
- Mentorship and employment-readiness supports
- Expansion into handyman and renovation services to support sustainability



11 justice-involved participants hired in the first year

- 5 participants transitioned to permanent employment
- 1 returned to school



Reduced housing moves and unit turnovers + Increased maintenance affordable housing units



Pilot social enterprise with potential to scale



Wildflower 2.0: Spreading the Seeds of Change in Housing First Service Provision

Organization(s): The Alexandra Community Health Centre (The Alex), Canadian Mental Health Association Calgary (CMHA Calgary)

Grant Stream: Partnership Initiative

Funding Amount: \$199,454

The Challenge

Participants in Housing First and supportive housing often experience isolation, trauma, and mistrust of formal systems, which can undermine housing stability even after being housed.

While The Alex provides 24/7 supports, there was a gap in lived-experience-based support to build trust, belonging, and engagement—particularly for participants with mental health challenges and histories of homelessness.

The Project

The Alex partnered with CMHA Calgary to pilot the integration of Peer Support Workers (PSWs) into Housing First and place-based supportive housing programs.

Trained peers with lived experience were embedded into care teams to provide relational, non-clinical support, while also developing a peer-integration toolkit to support learning and scale.

Key Activities

- Recruit, train and embed PSWs into housing teams
- One-on-one and group peer engagement focused on:
 - Reducing isolation
 - Navigating services and supports
 - Life skills (e.g., cooking, cleaning, budgeting)
 - Community participation and confidence-building
- ⑩ Development of a Peer Support Integration Toolkit and evaluation framework for sector use.



410 housing participants across Housing First and place-based supportive housing

- 1/3 were Indigenous or Racialized



83% of participants agreed or strongly agreed that meeting with a PSW was helpful

- Increased trust + social connection



Pilot success led to secured funding through 2028 to retain PSWs in ongoing operations

Landlord Partnership Network (LPN)

Organization(s): Elizabeth Fry Society of Calgary, Aboriginal Standing Committee on Housing & Homelessness (ASCHH)

Grant Stream: Partnership Initiative

Funding: \$178,255

The Challenge

Indigenous tenants face systemic discrimination and strained landlord relationships, limiting access to stable rental housing.

Landlords were identified as a missing but critical stakeholder in improving Indigenous housing outcomes.

The Project

A system-level, Indigenous-led initiative to design the foundations of a Landlord Partnership Network, focused on relationship-building, cultural understanding, and reducing barriers between landlords, housing providers, and Indigenous tenants.

Rather than directly housing individuals, the project focused on laying the foundation for a network that could build trust, improve understanding, and reduce discrimination between landlords and Indigenous tenants — informed by Elder guidance, research, and stakeholder engagement.

Key Activities

- Elder-guided engagement and governance.
- Surveys and consultations with landlords, tenants, and housing providers.
- Engagement with the Calgary Residential Rental Association.
- Indigenous-informed landlord and tenant education concepts.
- Design of a proposed landlord–tenant matching online platform.



Documented landlord concerns related to unit risk, damages, and case-management gaps.

- Drivers of landlord withdrawal from working with non-profit and Indigenous-serving organizations.



Identified landlord openness to culturally informed training beyond screening and compliance.



Developed foundational design elements for a future LPN pilot.

Application Evaluation **Criteria**



Clear Community Need

Demonstrate a deep understanding of the problem and how your project directly addresses a specific, identified community need.



Capacity to Deliver

Demonstrates strong organizational capacity and expertise to deliver project activities within 2 years, with a clear risk mitigation plan.



Project Sustainment

Future proofing project impact with a clear vision for project sustainment beyond Home Program funding.



Strategic Alignment

Show how your project aligns with the priority areas and The City's Housing Strategy.



Strong Impact

Strong potential to create lasting housing stability and successful tenancies for Calgarians in housing need.

Home Program **Requirements**



Alignment with
Priority Areas

Note: Cannot be part of ongoing/core operations.



2-Year Project
Period

Note: Limited flexibility on extensions.



Final Report

Note: Template will be provided for submission.



All unspent funds at the completion of the project must be returned to The City.

Note: Capital expenses are not eligible.

Oral Presentations

Indigenous organizations and/or Indigenous-led projects applying for Home Program funding will have the opportunity to present their project through an in-person oral presentation.



Register your interest by emailing thehomeprogram@calgary.ca to schedule your presentation.



Presentations will be scheduled after funding deadline closes on March 27.



Online submission is still required. Applicants must also submit through the online portal before the application deadline.

New Updates to 2026



Administrative support expenses are capped at **10%**.



Partnership projects are required to produce a strong system-focused deliverable.



Sustainability Grant projects must be completed within **12 months**.



Applicants must explain how their proposed project differs from ongoing core operations.



Thank You

www.calgary.ca/homeprogram

TheHomeProgram@calgary.ca