

# NEW WESTMINSTER HOMELESSNESS COALITION

## Who we are:

The New Westminster Homelessness Coalition (NWHC) brings together a broad range of community and government organizations that provide services to people who are homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless. Task Force members meet every second month to share information, knowledge, concerns and solutions. The community services agencies that regularly participate in NWHC include:

Atira Women's Resources Society	New Westminster Downtown Residents Association
A Beef with Hunger	New Westminster Mental Health Centre Outreach
Dawn Black, MLA	Purpose Society
Correctional Services of Canada	Pacific Community Resources Society
Canadian Mental Health Association	Regional Steering Committee on Homelessness
Downtown New Westminster BIA	St. Barnabas Church
Elizabeth Fry Society of Greater Vancouver	Salvation Army
Feed the Hungry Outreach	School District 40
Fraser Health Authority	Seniors Services Society
Fraserside Community Services	John Stark, City Social Planner
Government of BC	Stride with Purpose
Bill Harper, City Councillor	Union Gospel Mission
Holy Trinity Cathedral	United Food & Commercial Workers Union, Loc.247
Hospitality Project	UBC School of Social Work
Peter Julian, MP	West Coast Genesis Society
Lookout Emergency Aid Society	Westminster Foursquare church
Lower Mainland Brain Injury Association	Will-Go-Ministries
Jaimie McEvoy, City Councillor	Lorrie Williams, City Councillor
Betty McIntosh, City Councillor	
Monarch Place Transition House	
New Westminster City Police	
New Westminster Community Development Society	

## **Our Mission:**

Create a continuum of housing options and supports in the City of New Westminster for those people who are homeless, at risk of being homeless, vulnerable or requiring assistance to secure a home.

## **Our History:**

The New Westminster Homelessness Coalition (NWHC) was formed in 2005 to bring together a range of people and organizations working to address homelessness in New Westminster.

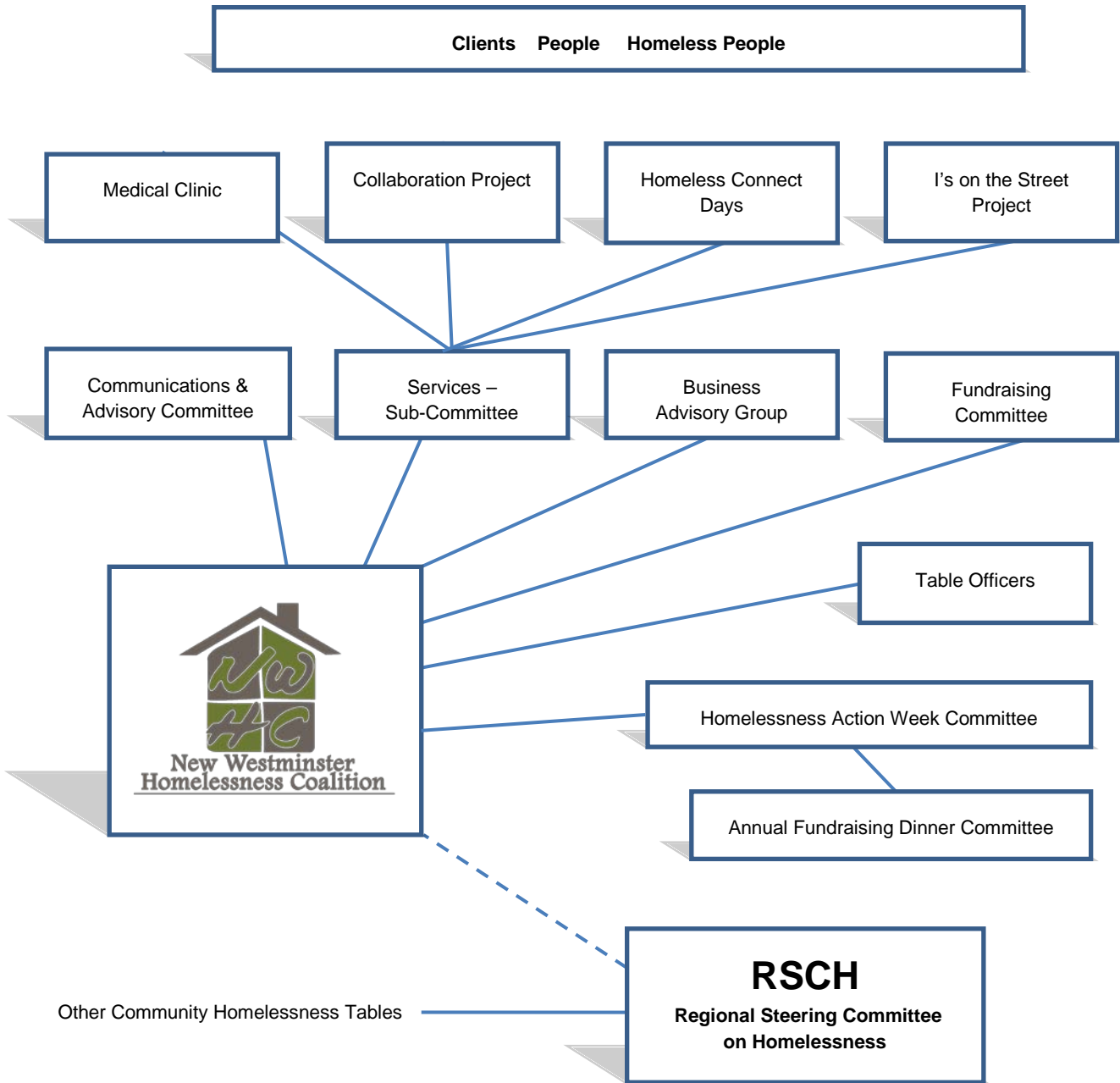
The NWHC works together with the Metro Vancouver Regional Steering Committee on Homelessness, which developed and oversees the implementation of the Regional Homelessness Plan for Greater Vancouver. The Plan has guided the provision of shelter and services in the region since 2000. Together with the Regional Steering Committee, the NWHC has been successful in influencing policy and securing funding for projects that are aimed at reducing homelessness.

