



**Empower
Simcoe**

BE • BELONG • THRIVE

CEO Dr. Claudine Cousins

Over 70 years of supporting people of all abilities in our community



One of the largest multi-service agencies in Ontario

1700 people and families supported every day..



One of the area's largest employers

600 employees working across Simcoe County.



Equity, Diversity, & Inclusion Champion

A leader in advocating for welcoming, inclusive, and accessible communities.



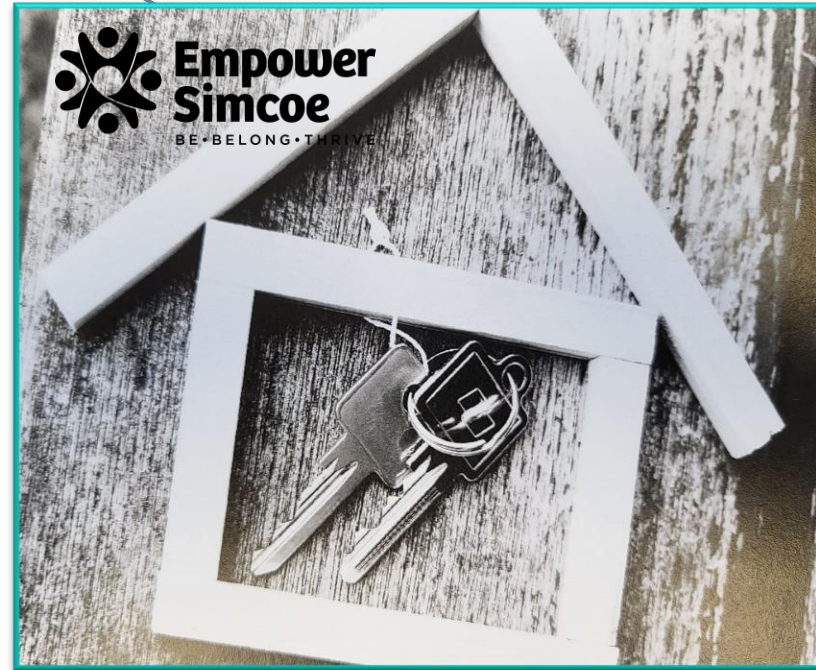
An Accredited agency

Since 2007, accredited by The Council on Quality and Leadership.

Housing First Lead in Simcoe County



New Apartment
Construction Loan
Program



**Canadian Mortgage &
Housing Corporation**

Loans and grants available at lower
rates through the Housing Accelerator
Fund and Seed funding



Affordable
Housing Fund



Housing
Accelerator
Fund

Empower Simcoe is a member of the Intentional Community Consortium



Number of individuals in the province with an intellectual disability who are on a non-municipal waiting list.



Projected wait list length of time for an individual with an intellectual disability.



Request to the province to earmark 10% of the National Housing Strategy funding for housing for individuals with developmental disabilities, as well as municipalities to commit to this critical need..



Demand for Services

Developmental Services Ontario

Simcoe

Service Type	Resources Declared to DSO	Service Requests
		Immediate readiness for service
Group home	14	1370
Supported Independent Living	19	822
Associate Family	0	258
Individualized Housing Support	0	175
Community Participation Support	67	2253
Respite	2	1659

The Service Registry information compares the resources declared by service agencies in Simcoe County as “what is available,” to the services that are requested by adults with developmental disabilities.

Demand for Services

Developmental Services Ontario

Age	Male	Female	Unknown	Not Disclosed	Totals
16-17	237	116	102	61	516
18-24	134	79	83	54	350
25-34	70	41	40	25	176
35-44	36	41	23	12	112
45-54	43	28	5	8	84
55-64	23	21	9	4	57
65-74	7	3	0	0	10
75+	0	0	0	1	1
Totals	550	329	262	165	1,306

*Applications made through dsontario.ca do not require identification of gender

Reason why they contacted us:

- Need services now - no MCCSS funded services **56.13%**
- Inquiry for services in the future **34.38%**
- Want to find out what is available **6.66%**
- In Transition - current services are ending **2.53%**
- Need a change in current services **0.31%**

*Please note: Statistics presented are according to DSCIS as of April 4, 2024

This past year the DSO received 1306 new referrals. Over 48% were confirmed eligible for adult developmental services. 66% of new referrals were applicants between the ages of 16 to 24.

Barriers to Decreasing the Demand

Group home bylaws in Barrie ON.

Town/Municipality	Terminology	Zoning By-Law	Registration Process
Barrie	<p>Group Home shall mean a community-based housekeeping unit in which up to 5 individuals (exclusive of staff) live under responsible supervision consistent with the requirements of its residents.</p> <p>Group homes shall mean accommodation for:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • the mentally and physically disabled; • the homeless, mistreated or abused child or adult, but foster homes shall not be considered as group homes uses; • children with behavioral and/or legal problems. 	<p>Group homes must be located in fully detached buildings. (By-law 2019-115)</p> <p>Up to 5 individuals permitted in one group home</p> <p>Single detached in R1, R2, R3, R4, R5 zones</p> <p>Multiple zone RM2 and RM2TH</p> <p>Apartment RA1 and RA2.</p>	Nothing specified

A Call to Action for Zoning Revisions

1. Align the definition of group home with **Services and Supports to Promote the Social Inclusion of Persons with Developmental Disabilities Act, 2008 (SIPDDA)**, a "supported group living setting" is defined as: "A staff-supported residence operated by a service agency, in which **three or more persons** with developmental disabilities reside and receive services and supports from the agency."
2. Increase the maximum number of residents per group home.
3. Permit group homes in semi-detached homes.

Funding Shortfalls



Ministry of
Children, Community &
Social Services





THANK YOU