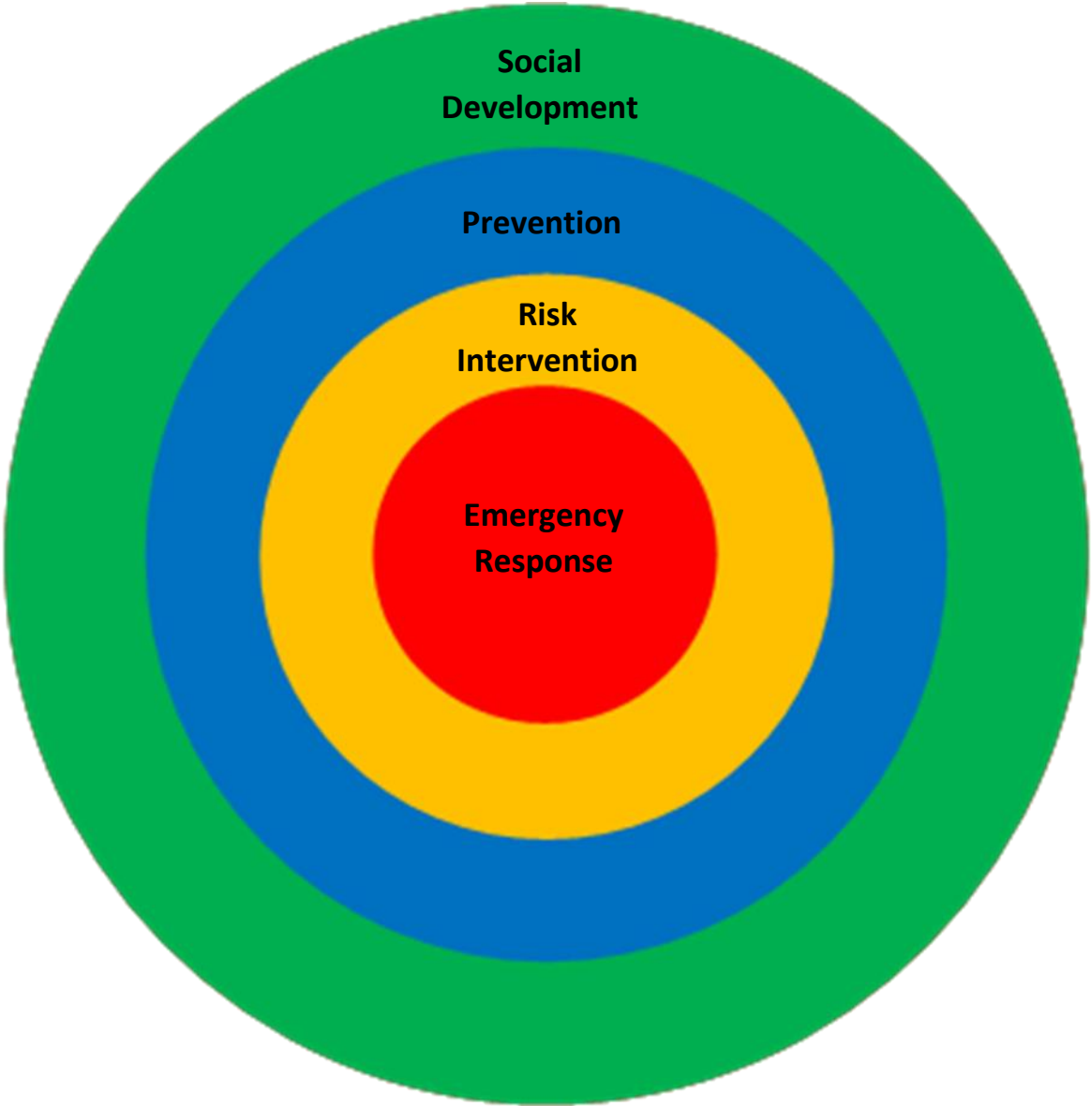# Township of Manitouwadge Community Safety and Well-Being Plan

A Collaborative Plan 2022-2025

Community Safety and Well-Being Plan

Social
Development

Prevention

Risk
Intervention

Emergency
Response

Table of Contents

BEST PEOPLE. BEST METHODS. BEST RESULTS.