The coalition is funded by the City of New Westminster, private donors and also receives some assistance and planning/promotional materials from the Regional Steering Committee on Homelessness.

Our member organizations deliver housing, outreach, food, job training, crisis intervention and youth programs, and witness firsthand the day to day challenges of poverty and homelessness in our city. We continue to work on addressing the needs of the homeless in New Westminster, enabling many people to permanently break the cycle of homelessness.

Last year, we continued to work on developing our action plan to address homeless issues, and began working on specific action items. Sub-committees were formed to develop our organizational framework, and examine and tackle gaps in services.

# How we're organized:



# Draft Homeless Coalition Action Plan

The below draft action plan is based on the responses of Homeless Coalition members to an on-line survey administered during April and May 2011 and the feedback as provided by Homeless Coalition members at a Think Tank held on May 26, 2011.

Timeframe	Actions	Responsibility	Required Resources
Sept. 2011	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance effectiveness of Homeless Coalition               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Prepare Orientation Package for New Members</li> <li>○ Update Membership Listing</li> <li>○ Re-Invite 'Inactive' Members</li> <li>○ Recruit New Members to Coalition</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Lynn Osborn Lynn Osborn Dave Brown and Bill Wong Chuck Puchmayr	No Funding Implications
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop Resources in Support of Fundraising Efforts               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Develop Case for Support</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	John Stark	No Funding Implications
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work towards the Retention of Coordinator               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Develop Job Description for Coordinator</li> <li>○ Explore Funding Opportunities for Coordinator</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Kara-Leigh Jamieson John Stark/Coalition Members	No Funding Implications
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Consider Hiring a Part-Time Coordinator               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Determine Costs and Budget Implications</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		Possible Funding Implications
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Enhance Access to Social Amenities – e.g., Laundry, Shower               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Inventory Existing Amenities</li> <li>○ Determine Priorities and Budget Implications</li> <li>○ Consider Partnering with Local Laundromats</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		Funding Required
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand Connect Days               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Determine Possible Sites and Times</li> <li>○ Hold Every Three or Four Months</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		Possible Funding Implications
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Expand "I's on the Street" Program               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>○ Consider Expanding to Uptown New Westminster</li> <li>○ Consider an Anti-Graffiti Remediation Component</li> </ul> </li> </ul>	Dave Brown Chuck Puchmayr	Funding Required

