

Call for Nominations or Applications: Halifax Regional Municipality Reaching Home Community Advisory Board Job Summary

Do you believe that everyone has the right to safe secure housing?

Do you have skills and/or experience and the drive to help reduce, and even end homelessness in HRM?

Want to join a board with like-minded folks or recommend a candidate?

As Canada's federal homelessness response, Reaching Home is a community-based program aimed at preventing and reducing homelessness by providing direct support and funding to Designated Communities (urban centres), Indigenous communities, territorial communities, and rural and remote communities across Canada. Halifax Regional Municipality (HRM) is a Designated Community (DC) and the Community Entity that administers the funding stream for HRM is the Affordable Housing Association of Nova Scotia (AHANS).

The HRM Reaching Home Community Advisory Board (CAB) is a membership of sector professionals, government representatives, lived experience and subject matter experts that are responsible for developing, establishing, and implementing an integrated and inclusive community-based approach to meet existing and emerging homelessness needs in the Designated Community. Your role involves drawing upon your expertise and/sector knowledge to offer recommendations, advice, and solutions that align with the Reaching Home Directives and the HRM Community Plan. As a CAB member, you will participate in and come prepared for meetings, contribute to discussions, and collaborate with other CAB members to drive the success of our common goal – reducing homelessness in our community.

Community Advisory Board Duties, Expectations, and Responsibilities

- Offer insights and recommendations based on your expertise and sector knowledge
- Evaluate projects to meet the community plan, based on the eligibility criteria of Reaching Home.
- Participate in funding panel discussions and advise on project funding approval (if you are not directly employed by a service provider).
- Attend all meetings, either in person or virtually, and come prepared to discuss agenda topics. Review all documentation included in agenda packages prior to the meeting.

- Maintain respect for the processes and decisions of the CAB and the CE while in the community, regardless of your personal views.
- Familiarize yourself with the Community Plan and all related community reporting.

Advisory Board Requirements and Qualifications

While there are some specific requirements and qualifications below, we are striving to attract candidates who represent a new way of thinking and delivering services in our community. We are seeking Candidates / Nominees who can challenge the status quo, who have an ongoing passion for how to end homelessness in our community, and a curiosity for understanding how government funded programs and services are delivered and built. Individuals who may not necessarily see themselves as leaders but can provide insights and experiences that are not typically represented at our tables will also be considered.

Additionally, the below criteria will be taken into consideration:

- Strong strategic thinking with the capacity to provide innovative and forward-thinking insights.
- A commitment to ethical conduct, along with a willingness to act in the best interests of the community.
- Availability to participate in meetings and a willingness to commit the necessary time and effort to fulfill the role effectively.
- Must hold a broad knowledge of the homelessness community and/or community needs within HRM.
- Must be able to commit to a three-year membership tenure (with the potential to extend for a second term of three years).
- Ideally, membership should reflect the diversity of people experiencing homelessness and at risk of homelessness in the community, including but not exclusive to:
 - persons with lived experience
 - the 2SLGBTQIA+ community
 - families
 - youth
 - seniors
 - African Nova Scotians
 - Indigenous peoples
 - newcomers/refugees and refugee claimants.
- Previous advisory board or similar governance experience is a plus but not required.

If nominating, please submit the name, contact information (telephone and e-mail), and a brief description (500 words or less) as to why the individual would be an ideal candidate for the position (highlight work experience, lived experience, other qualities) to info@ahans.ca by June 30, 2024.

If applying, please submit a cover letter and CV, to info@ahans.ca by June 30, 2024.

The Community Entity Reaching Home team and the current Community Advisory Board recruitment sub-committee will review all applications. We thank everyone for their interest in the HRM Reaching Home Community Advisory Board but only those selected for membership will be contacted.