Executive Summary

The Township of Manitouwadge has developed a community safety and well-being plan to identify priority areas within our community where collaborative initiatives and services can be implemented to improve local outcomes related to safety and well-being for individuals and families.

Community feedback was provided by local agencies and the general public throughout the development phase of this plan. The analysis of community feedback highlighted three priority areas for community safety and well-being planning. The three priority areas outlined in this plan include:

1. Mental Health and Addictions
2. Affordable Housing
3. Access to Services

A community well-being and safety committee structure and priority action plan have been developed to ensure gaps identified through the community engagement phase are being addressed. During the engagement and plan development phase, local service providers and the public identified existing best practices and initiatives as well as areas for improvement in their community. The committee structure has been developed to support existing best practices and to strengthen local collaboration to address the identified needs in each priority area.

All action items outlined in the CSWB priority plans were developed using the following guiding success factors:

COMMUNITY COLLABORATION: Focuses on the engagement and commitment from local community agencies, organizations, community groups, and residents to support the on-going implementation and sustainability of action items outlined in this plan.

DATA INFORMED: Focuses on identifying priority neighbourhoods or areas within the community that require additional levels of support. De-identified data is gathered and analyzed to determine opportunities for mobilizing services to meet the needs of individuals and families.

RISK-DRIVEN: Community collaboration and evidence-based decision making will allow for targeted service delivery and initiative development resulting in the prevention of circumstances of risk in our community.

The Township of Manitouwadge CWSB Plan provides a local framework and action plan to address community needs in three priority areas – mental health and addictions, affordable housing, and access to services.

Community Profile

The Township of Manitouwadge is located in the heart of the Boreal forest with the Canadian Shield as our backdrop.

With a population of approximately 2,000 people, the Township is situated halfway between Sault Ste. Marie and Thunder Bay, and is located on Highway 614, 50 kilometres north of Highway 17.

The Township offers year-round outdoor adventure and is a full-service community that provides a quality of life second-to-none. With a vast system of trails for hiking, snow-shoeing, off-roading and snowmobiling; pristine lakes and rivers that offer excellent fishing, canoeing and kayaking; facilities for golfing and downhill or cross-country skiing -- Manitouwadge is a hidden gem that provides something for everyone.

BEST PEOPLE. BEST METHODS. BEST RESULTS.

Community Safety and Well-Being Planning Framework

The Provincial government has provided a framework to guide planning. The framework focuses on four domains of intervention: **incident response, risk intervention, prevention, and social development**. The CSWB framework also applies a collective impact approach to work collaboratively across sectors and throughout communities to address complex social issues.
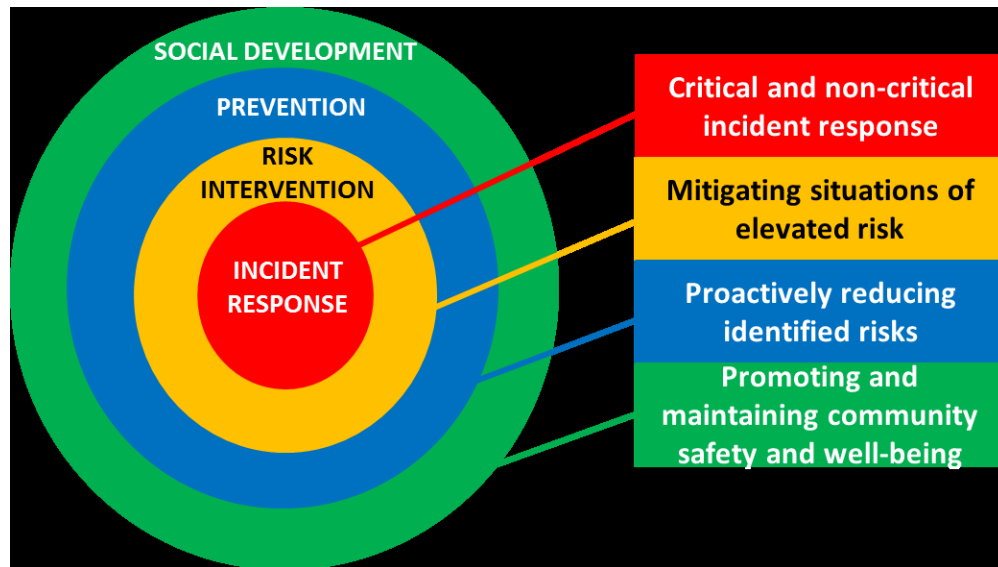
As part of the legislation, municipalities are required to develop and adopt community safety and well-being plans working in partnership with a multi-sectoral advisory committee. This committee is comprised of representation from the Police Service Board and other local service providers in health care, education, community/social services, and children/youth services. "The Community Safety and Well-Being Framework allows municipalities to take a leadership role in identifying and addressing priority risks in their communities through proactive, collaborative strategies that ensure vulnerable populations receive the help they need from the providers best suited to support them."(Citation1:CSWB Toolkit #2 - https://www.mcscs.jus.gov.on.ca/sites/default/files/content/mcscs/docs/ec167634.pdf)

