
District of Parry Sound



Social Services
Administration Board

Chief Administrative Officer's Report

May 2026

Mission Statement

To foster healthier communities by economically providing caring human services that empower and enable the people we serve to improve their quality of life.

2026 Provincial Budget Impacts

The 2026 Ontario Provincial Budget includes limited new investments directly impacting our work. In the area of social assistance, the government confirmed that both the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) and the Assistance for Children with Severe Disabilities (ACSD) will receive their next annual inflation-indexed increase in July 2026, continuing the current practice. The budget also mentioned the government's intent to "consider options to enhance the program integrity of Ontario Works," as part of a broader focus on efficiency.

With respect to supportive housing, the Province announced nearly \$53 million over three years to support the creation of more than 425 new units, (e.g. LOFT Bradford House and Indwell Community Homes) with wrap around mental health supports. However, this funding appears to be previously committed rather than net-new investment.

The budget also includes \$407 million over three years in new funding for community organizations to help offset rising operational costs. This funding will support services for individuals with developmental disabilities, as well as programs assisting survivors of gender-based violence.

In children's services, the previously announced \$20 million Liam Riazati Memorial Fund (December 2025) is reaffirmed, providing funding to community-based licensed child care providers to install protective barriers.

For more information: <https://budget.ontario.ca/2026/pdf/2026-ontario-budget-en.pdf>

'The Path Forward: DSSAB's Approach to Homelessness Prevention and Encampments'

The DSSAB's recent municipal engagement event, The Path Forward: DSSAB's Approach to Housing Loss Prevention and Encampments, held on April 23 in Magnetawan, was a significant success in strengthening collaboration across the district. The event brought together leadership and staff from all 22 member municipalities, alongside community partners, to build a shared understanding of prevention-focused approaches to housing instability and homelessness. Through presentations, practical guidance, and powerful lived-experience perspectives, the session fostered meaningful dialogue, learning, and alignment across jurisdictions. I would like to extend sincere appreciation to all 22 municipalities for their participation and continued partnership in advancing coordinated, district-wide solutions to end chronic homelessness.



OSUM Conference – May 1, 2026

On May 1st, I had the opportunity to participate as a panelist at the Ontario Small Urban Municipalities (OSUM) Conference, hosted in Parry Sound where I joined municipal leaders from across Ontario for a featured session entitled “Building Inclusive Communities: Balancing Growth with Social Responsibility,” moderated by Mayor Jamie McGarvey of Parry Sound. The discussion focused on the growing challenges facing small urban municipalities, including housing affordability, homelessness, population growth, and the importance of ensuring inclusive community development. I was pleased to share insights from the District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration Board’s work and discuss the importance of collaborative, community-based approaches to addressing housing and social service pressures while supporting sustainable growth across Northern and rural communities.

‘Everyday Impact’

We are proud to highlight Lori Murray as an integral member of our CCSM team. She brings a wealth of knowledge and experience to our department and provides exceptional support to families across the District of Parry Sound. Recently, Lori has been visiting EarlyON Hubs throughout the district, sharing her expertise on fee subsidy programs and connecting families with additional DSSAB services.

Lori is known for her compassion and kindness, consistently building strong relationships with both families and colleagues. Her many years with the organization have given her a deep understanding of our programs - so much so that around the office we often say, “When in doubt, call 1-800-Call-Lori.” Lori is a valued team member and a reliable, hardworking program support worker who makes a meaningful difference every day.



Licensed Child Care Programs

Total Children Utilizing Directly Operated Child Care in the District March 2026						
Age Group	Fairview ELCC	First Steps ELCC	Highlands ELCC	Waubee ELCC	HCCP	Total
Infant (0-18m)	1	1	0	1	10	13
Toddler (18-30m)	10	6	12	17	23	68
Preschool (30M-4y)	18	18	19	38	56	149
# of Active Children	29	25	31	56	89	230

School Age Programs

School Age Programs March 2026	
Location	Enrollment
Mapleridge After School	24
Mapleridge Before School	11
Home Child Care	20
# of Active Children	55



Inclusion Support Services – March 2026

Age Group	Early ON	Licensed ELCC	Monthly Total	Discharges	Referrals	Waitlist
Infant (0-18m)			0			
Toddler (18-30m)	2	6	8		3(1 EO, 2 LELCC)	
Preschool (30-47m)	7	40	47	1	2(LELCC)	
JK/SK (48m-6yr)	1	17	18		1(LELCC)	
School age (6 yr+)		2	2			
Monthly Total	10	65	75	1	6	0
Year to Date	12	70	82	6	16	0

Comments:

75 Children on active caseload. Of the 6 new referrals, 2 are for Speech and Language support and 4 are Social Emotional. Our five Resource Consultants had 112 site visits totalling 304.5 hours in programs supporting children.

EarlyON Child and Family Programs – March 2026

EarlyON Child and Family Centre Reporting Month: March 2026		
Activity	Monthly Total	Year to Date
Number of Child Visits	868	2463
Number of Unique Children served this month	291	
Number of Adult Visits	664	1857
Number of Unique Adults served this month	76	
Number of Professionals (New stat of July 1, 2025)	26	74
Number of Virtual Programming Events	2	4
Number of engagements Through social media	97	773
Number of views Through social media	22,731	61,157

Funding Sources for District Wide Childcare Spaces

Child Care Service Management

Total Children by Funding Source

March 2026

ACTIVE		
Funding Source	# of Children	# of Families
CWELCC	46	44
CWELCC Full Fee	224	221
Extended Day Fee Subsidy	2	2
Fee Subsidy	21	18
Full Fee	16	15
Ontario Works	2	2
Total Active:	311	302

NEW		
Funding Source	# of Children	# of Families
CWELCC	2	2
CWELCC Full Fee	3	3
Extended Day Fee Subsidy	0	0
Fee Subsidy	3	2
Full Fee	0	0
Ontario Works	0	0
Total New:	8	7

EXITS		
Funding Source	# of Children	# of Families
CWELCC	1	1
CWELCC Full Fee	0	0
Extended Day Fee Subsidy	0	0
Fee Subsidy	3	2
Full Fee	0	0
Ontario Works	0	0
Total Exits:	4	3

The District of Parry Sound Child Care Application Portal was launched on July 24, 2024. Since implementation, operators and child care service management staff have been working to "clean" the Application Portal by removing duplicates, training staff and assisting families with updating their profiles.

Data for March 2026

Number of Unique Children on the Application Portal		
890		
Children who Identify as Indigenous	Children Identifying Francophone Relatives	Prenatal Children
99	61	148

Unique Children Waiting for Care
483
Waiting for Care - This number represents the unique children who are currently applied for care. This includes children who may already be placed in a program and have applied to another. This also includes the number of children pre-registered for future care.

