

Types of



# AFFORDABLE HOUSING SUPPORTS

## in Ontario for Gender-Based Violence Survivors

### Quick Facts:

- There are housing related supports for survivors of gender-based violence (GBV) who live in Ontario
- There are GBV Workers who specialize in supporting survivors of gender-based violence to help you access housing related services and supports
- There is no requirement that you live in a shelter to access support in finding housing

Learn more about Transitional Supports: [bit.ly/UnderstandingTHSPEnglish](https://bit.ly/UnderstandingTHSPEnglish)

Find a shelter or transitional program: [www.mulberryfinder.ca](http://www.mulberryfinder.ca)



### Rent-Geared-To-Income (RGI) Housing:

RGI housing is a type of subsidized/affordable housing offered by cities, districts, counties or regions across Ontario. In RGI housing, rent is calculated based on household income. Typically, this is calculated at 30% of the household's monthly net income. General RGI wait times are extremely high across Ontario as there is a housing shortage.



Access a longer version of this resource/other languages:  
[mulberryfinder.ca/HousingSupports](http://mulberryfinder.ca/HousingSupports)



## Special Priority Program (SPP):

SPP aims to provide survivors of gender-based violence and human trafficking with quicker access to RGI housing. However, wait times can still be significant and vary across communities.



## Canada-Ontario Portable Benefit (COHB):

COHB is a *temporary/time limited* portable benefit that can be used to access housing through private market rentals. The amount of COHB is calculated based on the difference between 30% of your household income and 80% of the average market rent in the area. The availability and amount of COHB varies across areas.



## Municipal Rent Supplements/Rent Subsidies:

Rent supplements/subsidies are a temporary and time-limited benefit provided to low-income individuals and families at risk of homelessness. Funds are provided that can help pay for rent in the private market, but often this is short-term. Rent Supplements/Subsidies may be available directly from your municipality.



## Transitional Housing, Supportive Housing and Second-Stage Housing:

Transitional Housing, Supportive Housing, and Second Stage housing programs offer short-term affordable housing accommodations during transitional periods/stages.

- Rental rates are often geared-to-income.
- Wrap around supports including counselling, employment and income supports among others, may be available through the transitional housing organization.
- Additional safety measures (physical building features, restrictions on who can be in the building) may also be in place for transitional and second stage housing designed for survivors of GBV.

Transitional and Second-Stage Housing organizations are located across Ontario. Some transitional housing units are connected directly to local shelters and may be located within close proximity to the shelter. Transitional housing organizations may operate distinctly from the local shelter and units may also be located elsewhere in the community. Applications are handled directly by Transitional Housing Organizations.

# LEARN MORE OR APPLY:

Contact your local  
housing Service Manager:



See a list of all Service Managers:  
[bit.ly/FindServiceManagerOntario](https://bit.ly/FindServiceManagerOntario)

Contact your local  
GBV organization:



See a list of all Transitional  
Programs in Ontario:  
[www.mulberryfinder.ca/THSP](https://www.mulberryfinder.ca/THSP)