The Township of Manitouwadge community safety and well-being plan is a living document that will guide communities, stakeholders, and residents in the management of identified risks. CSWB planning is a long-term commitment focused on working collectively and collaboratively to effectively achieve a safer and healthier community for all. No single agency, or group, can achieve it alone and as a community, we are committed to working together to achieve these goals.

BEST PEOPLE. BEST METHODS. BEST RESULTS.

Community Feedback

The development phase of this Plan included information gathering from local stakeholders and residents. Community feedback was collected through online surveys, virtual meetings, and review of existing plans/reports.

Information gathered from local agencies highlighted local best practices and areas for improvement throughout this planning period. Survey results from the general public provided feedback on the priority areas for this report as well as the level of satisfaction with services and supports related to community safety and well-being.

Below is an overview of groups invited to provide feedback in the development phase of this plan.
- <u>Community Agencies</u>: Service delivery agents in the health care, social services, police, and education sectors were invited to complete a key stakeholder questionnaire and/or a one-on-one interview.
- <u>Municipal Government Representatives</u>: Municipal staff and representatives were invited to participate in group consultations and/or one-on-one interviews.
- <u>Members of the Public</u>: A community survey was used to ensure that residents had an opportunity to participate in the priority risk identification phase.

The efforts put forth by each of the partnering members led to the identification of three priority risk areas.
1. Mental Health and Addictions
2. Affordable Housing
3. Access to services

CSWB Community Survey Results Summary

The table below includes a summary of responses received from the community survey.

Public survey total responses = 409			
Highest percentage of survey responses by age group	Age 25 to 34 = **19%**	Age 35 to 44 = **22%**	Age 55 to 64 = **23%**
Percentage of individuals that feel safe or somewhat safe in their community	Yes, I feel safe = **75%**		I feel somewhat safe = **23%**
Highest percentage of survey responses by overall general health categories	Very good = **17%**	Good = **50%**	Fair = **19%**
Areas for consideration in action planning	1. Recreation activities and special events 2. Availability of affordable housing 3. Availability of grocery stores 4. Access to public transportation		

BEST PEOPLE. BEST METHODS. BEST RESULTS.

Community Safety and Well-Being Committee Structure

The Community Safety and Well-Being Committee structure was developed to ensure the following commitments:

- Community partners with the expertise required to address priority areas will be engaged to collaborate;

- Break down silos through data sharing and on-going communication;

- Use a strength-based and asset-based approach to enhance the current service delivery model to address identified gaps and needs.

Roles and Responsibilities of Community Safety and Well-Being Committees

Committee Name	Local Leadership Committee
Committee Members	**Municipal representatives, key stakeholder leadership**
Roles	• Share knowledge and information about priority risks and vulnerable populations in the community; • Support implementation of action items; • Strengthen stakeholder partnerships in the community; • Explore resource and cost sharing for the implementation of community safety and well-being programs and initiatives; • Ensure equity, inclusion, and accessibility in programs and initiatives.
Responsibilities	• Determining the local priority areas; • Identify desired goals for each planning cycle to guide the development of on-going community programs and collaborative initiatives; • Determine length of the implementation of the Plan, set dates for reviewing achievements and for developing the next version of the plan.