Year, Month

Multiple selections

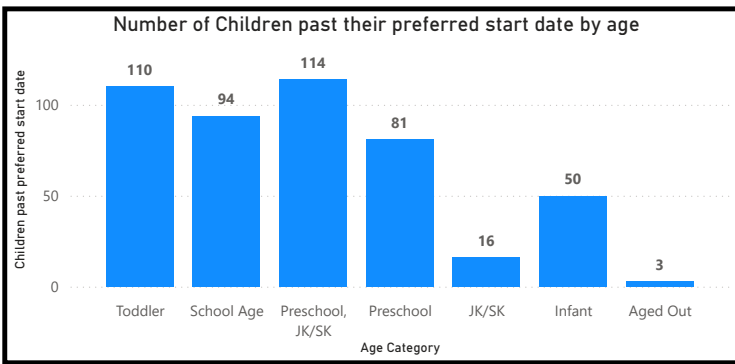
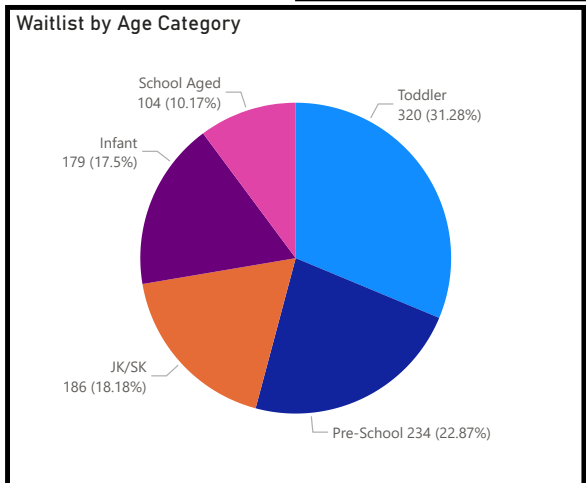
Month

March

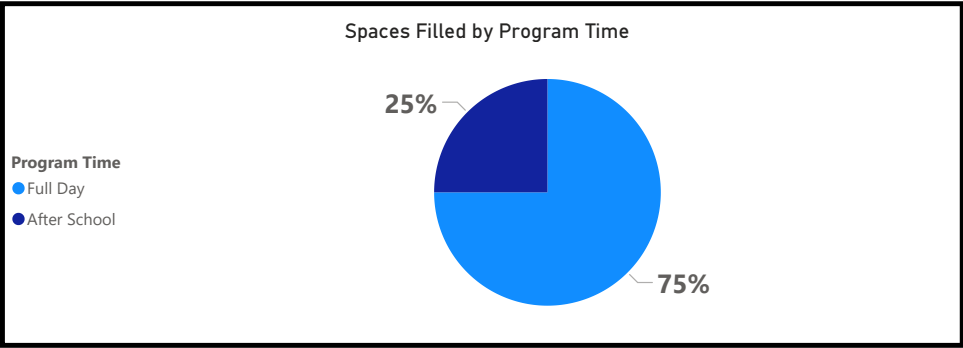
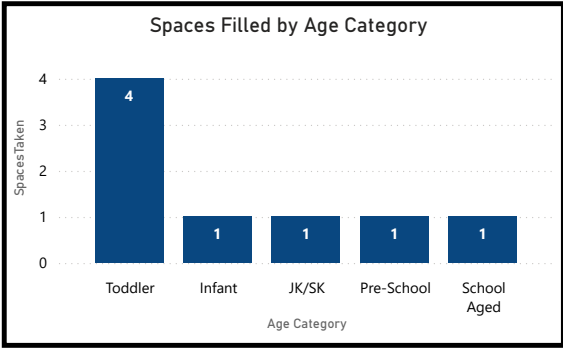
Additions to Application Portal
41

Unique Children - includes children waiting for care and those who are placed in care but have applied to other child care centres/programs. (ie: currently in an infant space and have also applied for JK/SK after school program) - Or - includes all children who have completed an application for child care