Timeframe	Actions	Responsibility	Required Resource
Sept. 2012	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Expand Inter-Agency / Wrap-Around Collaboration Model               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Develop Action Plan</li> <li>Develop Job Description for Case Manager</li> <li>Determine Costs and Budget Implications</li> <li>Explore Funding Opportunities for Case Manager</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		Possible Funding Implications
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance Access to Medical and Dental Services               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Research Mobile Dental Services</li> <li>Identify Dentists to do Pro Bono Work</li> <li>Hold Discussions with Fraser Health</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		No Funding Implications
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Enhance Access to Training for Front-Line Workers               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Consider Group Training Involving Different Agencies</li> <li>Consider Pooling Training Dollars</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		Possible Funding Implications
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Hold Homelessness Summit               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Raise Awareness About Issue and Efforts to Address It</li> <li>Recognize Service Providers and Volunteers – Awards</li> <li>Recognize Donors and Funders</li> <li>Highlight Annual Action Plan to Address Homelessness</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		Funding Required
Sept. 2013	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Increase Community Awareness and Education               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Forge Closer Ties with Justice Institute and NW Police</li> <li>Hold Panel Discussion at NW Sec. School</li> <li>Develop and Implement Business Engagement Program</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		Possible Funding Implications
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Work Towards Opening Homeless Resource Centre               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Determine Components and Operational Model</li> <li>Develop Case for Support</li> <li>Explore Funding Opportunities for Resource Centre</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		Possible Funding Implications
Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Continue to Lobby the Senior Levels of Government               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Identify Housing, Income and Support Needs and Gaps</li> <li>Develop Case for Support</li> <li>Lobby FCM, LMLGA and UBCM</li> </ul> </li> </ul>		No Funding Implications

## I's on the Street:

I's On The Street is a unique outreach program operated as a street cleaning business that engages homeless or near homeless people, some with mental illness/addiction into recovery through employment.

It is an award winning, non-profit social enterprise designed to serve as a "stepping stone" to regular employment. Through a collaboration with the Downtown BIA, the City of New Westminister, New Westminister Mental Health and the New Westminister Homelessness Coalition, this program strengthens each year and hopes to expand.

More Information: [dbrown@lookoutsociety.ca](mailto:dbrown@lookoutsociety.ca)

## Medical Clinic:

This clinic is a free, walk-in clinic to improve the health and welfare of people who may otherwise be unable to receive treatment.

The program is staffed by a Nurse Practitioner, Public Health Nurse and a case manager from the Stride Program at the Purpose Society who provide basic primary care and a follow up care for our patients that do not have or can't access a Family Physician.

Clinic hours: Fridays 11:00 am – 3:00 pm, first come first serve basis.

Location: 40 Begbie Street, New Westminister V3M 3L9

More Information: 604-526-2522 or [mail@purposesociety.org](mailto:mail@purposesociety.org)

Services Offered:

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Immunizations</li><li>• Chronic or Acute disease management</li><li>• Hepatitis C and HIV testing and care</li><li>• Referral to specialists</li><li>• STI testing</li><li>• Evidence-based health screening</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Disease and injury prevention</li><li>• Physical exams including well women exams</li><li>• Access to harm reduction supplies</li><li>• Needle exchange</li></ul>
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## Homelessness Action Week

Communities and organizations throughout Metro Vancouver, BC and the Yukon will organize events to mark the annual Homelessness Action Week. The New Westminster Homelessness Coalition is pleased to support this initiative with a week full of events. It takes place yearly beginning the day of Thanksgiving.

More information: [www.nwhomeless.ca](http://www.nwhomeless.ca)

## Homeless Connect Days

People who are homeless can connect 1-on-1 with FREE services.

More information: [www.nwhomeless.ca](http://www.nwhomeless.ca)

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• help to find housing</li><li>• dental service</li><li>• mental health and substance abuse support</li><li>• legal counselling</li><li>• haircuts, massages</li><li>• help to acquire identification</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• employment counseling</li><li>• access to elected officials</li><li>• chiropractic service</li><li>• ophthalmologist</li><li>• flu shots</li><li>• nurse consultation</li></ul>
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## **New Westminster Homelessness Coalition includes:**

### **Table Officers:**

Co-chair: Lorrie Wasyliw

Co-chair: Wesley Everaars

#### Members:

Dave Brown

Bill Wong

Kara-Leigh Jameson- Treasurer

### **Services Sub-Committee**

Chair: Dave Brown

#### Members:

Jack Beatty

John Stark

Kevan Oxley

Chuck Puchmayr

Vallen Mah

John Bailey

Carole Neilson