Committee Name	CSWB Planning Committee
Committee Members	**Multi-sector agency representation**
Roles	• Ensure appropriate data related to the plan is collected on an on-going basis; • Develop and deliver reports for the Local Leadership Committee; • Provide updates with regard to risk factors, new partnerships, and barriers to Local Leadership Committee and general public; • Ensure front-line staff are engaged in the participation of sub-committees based on their area of expertise.
Responsibilities	• Provide updates reports to the Local Leadership Committee; • In collaboration with key partners, ensure necessary organizations are included in planning and implementation;

- Serve as a rallying point for public support for the plan;

- Ensure residents are included and contributing to the implementation and sustainability phases.

Guiding Success Factors for Priority Planning

Action items outlined in the CSWB plan were developed based on three guiding success factors. These success factors will be used to guide the on-going planning and implementation phase to ensure gaps and needs are being addressed in the current service delivery model.

1. **COMMUNITY COLLABORATION**: Addressing local priorities involves the engagement of agency expertise to deliver collaborative wrap around services to individuals in the community. Agencies with similar vision and goals can combine resources and deliver more accessible, holistic services.

2. **DATA INFORMED**: Local data will be collected and analyzed to determine neighbourhoods or places that could benefit from additional community supports. A data committee will be formed to ensure data is properly mapped, analyzed and reported to CSWB committees. Evidence based decision making will be a key component in the implementation of programs and initiatives implemented through this plan.

3. **COMMUNITY MOBILIZATION**: Local service locations remain at a distance for many individuals that experience transportation barriers in the community. Data and service mapping will be used to highlight the areas with high needs and compare to service access locations. The community mobilization committee will lead the delivery of community engagement and collaborative service delivery directly in the areas with the highest need.

Priority Actions

Establish Committees

The development of the community safety and well-being committee will be the first action item delivered through this plan. Key stakeholders will be engaged to join a committee based on their area of expertise. In some cases, existing community committees will be engaged to act as one of the CSWB committees described earlier in this plan. The following committees will be established to oversee the on-going development and implementation of action items.

1. Local Leadership Committee
2. CSWB Planning Committee

Community Mapping and Service Inventory

Agencies that serve the community offer a variety of services that assist with supporting aspects of the identified priority risks outlined in this plan. Initial stages of community safety and well-being planning implementation will focus on service mapping to identify areas for improvement within the current delivery model.

The community safety and well-being planning committee in collaboration with the data committee will complete a community mapping project to identify the range of services available under each priority area. This project will also identify the local areas or neighbourhoods with the most need. The community mapping projects will require data sharing related to program eligibility, waitlist numbers, and calls for service. Analysis of the community mapping project will identify areas in the community with the highest priority needs and the type of services required to support that population group. Service delivery locations will be mapped out in this community project to determine accessibility of services and opportunities for community hub locations or mobile support teams.

Mental Health Crisis Intervention Team

"Mental health crisis intervention teams provide an integrated, community-based response to individuals experiencing mental health and/or addictions issues. They aim to reduce the amount of time police officers spend dealing with calls that would be better handled by a trained mental health specialist and divert individuals experiencing a mental health crisis from emergency rooms and the criminal justice system (*Community Safety and Well-Being Booklet #3*)".

Explore opportunities to deliver collaborative police and mental health services for individuals experiencing emergency situations related to mental health and addictions. Police and mental health workers respond to calls for service related to mental health and addictions. Individuals are assessed upon response and either admitted to hospital or connected to local services for longer term supports.

Local Priority Areas

Three priority areas were identified through the community engagement phase.

1. Mental Health and Addictions
2. Affordable Housing
3. Access to Services

Each priority area has several action items for implementation throughout this plan cycle. The priority plans will be used to initiate collaborative and community-based service delivery. The delivery of action

items in these priority plans will assist the CSWB committees in gathering key information from agencies and residents to determine on-going program development and community engagement activities.