Total Number of Children past preferred start date (Unique)
475



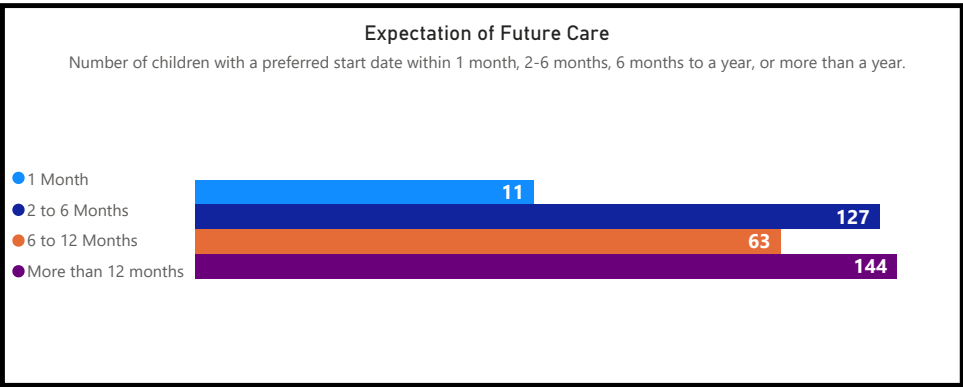
Year Month

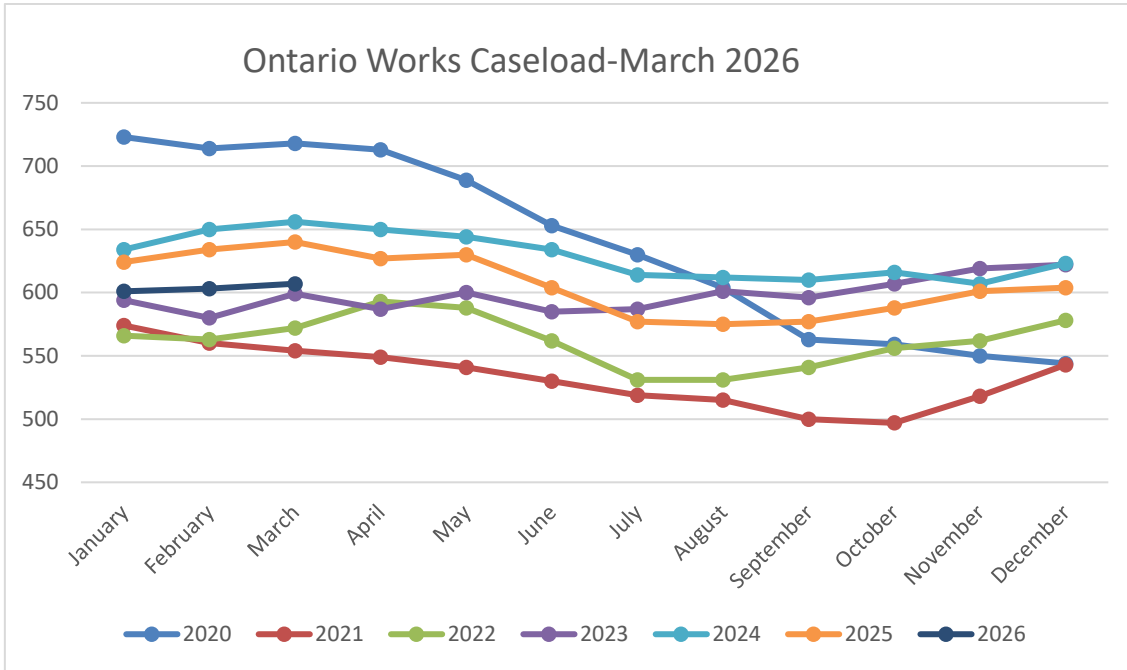


Children Placed	Spaces Filled
8	8

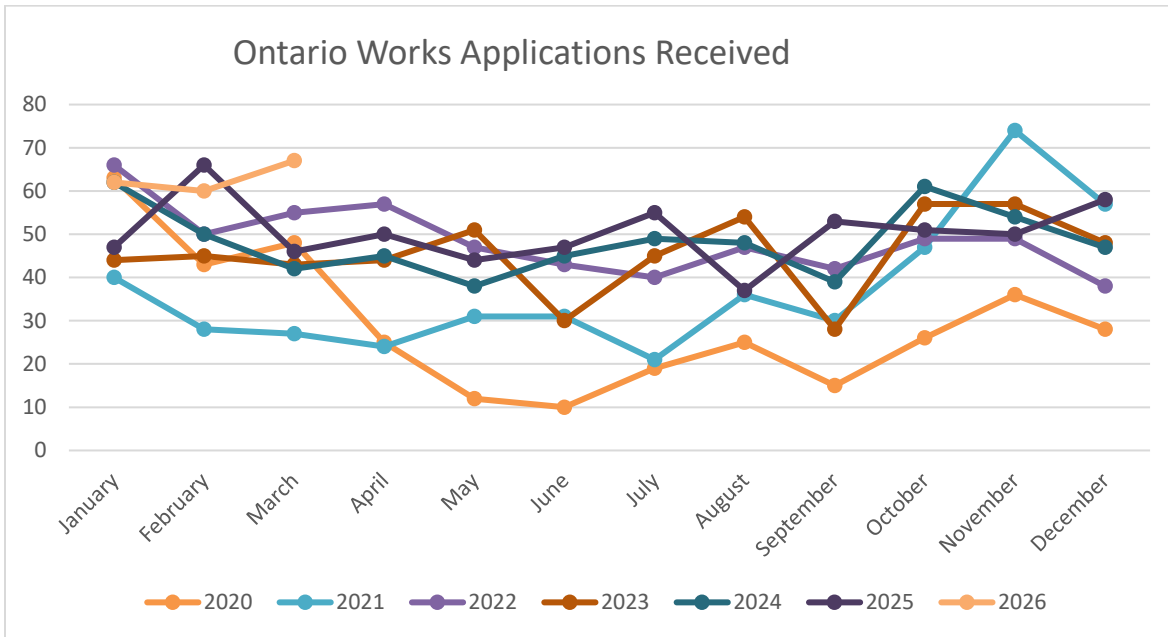
Children Placed - The number of unique children placed in a program.

Spaces Filled - The number of spaces filled by a child. A child may be placed in more than one space, ie: before school space and after school space.

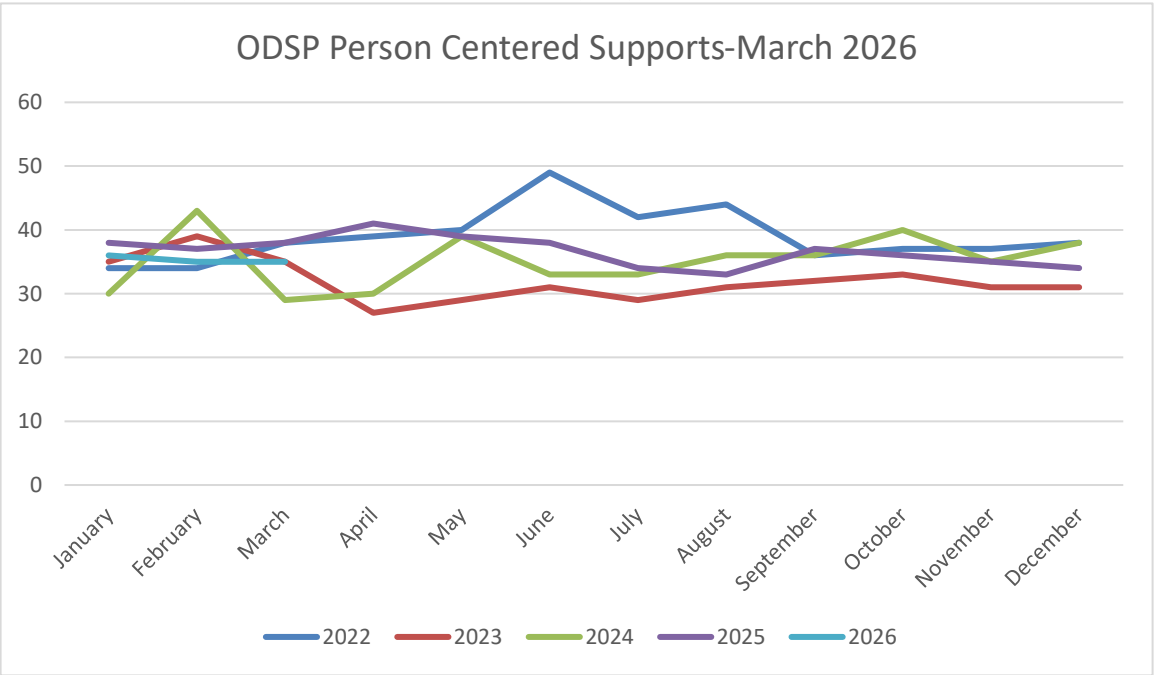




Ontario Works Intake - Social Assistance Digital Application (SADA) & Local Office Ontario Works Applications Received

