Toronto Alliance to End Homelessness congratulates
City of Toronto launch of Homelessness Shelter Data Dashboard

March 1, 2021: The Toronto Alliance to End Homelessness (TAEH) welcomes the new Shelter System Flow Data released by the City of Toronto today.

The data include information about people experiencing homelessness who are entering and leaving the shelter system each month. There are 6 key data points that improve on the data previously collected on occupancy rates in the shelter system.

With this new data we can, for the first time:
- Compare how many people enter and exit shelter and other City-funded services such as the hotel programs and warming centres each month.
- Learn more about people who are entering homelessness and how many are exiting to permanent housing or not.
- Filter by length of homelessness and demographic information.
- Access more robust information to inform the development of more successful housing options and homelessness prevention strategies
- Enhance our collective accountability for our actions in ending homelessness.

"Creating this new level of transparency and accountability is necessary for the evolution of our collective efforts to end homelessness, says **Mark Aston, TAEH Chair**. "To solve a problem, you have to truly know where you are starting from. Only then can you start to test better solutions, evaluate your progress accurately and adapt more quickly to the impact of your actions. It is a brave thing to do this openly, with real-time updates shared with the public. The City is to be congratulated on this important step forward."

This new and improved approach to collecting and using data is also essential to Toronto's developing Coordinated Access System to Housing and Supports. It will drive more evidence-based decision making about services, policy, and funding, not only for community service providers but for City government as well. This includes that the data is also available publicly through the Open Data Portal.

The TAEH is a partner in developing this dashboard and continues to work with the City in its next steps. These include expanding the data to capture more people experiencing homelessness in Toronto, such as people who are sleeping outdoors, and expanding the demographic information available.

"The City is proud to work in partnership with the Toronto Alliance to End Homelessness to improve how our homelessness system functions. Providing transparent and up-to-date information about people who are entering and exiting the shelter system is a critical step towards reducing homelessness in Toronto. TAEH have been an important partner in this work and will continue to play a pivotal role in using the data to inform decisions", **Mary-Anne Bédard, General Manager, SSHA, City of Toronto.**

Mark Aston is available for media interviews.

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The Toronto Alliance to End Homelessness (TAEH) is a collective impact initiative committed to achieving o**ur vision of zero chronic homelessness in Toronto.**

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