PRIORITY #1: MENTAL HEALTH AND ADDICTIONS

Risk Factors	Behavioural problems, poor mental health, negative influences in youth's life, long waitlists, availability of drugs.
Protective Factors	Effective problem-solving skills, personal coping strategies, adequate parental behaviour and practices, access to resources, professional services, and social supports, positive - cohesive communities.
Strategies	1. Deliver community mobilization services in neighbourhoods with the most need. 2. Mental health crisis intervention team– explore opportunities for health services and police services to work in partnership and respond to calls for service related to mental health and addictions crisis. 3. Situation Table – identify and provide collaborative supports for local cases of acutely elevated risk of harm or victimization.

Action Item #1	Establish Community Support Teams
Strategy Overview	The planning committee will use the mapping project to identify priority neighbourhoods and places in the community. Areas with higher levels of crisis response will be the initial focus for this action item. Multi-agency groups will be formed or enhanced to deliver accessible wrap-around services to those most in need of supports near where they live.
Key Partners	Health care agencies Social service agencies Police services Education institutions and providers
Pillar	**Prevention**

Action Item #2	Situation Table
Strategy Overview	A rapid response situation table has been established in this area. The CSWB committees will provide on-going support and encourage participation from other community partners. The situation table will meet at least once per week, increasing to twice weekly if needed.
Key Partners	Marathon Situation Table members Neighbouring community representation
Pillar	**Risk Intervention**

Action Item #3	Mental health crisis intervention teams
Strategy Overview	Community partners in the health care and police services sectors will explore opportunities to enhance existing services with the establishment of a mental health crisis intervention team. In this case, police calls for service related to mental health and addictions will be dispatched to the mental health crisis team. This collaborative initiative will ensure that individuals are properly assessed at the time of police response and those same individuals are connected to necessary services for long-term supports.
Key Partners	Health care agencies Social service agencies Police Services
Pillar	**Emergency Response**

Immediate Outcomes:	- Increased public and partner education, awareness of community safety and well-being; - Increase public awareness of existing mental health and addictions programs and services; - Promote the earlier intervention for mental health crisis through integration of mental health specialists into both emergency response and primary health care.
Intermediate Outcomes:	- Increase capacity for early intervention related mental health and addictions risk factors; - Highlight opportunities for identified areas of growth for mental health services and systems; - One-stop service delivery offered in priority neighbourhoods or places.

BEST PEOPLE. BEST METHODS. BEST RESULTS.

Long-Term Outcome:	• Increase access to mental health and addictions supports.

PRORITY #2: AVAILABILITY OF AFFORDABLE HOUSING

Risk Factors	Sense of alienation, families with few resources, feeling unsafe in neighbourhoods, lack of affordable housing, lack of accessibility to a continuum of services
Protective Factors	Close friendships with positive peers, positive support within the family, positive cohesive communities, appropriate housing near services, high awareness of determinants of well-being.
Strategies	1. Homelessness Prevention 2. Emergency Shelter and Supportive Housing Asset Mapping 3. Community Mobilization

Action Item #1	**Homelessness Prevention**
Strategy Overview	Homelessness prevention strategies will focus on implementing initiatives or delivering accessible supports to population groups most at-risk of homelessness as well as individuals experiencing chronic homelessness. Collect and analyze local statistics related to homelessness. This information will be used to prepare an implementation report. The report will outline themes related to homelessness in the community (i.e., Number of individuals considered "hidden homeless or couch surfing".) The homelessness prevention report will guide local service agencies and community groups in the identification of gaps and needs related to homelessness prevention over the long-term. Where possible, service providers will collaborate with existing services to deliver enhanced programming to those most in need of homelessness prevention supports.
Key Partners	Local service agencies TBDSSAB CSWB Committees
Pillar	**Risk Intervention**