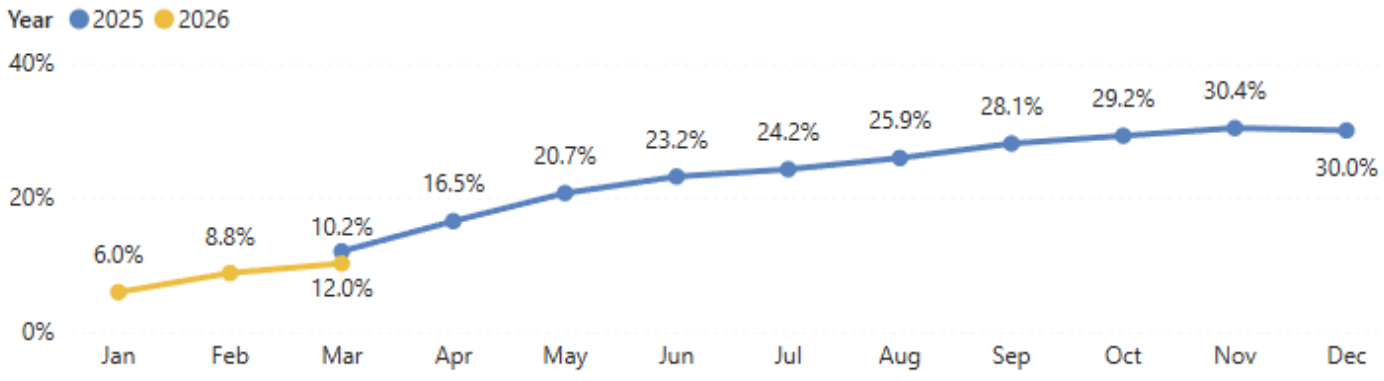


ODSP Participants in Ontario Works Employment Assistance

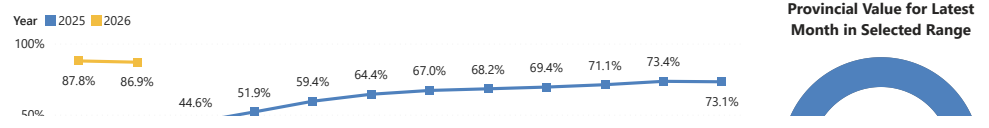


The OW Caseload continue to hold steady at **607** cases. We are providing **35** ODSP participants Person-Centred Supports. We also have **55** Temporary Care Assistance cases. **67** applications were received through the province’s Ontario Works Intake Unit (OWIU).

Percentage of OW + NDA Members with mandatory participation requirements that referred to EO (Cumulative Year-to-Date)

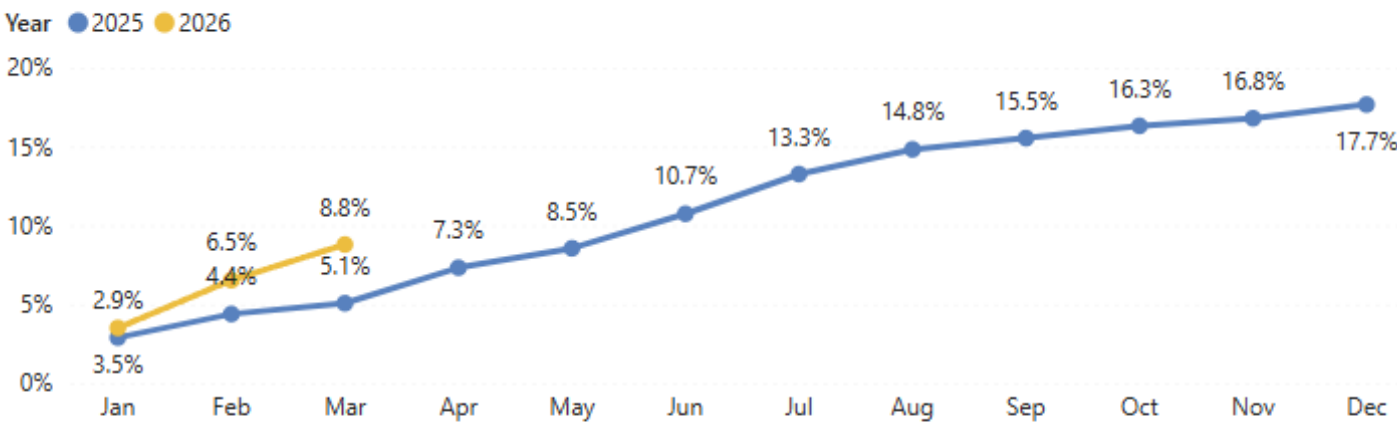


*NDA-Non-Disabled Adult
 Percentage of OW + NDA Members with mandatory participation requirements that have created a Social Assistance Action Plan (Cumulative Year-to-Date)*

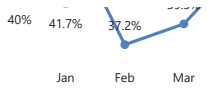
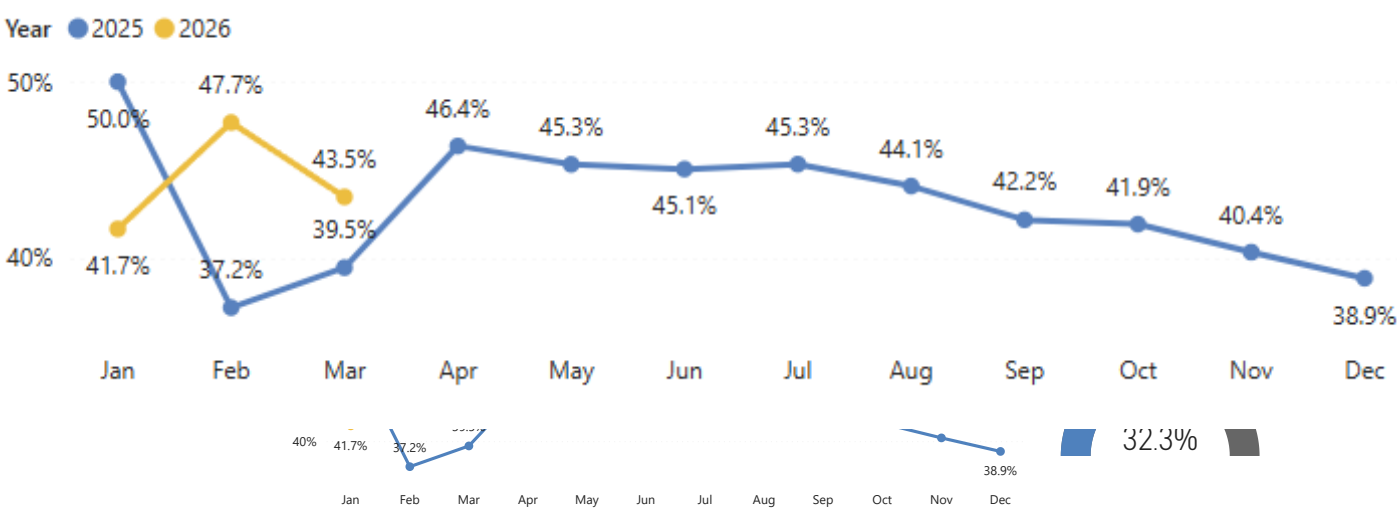


Provincial Value for Latest Month in Selected Range

Percentage of Ontario Works cases exiting to employment (Cumulative Year-to-Date)



Percentage of Ontario Works cases who exit the program and return within one year (Cumulative Year-to-Date)

