St. Leonard's Society of Canada

Société St-Léonard du Canada

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: September 25, 2025
***Pursuing Housing: Scaling Options for Justice-Involved Youth* Solutions Lab**

Ottawa, ON/Algonquin Anishinaabe Territory: On September 16, 2025, SLSC co-hosted an official launch to initiate a new Solutions Lab for *Pursuing Housing: Scaling Options for Justice-Involved Youth*. This project is focused on co-developing and piloting scalable housing frameworks to ensure youth exiting the justice system can access safe, stable, and supported living options. A recording of the Official Launch event is available for viewing HERE.

Funded by the Canada Mortgage and Housing Corporation (CMHC), the *Pursuing Housing* Solutions Lab is being led by St. Leonard's Society of Canada, and powered by CTLabs. This 18 month project will bring together service providers, researchers, government agencies, housing organizations, and youth justice system partners to identify and test the minimum viable requirements for affordable housing typologies that can be implemented by community housing providers, justice organizations, and other youth service providers.

On October 2, 2025 we will be hosting the first in a series of workshops associated with the project on 'Unpacking the Problem', to discuss the scope and layers of the problems that are creating a reality where justice-involved youth have fragmented supports and no guaranteed housing pathway, leading to homelessness or unstable "couch-surfing".

Anyone interested in the Lab or its related workshops are encouraged to visit our website to sign up as a Lab Participant/Supporter or to obtain more information about the work we are undertaking. This lab is for anyone interested in building a more just, equitable housing system—whether a youth service provider, person with lived experience, policymaker, housing advocate, or community builder.

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