Action Item #2	Emergency Shelter and Supportive Housing Asset Mapping
Strategy Overview	Collect and analyze data related to supply and demand of emergency shelters and/or supportive housing units. The data committee will over lay data shared from community agencies working with the most vulnerable populations in this priority area. Results from the data committee report will assist in highlighting the need for emergency shelters and other housing supports in the rural communities in the District of Thunder Bay. CSWB planning committees in partnership with municipalities will work together to explore opportunities to address the needs related to emergency shelter and/or supportive housing.
Key Partners	Housing and shelter services CSWB committees Municipal representatives
Pillar	**Social Development**

Action Item #3	Community Mobilization
Strategy Overview	Identify community locations to deliver multi-agency programming to individuals living in priority areas or neighbourhoods. The planning committee will engage community partners to deliver co-located services (e.g., Social services supports, health supports, education services, cultural supports, legal supports). The implementation of this strategy will also involve the engagement of residents living in priority neighbourhoods. Collaborative agency partnerships will be developed to deliver needs-based services closer to where people live. Residents in these areas will be engaged to assist with identifying the needs and supports required in each priority neighbourhood.
Key Partners	Local service agencies Municipal council and staff CSWB committees
Pillar	**Prevention**

Immediate Term	• Identify the inventory, and promote access to emergency shelters and supportive housing for people in rural areas; • Improved wrap around services for those with housing barriers.
Intermediate Term	• Increase engagement with community partners and the general public to ensure information related to safe & affordable housing and other housing programs is available to those who need it; • Early intervention strategies to reduce number of people in circumstances that may lead to homelessness.
Long Term	• Increase of local housing supports through multi-sector and private sector collaboration; • Increase of affordable housing based on community needs.

PRORITY #3: ACCESS TO SERVICES

Risk Factors	Sense of alienation, families with few resources, feeling unsafe in neighbourhoods, lack of affordable housing, lack of accessibility to a continuum of services.
Protective Factors	Close friendships with positive peers, positive support within the family, positive cohesive communities, appropriate housing in close proximity to services, high awareness of determinants of well-being.
Strategies	Community Mobilization Community Leadership Committee Community Activities and Events

Action Item #1	**Community Mobilization**
Strategy Overview	Collaborative agency partnerships will be developed and strengthened to ensure the delivery of quality services where they are needed most. This strategy will ensure services are delivered at the neighbourhood level. This strategy will explore opportunities to establish community hubs in priority nieghbourhoods or establish mobile service teams to deliver services closer to where people live.
Key Partners	Local service agencies Community based groups Municipal staff and/or council
Pillar	**Prevention**

Action Item #2	**Community Leadership Committee**
Strategy Overview	Community safety and well-being planning requires collaborative efforts from local agencies and organizations to develop and deliver services that will meet the needs of residents. The formation of a community leadership committee will ensure that those with the expertise and authority to make decisions and commitments will be represented as planning moves forward.
Key Partners	Health care agencies Social service agencies Police services Education institutions and providers

BEST PEOPLE. BEST METHODS. BEST RESULTS.

	Established community committees and working groups Municipal representatives
Pillar	**Social Development**

Action Item #3	Community Activities and Events
Strategy Overview	Identify opportunities to increase collaborative and affordable community events intended to connect services with members of the public. CSWB committees will review existing community activities or events where local agencies could be included. The CSWB committees will also engage with members of the public to deliver smaller neighbourhood activities throughout the year.
Key Partners	Local service agencies Established community groups Municipal staff and council
Pillar	**Social Development**

Immediate Term	• Increase engagement between local service providers and the public; • Increase collaborative partnerships between local services agency from all sectors.
Intermediate Term	• Enhance access to social programs; • Increased access to services and supports.
Long Term	• Collaborative systems for service delivery and on-going community development; • Increased community activities and events.

CONCLUSION

We would like to acknowledge the contributions of every individual, organization, and group that participated in the engagement and data gathering phase. This plan will guide our on-going efforts to ensure a safe and healthy community.

Appendix A – Community Survey Responses

Q8 Please select the top 3 priority areas that you think should be considered in the development of the Community Safety and Well-Being Plan.

BEST PEOPLE. BEST METHODS. BEST RESULTS.