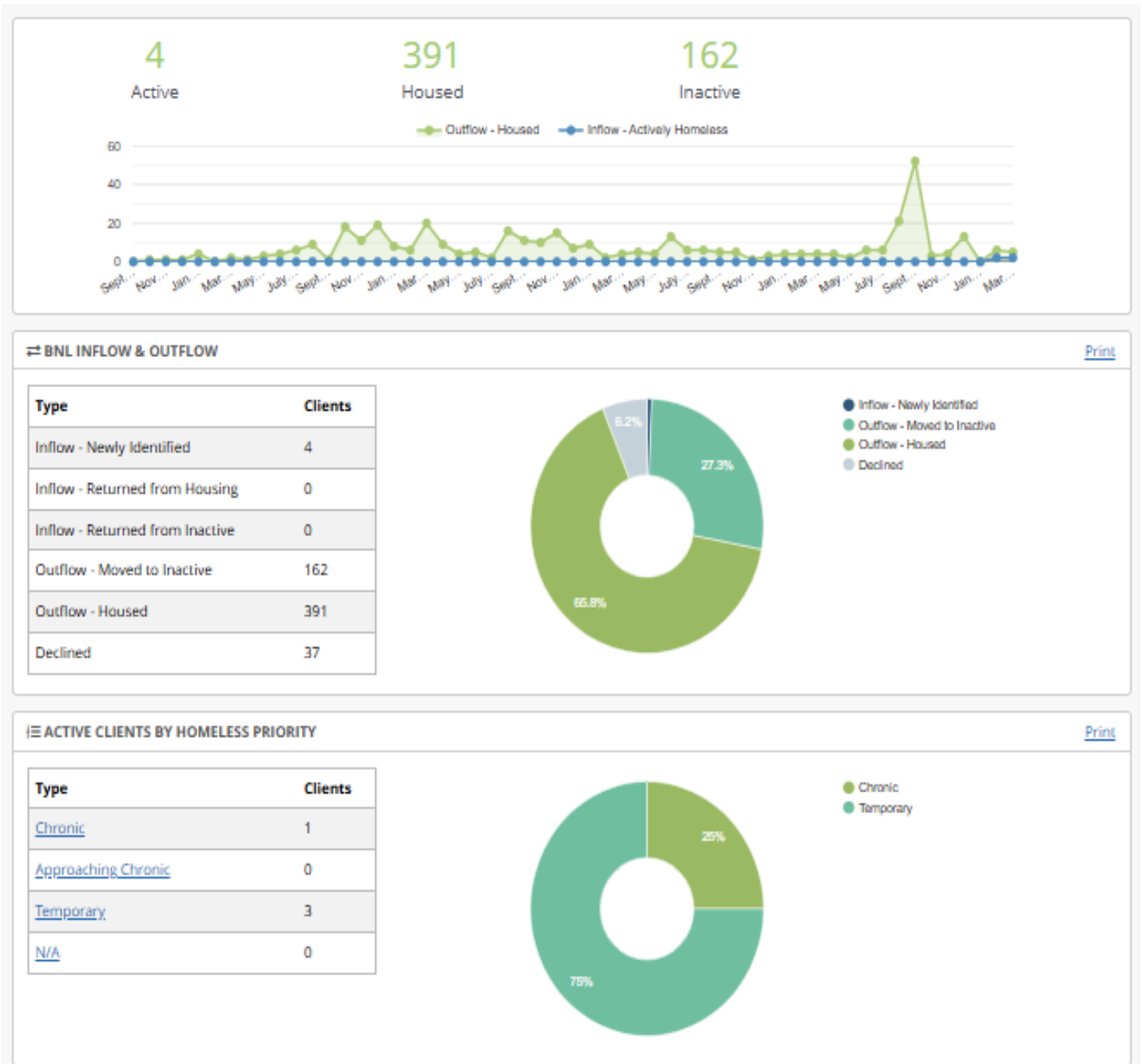


32.3%



By Name List

The By Name List is real-time list of all known people who are experiencing homelessness in our community that are willing to participate in being on the list and connecting with our agency for ongoing support to obtain affordable and sustainable housing. The individuals who are connected to this program are provided Intense Case Management supports with the foundations from Coordinated Access towards housing focused solutions.

