

Rural Wellington Resources

1. www.helpisherewellington.com An overview of mental health and addictions supports.
2. [Here 24/7](http://Here247.org) Crisis supports. 1-844-437-3247
3. [988](http://988.org) Text or call to reach crisis support when considering suicide.
4. [RAAM](http://RAAM.org) – Rapid Access Addiction Medicine Van with locations in Minto
5. [Sanguen Health Van](http://SanguenHealthVan.org) Regular stops through out the month, includes Minto
6. [Community Resource Centre of North and Centre Wellington](http://CommunityResourceCentre.org)-Outreach Workers
7. Food Banks
 - a. [Harriston Food Bank](http://HarristonFoodBank.org)
 - b. [Palmerston Food Bank](http://PalmerstonFoodBank.org)
 - c. [Clifford Foodbank](http://CliffordFoodbank.org)
8. Good Food Box- [Seniors Centre of Excellence](http://SeniorsCentreofExcellence.org)
9. Family Health Teams
 - a. [Mount Forest Family Health Team](http://MountForestFamilyHealthTeam.org) – Rural Wellington Community Team
 - b. [Minto Mapleton Family Health Team](http://MintoMapletonFamilyHealthTeam.org)
10. [Income Security for Food Security](http://IncomeSecurityforFoodSecurity.org)-Campaign to raise awareness
11. [Legal Clinic of Guelph and Wellington](http://LegalClinicofGuelphandWellington.org) Income and Landlord Tenant info

How Can Rural Wellington Municipalities Help?

- Keep the social face of the issue at the forefront
- Realize that \$ spent on support for unhoused residents reduces other municipal and regional services
- Stay informed and in communication with social service supports. Share information with municipal staff, businesses, service clubs, faith groups.
 - Sanguen Health Van, RAAM Van, Legal Clinic Van, Family Health Teams/RWCT, Food Banks, Community Resource Centre
- Offer training to outline how the community can support these efforts. Involve those with lived experience in this training.
- Take every opportunity to build compassion in the community through your municipal communications.
- Work collaboratively with Wellington County Municipalities with similar issues (TWN)
- Consider alternate uses of municipal resources to support unhoused residents
 - Access to potable water, garbage cans, sharps containers, access to warm spaces, access to rec centre/washrooms/showers
- Advocate at all levels of Government and with local businesses for a Living Wage \$20.90
 - \$43472 or approx. \$31700 after tax per year
 - Housing Rental rates: \$1200-1800/month=\$14400-\$21600 per year
 - \$1440/month to cover utilities, food, gas, auto, insurance, medications etc
 - Note: Max social assistance rates for a single individual is \$343 basic needs and \$390 for shelter allowance = \$733 , Ontario Disability Support Program \$1308/month
- Develop or revise emergency preparedness plans to include unhoused residents. (emergencies: pandemic, climate, extreme weather)
- Advocate for a Guaranteed Basic Income, estimated at \$17000/year. This would cut poverty rates in half (2021)

Further Reading:

<https://imfg.munkschool.utoronto.ca/report/the-municipal-role-in-housing/#preventing-the-loss-of-affordable-rental-housing>

<https://policyoptions.irpp.org/magazines/june-2022/sleeping-rough-solutions/>

<https://theconversation.com/implementing-a-basic-income-means-overcoming-myths-about-the-undeserving-poor-218577>

<https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/london/housing-crisis-seniors-renovictions-1.7048464>