

BASIC NEEDS: HOUSING

Many Islanders living in poverty do not have affordable, safe housing.

PEI rental rates are as high as those in Ontario & HIGHER than those rates in Quebec.

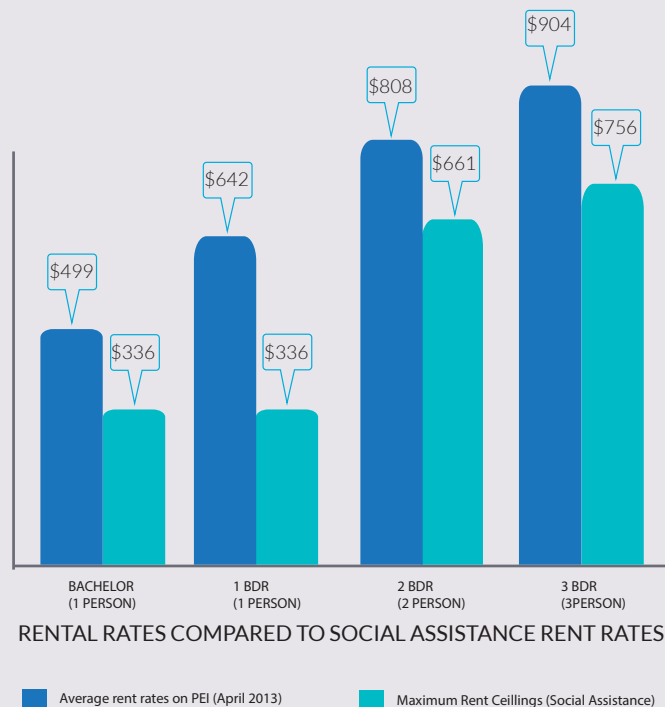


CHHC, Spring 2013

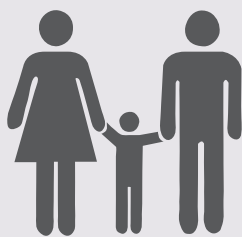
We heard... People who live in poverty and have special housing needs find it harder to live in a suitable, affordable home. For example, we were told by the PEI Council for People with Disabilities that people with disabilities are three times more likely to live in poverty yet low income housing units are often not accessible for

“We’re living in dumps...homes you wouldn’t put a dog in.”

We heard... That the housing people living in poverty can afford is often unhealthy. They live in places with mould, mice, bugs, leaks, no hot water, faulty plumbing and doors with no locks. They don’t feel safe in their own homes.



From 2010-2011,



406
Families



413
Seniors

on the waitlist for provincial housing.

“It is really hard to stay clean when everyone around you is using”

“It’s hard to get an apartment if the landlord’s seen your name in the paper (for a criminal offense).”

SOLUTIONS FOR AFFORDABLE, SAFE HOUSING:

Inspect apartments and force needed changes.

Renovate or repair unsafe housing.

Provide temporary housing for people in transition (jail, detox, rehab, mental health).

Provide more subsidized housing.

Have a program for people to access more affordable and sustainable heat sources.