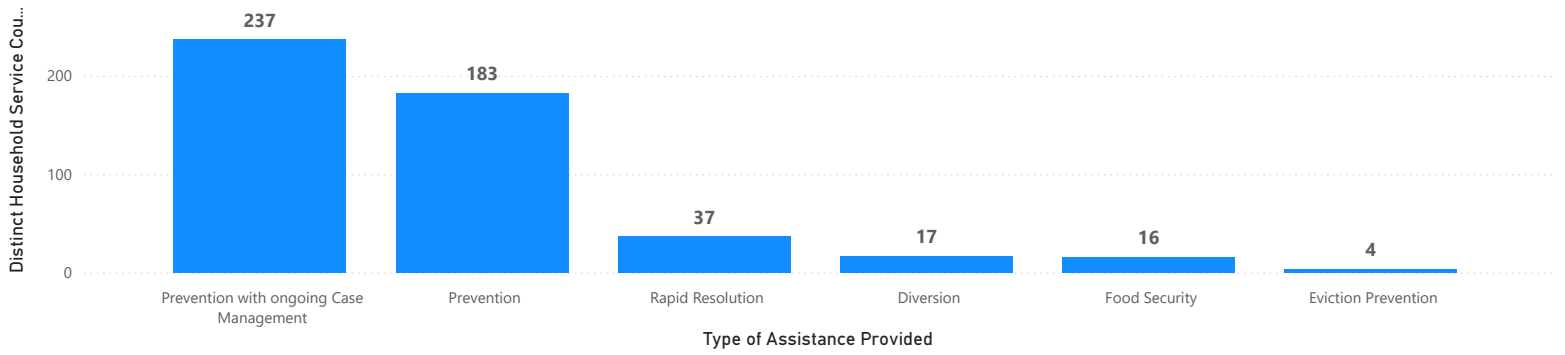


Year, Month

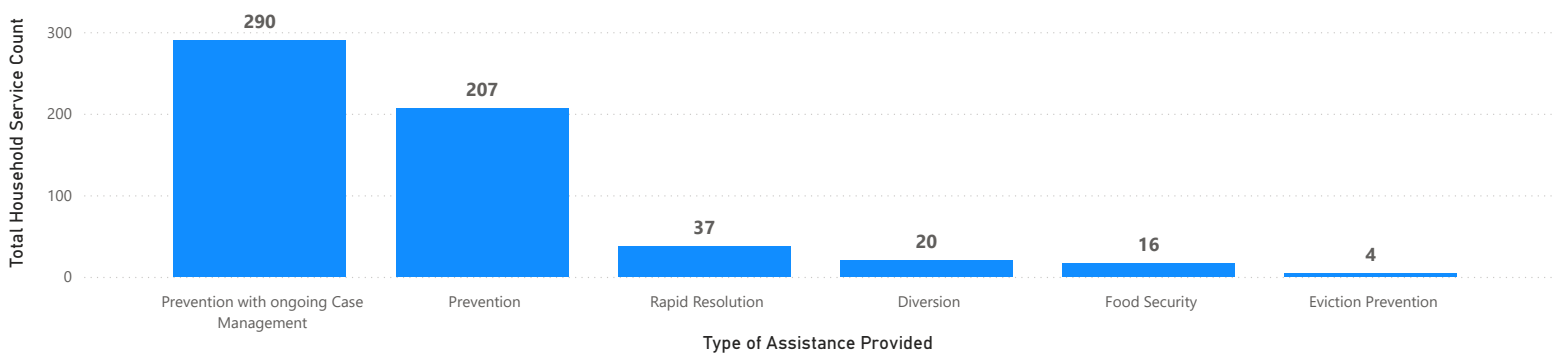
Multiple selections



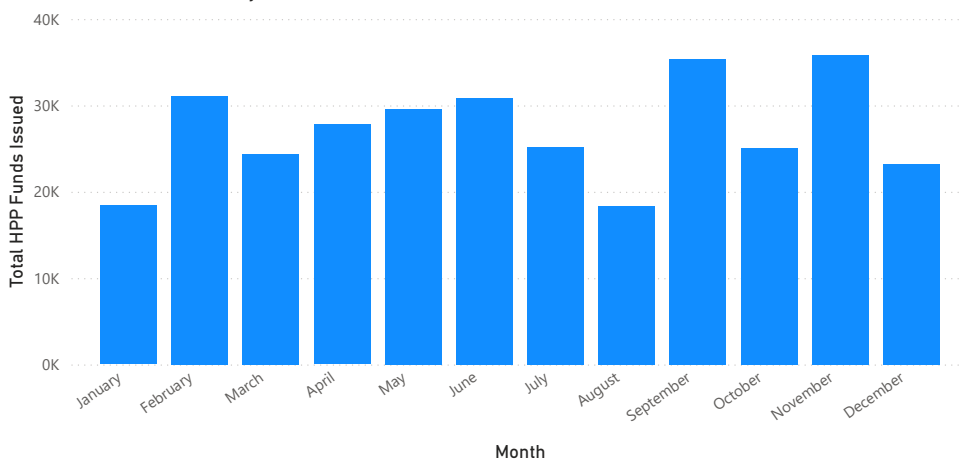
Distinct Household Service Count by Type of Assistance Provided



Total Household Service Count by Type of Assistance Provided



Total HPP Funds Issued by Month



Type of Assistance-HPP

All

Year, Month

Multiple selections

325,121.27

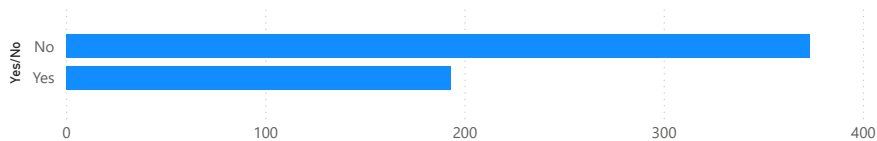
Total HPP Funds Issued

Provincial Priority Groups	Unique Households Served
Chronic Homelessness	24
Indigenous	16
Transitioning from Provincial Institution	3
Youth aged 16-25	26
Total	67

Income Source	Unique Households Served	Total HPP Funds Issued
OW	182	150,165.89
ODSP	124	112,705.91
Low Income Non Senior	88	23,941.24
Low Income Senior	65	38,308.23
Total	436	325,121.27

Housing Status	Unique Households Served
At Risk of Homelessness	373
Experiencing Homelessness (and not currently on BNL)	52
On BNL	28
Total	436

Has the client been issued HPP in the past?



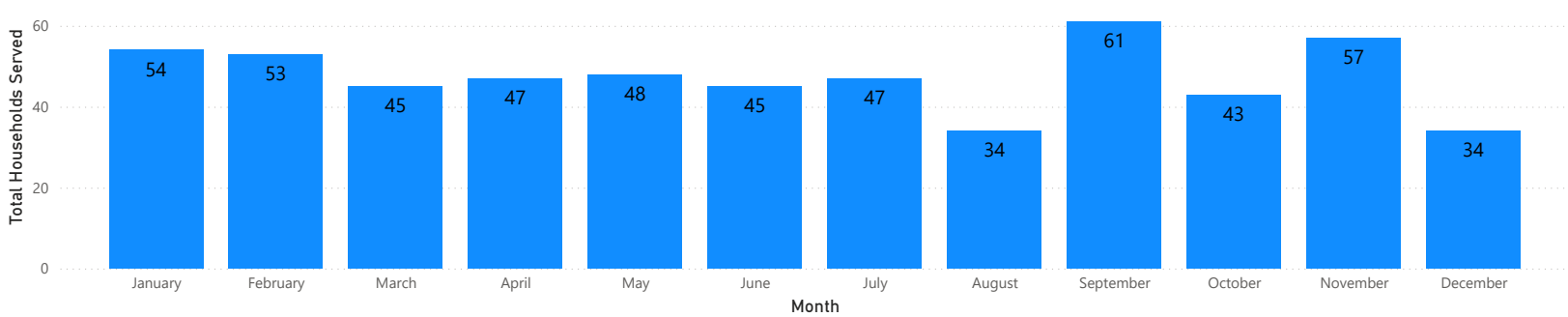
Type of Assistance Provided	Low Income Non Senior	Low Income Senior	ODSP	OW	Total
Diversion	4	3	4	6	17
Eviction Prevention	1	1	1	1	4
Food Security	1		3	12	16
Prevention	56	46	68	17	183
Prevention with ongoing Case Management	17	17	57	150	237
Rapid Resolution	14	4	7	12	37
Total	93	71	140	196	492

Year, Month

436
 Unique Households Served

568
 Total Households Served

Total Households Supported through HPP by Month-All



Housing Programs Update—March 2026

Social Housing Centralized Wait List Report			
	East	West	TOTAL
February 2026	Parry Sound	Parry Sound	
Seniors	52	141	193
Families	178	512	690
Individuals	585	177	762
TOTAL	815	830	1645
Total Wait List Unduplicated			451

Social Housing Centralized Wait List (CWL) 2025-2026 Comparison Applications and Households Housed from the CWL												
Month 2025	New APP	New SPP	Cancelled	Housed	SPP Housed	Month 2026	New App	New SPP	Cancelled	Housed	SPP Housed	
Jan	9			2		Jan	6	0	9			
Feb	8		2	3		Feb	11	2	5	1		
Mar	9	1	4	1		Mar	9		5	3	1	
Apr	6	1	10			Apr						
May	11		1	2		May						
June	12	2	1	2		June						
Jul	14			2	1	Jul						
Aug	9	1	1	2	1	Aug						
Sept	7	4	1	2	2	Sept						
Oct	8		1	1		Oct						
Nov	1	1	1			Nov						
Dec	7		5	2	1	Dec						
Total	101	10	27	19	5	Total	26	2	19	4	1	
						SPP = Special Priority Placement						

- Housing Programs approved nine new applications to the centralized waitlist in the month of March
- Five applications were cancelled; four applicants requested that their applications be cancelled, and one was removed from the waitlist due to having social housing arrears
- Three applicants were housed in March; one housed applicant held Special Priority status

HOUSING OPERATIONS AND SERVICE MANAGEMENT

March 2026 Statistical Information

Activity for Tenant Services

	CURRENT MONTH	YEAR TO DATE
Move-Outs	1	6
Move In (Centralized Waitlist along with Internal transfers)	2	5
L1/L2 Hearings	0	3
N4 Delivered to tenant or filed with the LTB– Notice of eviction for non-payment of rent	1	2
N5 Filed with the LTB– notice of eviction disturbing the quiet enjoyment of the other occupants	4	6
N6 Filed with the LTB –notice of eviction for illegal acts or misrepresenting income for RGI housing	0	0
N7 Filed with the LTB – notice of eviction for willful damage to unit	0	0
Repayment Agreements (new) (Formal & informal)	0	0
No Trespass Order	0	0
Mediation/Negotiation/Referrals	41	119
Tenant Home Visits/Wellness checks	37	124
Tenant Engagements/Education	6	13

