

## Coordinated Access and Assessment (CAA) Youth Placement Committee (YPC) Matrix

### CAA: Youth Placement Committee Priorities during COVID-19

Thank you for your unwavering efforts to continue to support Calgarians experiencing homelessness during this trying time.

As we examine the goal to support those in most urgent need of housing during this time, we find ourselves reflecting on what that means within our local setting. Targeting medically vulnerable individuals is a common theme seen across sectors and communities, however, youth homelessness is often hidden, and as such it can be difficult to identify medically vulnerable youth to prioritize for housing. We have also faced challenges with connecting to youth as many of the access points that youth frequent are closed. We currently rely heavily on check-ins by youth themselves to ensure that they maintain their place on our triage lists. As we try to address the intersection of these challenges, we utilize our triage data as well as collateral from shelter and outreach/diversion partners to meaningfully identify youth who would benefit the most from immediate and secure housing.

It is vital that we remain responsive and transparent in order to quickly adjust the priority of placements as we respond to the emerging needs of the COVID-19 situation. As we continue to monitor community needs, we will be extending a temporary response at the Youth Placement Committee (YPC).

To ensure transparency, equity and replicability of these decisions, Calgary Homeless Foundation (CHF) has developed the following decision-making guide. This guide will be utilized along with collateral information provided by programs and system partners to allow for a consistent placement approach until we are able to resume under the regular YPC Terms of Reference and priorities. Until such time, placements will be aligned with the strategies supporting the COVID-19 response as outlined below. A recent example of this response is the support of a discharge pathway for clients from the Assisted Self-Isolation Site (ASIS) to the Sunalta Lodging House.

### Decision-Making Guide

#### 1. Reviewing emerging COVID-19 priorities and needs:

- Individuals residing at ASIS or Sunalta and who are engaged in their housing plan will be prioritized first for all available spaces. Their placement will depend on the availability of an appropriate program fit and discharge from ASIS or transition from Sunalta
- Individuals identified as high risk in community based on emerging COVID-19 health determinants will be prioritized

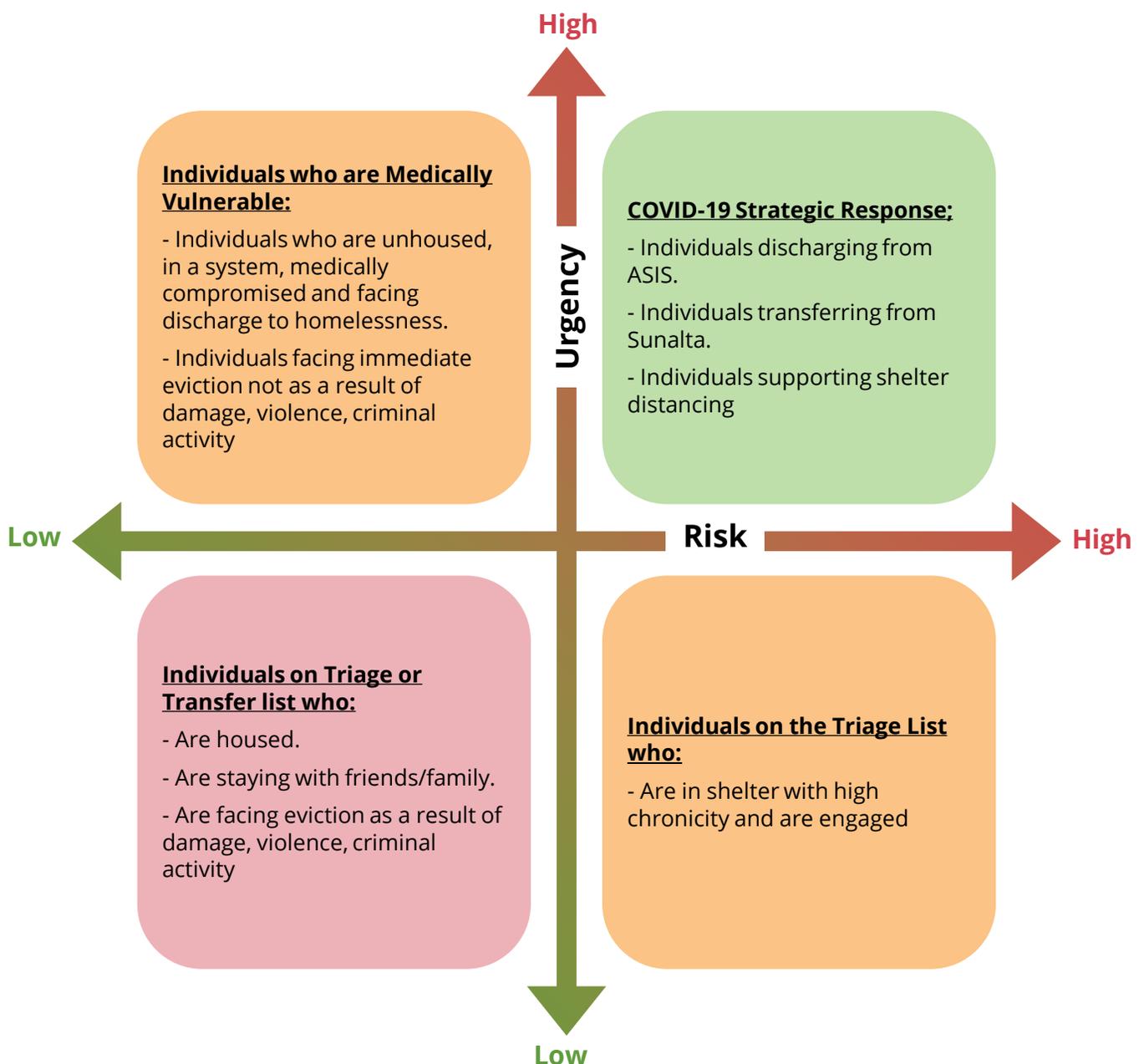
#### 2. If program placements are still available, the following priorities will be applied:

- **Medically Vulnerable**
  - In a system, are medically compromised, and are facing discharge into homelessness
- **Currently Engaged**

- We will rely on our data and the collateral from community partners to target those who are engaged and available for connection. We will look at the most recent check-in date on our lists to help connect with youth who are engaged and available to connect

System Partners who want to provide collateral information about individuals can email the YPC Chairs with the information they wish to share. Consideration may be given to those with collateral information from Connect to Care, CAMPP, Shelter or Medical staff.

Due to the current state of our system of care during the COVID-19 pandemic, CAA YPC will not prioritize individuals who are housed, staying with friends/family and are able to physical distance, or who are being evicted due to criminal activity, violence or damages.



## FAQ

### What does it mean to be “in a system” and/or “medically compromised”?

**In a system:**

- Anyone who is currently in hospital who is facing discharge with additional complicating factors.

**Medically compromised:**

- A person who is at higher risk of contracting COVID-19 due to underlying medical conditions such as heart disease, hypertension, diabetes, chronic respiratory diseases, cancer, etc.
- A person who is at higher risk for contracting COVID-19 due to compromised immune system from a medical condition or treatment (e.g. MS or chemotherapy).