Activity for Property Maintenance

Pest Control		Monthly pest control inspections were completed at 9 buildings. 32 units were inspected. Of the 32 units, 3 units required treatment.
Vacant units	7	Includes units requiring capital repairs
Vacant units: TMV	1	1 unit
After Hours Calls	26	A total of 26 after-hours service calls were received in March and responded to.
Work Orders	239	Work orders are created for our staff to complete routine maintenance repairs for all DSSAB/LHC Buildings Purchase Orders are for services, and materials required outside of the Housing Operations Department scope of work for the LHC/DSSAB properties
Purchase Orders	187	
Fire Inspections	11	11 Fire inspections completed on properties in February with Huronia Alarms/FPO's.
Annual Inspections	0	Annual inspections to begin May 2026 12 other inspections complete, ranging from: House Keeping, Move in & Move Outs, Post Construction, Pre Construction, Pests
Inspections (Other)	35	Housing keeping, Fire Prevention Officer follow up, pests, and preconstruction/postconstruction
Incident Reports	1	1 incident report submitted.

Capital Projects Monthly Report - March 2026

This monthly report provides an overview of capital project activities undertaken during March 2026. The month focused on moving the approved 2026 capital program into implementation planning, advancing procurement and approvals, completing select winter-related scopes, and positioning spring and summer projects for delivery. Key activity included completion of duct insulation, continued consultant procurement, contract award and kick-off planning for priority window replacements, permit issuance and scheduling, and continued budget review for scopes that remain deferred or on hold.

Hazardous Material Remediation and Water Damage Repairs

Remediation activity continued as required during March, with work progressing through planning, clearance, reinstatement, and closeout sequencing in accordance with applicable inspection and environmental protocols. Site inspections and coordination advanced attic remediation planning, while localized winter-related interior damage associated with ice damming continued to inform response and repair priorities. Several related scopes remain on hold or subject to further budget review pending final prioritization.

Plumbing, HVAC, and Duct Maintenance

HVAC maintenance and inspections continued during March to support reliable building operations. Duct insulation work at an administrative building was completed during the month. Follow-up leak detection remains ongoing, weather permitting, and interior repairs will proceed once the leak source has been confirmed resolved. Septic tank replacement planning also remained active through consultant procurement.

Doors, Siding, Painting, and Cosmetic Upgrades

No significant new district-wide door, painting, or cosmetic upgrade projects were mobilized during March. These scopes remained subject to prioritization within the broader 2026 capital work plan. Childcare walkway projects remained in the final stage, with completion anticipated in the near term, weather permitting. Siding and window replacement scopes continued to be reviewed, with several items deferred due to budget constraints and anticipated for reconsideration through the 2027 budget process.

Generator and Electrical Work

No major new generator installations or repair projects advanced during March. Electrical planning continued for future work, including investigation and scope development for electrical panel replacements in townhomes. Heater replacement work at an apartment complex advanced to RFQ issuance during the month; however, the project is expected to remain on hold due to budget limitations pending final direction.

Roofing and Eavestrough Projects

No major roof replacement or eavestrough projects were delivered during March. Winter response activity remained important, with ice-damming events continuing to inform repair priorities and reinforcing the need to identify measures that reduce recurring seasonal risk.

Structural Repairs, Infrastructure and Foundation Assessments

Structural and infrastructure work progressed across several priority projects during March. Building department requirements were advanced and a permit was issued for an apartment complex project, with scheduling underway. Planning for a new build also advanced to a revised three-storey, 88-unit concept with phase one planning underway. A driveway replacement project proceeded to contract award, with completion targeted for July 15, 2026. A parking lot paving project remained active, with a re-kick-off meeting scheduled for March 31, 2026, to support renewed coordination and implementation planning.

Security Enhancements

No new security enhancement projects were undertaken during March. Existing measures remained in place and operational, with ongoing monitoring continuing to support building safety and access control across the portfolio.

Consulting and Engineering Contracts

Consultant and engineering activity remained a significant component of the capital program during March. Consultant procurement continued for septic tank replacements and related technical support. Window replacements at childcare facilities advanced materially, with board approval received, contract award completed, and kick-off scheduling underway. These activities reflect continued emphasis on front-end planning, procurement discipline, and sequencing work so projects can move efficiently into implementation.

Childcare Capital Acceleration

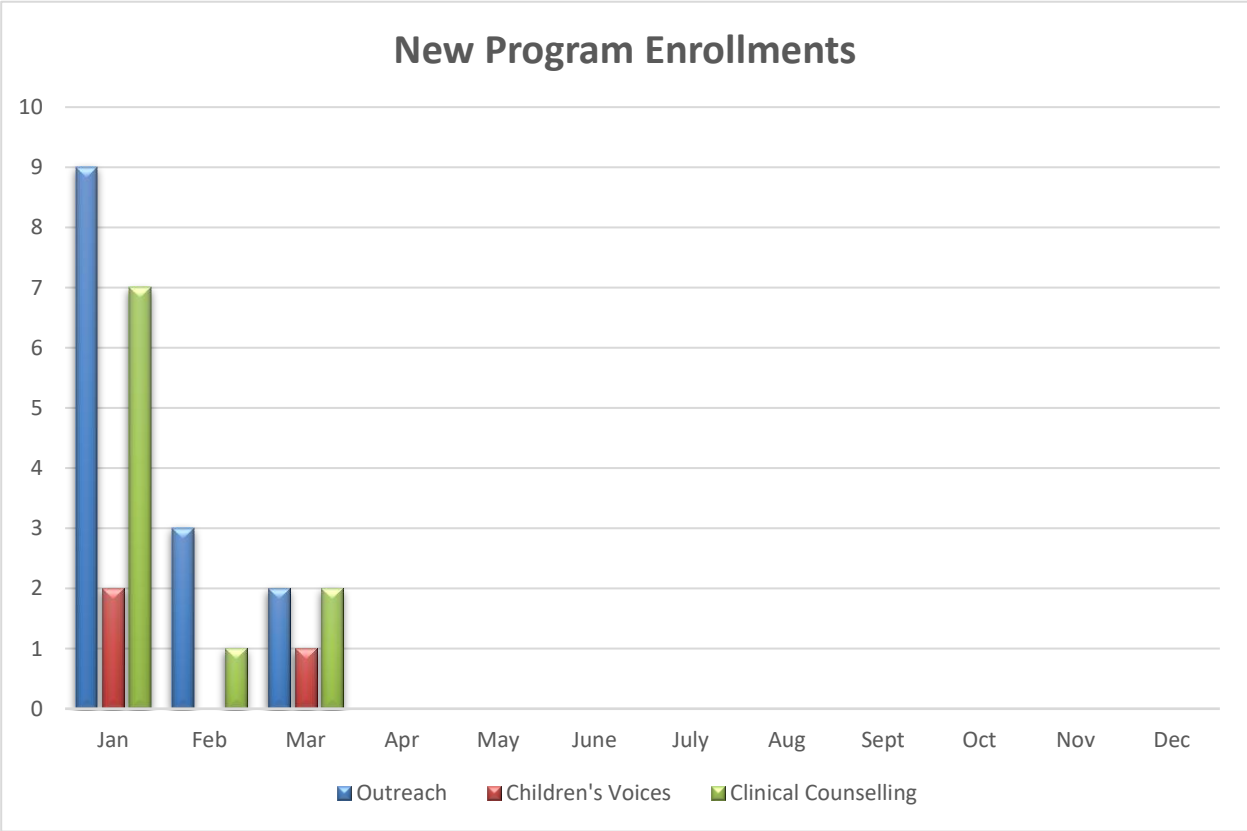
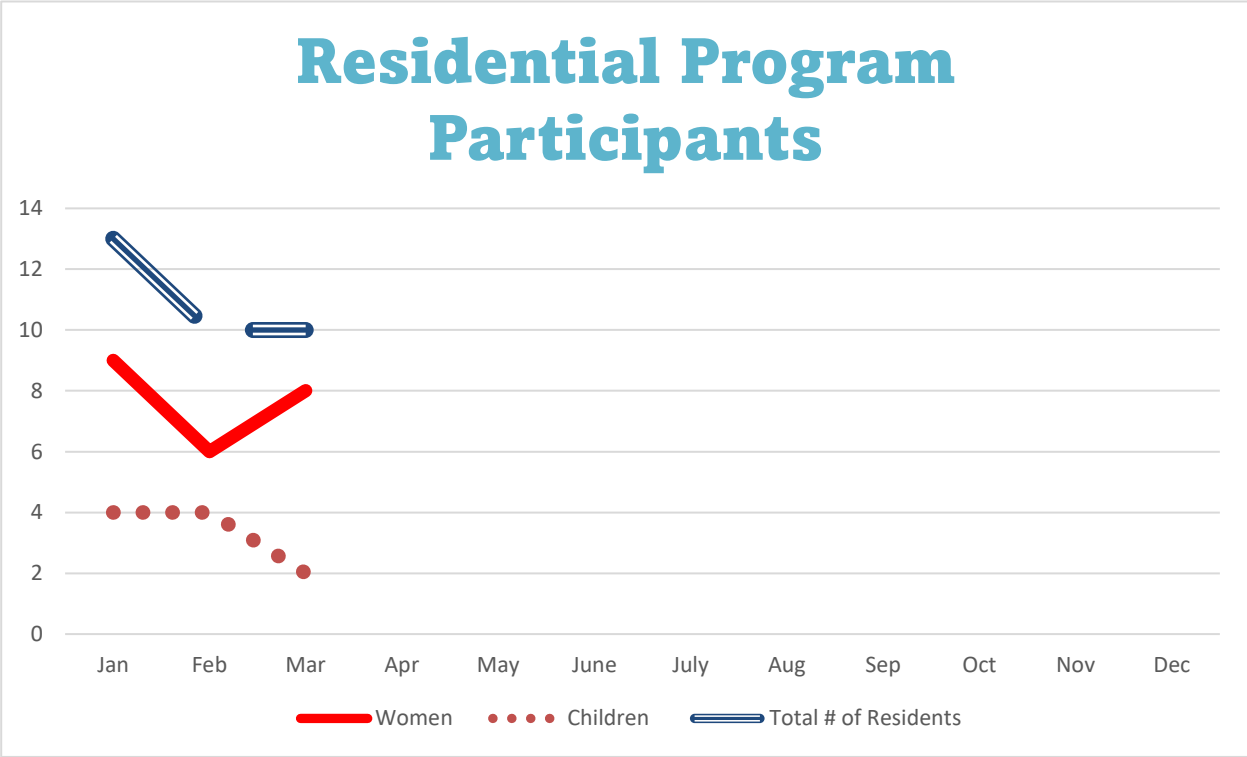
Childcare-related capital activity remained selective during March, with efforts focused primarily on window and walkway-related scopes. Window replacements advanced to award and mobilization planning, while childcare walkway improvements moved toward completion subject to weather. No other major childcare acceleration initiatives were undertaken during the reporting period.

Completion Highlights (March 2026)

March was defined by continued mobilization of the approved 2026 capital program and preparation of multiple scopes for spring and summer delivery. Key accomplishments included completion of duct insulation, board approval and contract award for window replacements, permit issuance and scheduling activity, advancement of the revised three-storey, 88-unit new build concept, and contract award for driveway replacements with a July 15, 2026, completion target. The month also provided further clarity on projects requiring future budget consideration, including administrative building windows, siding projects, ceiling tile replacements, and heater replacements.

In summary, March demonstrated steady progress in moving the 2026 capital program from planning into active delivery preparation. Procurement, consultant coordination, design development, and site-specific investigation work continued to establish a clear foundation for implementation. The next reporting period will focus on advancing Belvedere paving, mobilizing Waubeek window replacements, continuing phase one planning for the revised Waubeek build, finalizing scheduling at Callander, supporting contract delivery for Dublin driveways, and continuing procurement and budget review for projects that remain in planning or on hold.

Esprit Place Family Resource Centre Update – February 2026



Social Media Stats

Facebook –District of Parry Sound Social Services Administration	NOV 2025	DEC 2025	JAN 2026	FEB 2026	MAR 2026	APR 2026
Total Page Followers	791	797	819	837	841	849
Post Reach this Period (# of people who saw post)	23,572	5332	26,803	56,115	16,807	9473
Post Engagement this Period (# of reactions, comments, shares)	178	132	913	1,760	847	261

Facebook -Esprit Place Family Resource Centre	NOV 2025	DEC 2025	JAN 2026	FEB 2026	MAR 2026	APR 2026
Total Page Followers	248	249	250	251	251	251
Post Reach this Period (# of people who saw post)	17,684	2136	884	308	1972	275
Post Engagement this Period (# of reactions, comments, shares)	189	34	10	3	15	2

DSSAB LinkedIN Stats https://bit.ly/2YyFHIE	NOV 2025	DEC 2025	JAN 2026	FEB 2026	MAR 2026	APR 2026
Total Followers	579	585	594	598	601	604
Search Appearances (in last 7 days)	170	147	154	80	60	35
Total Page Views	77	23	44	50	33	9
Post Impressions	2,953	1124	1521	1735	1465	666
Total Unique Visitors	29	16	21	20	16	7

Instagram - Esprit Place Family Resource Centre https://www.instagram.com/espritplace/	NOV 2025	DEC 2025	JAN 2026	FEB 2026	MAR 2026	APR 2026
Total Followers	115	115	117	120	122	45
# of accumulated posts	81	81	81	81	82	82