



CENTRE FOR NEWCOMERS

WHAT CAN NEWCOMERS TELL US ABOUT THE
HOUSING CRISIS?

Building Calgary Since 1988, the Centre for Newcomers (CFN) has been a key resource for immigrants and refugees of all nationalities in Calgary.

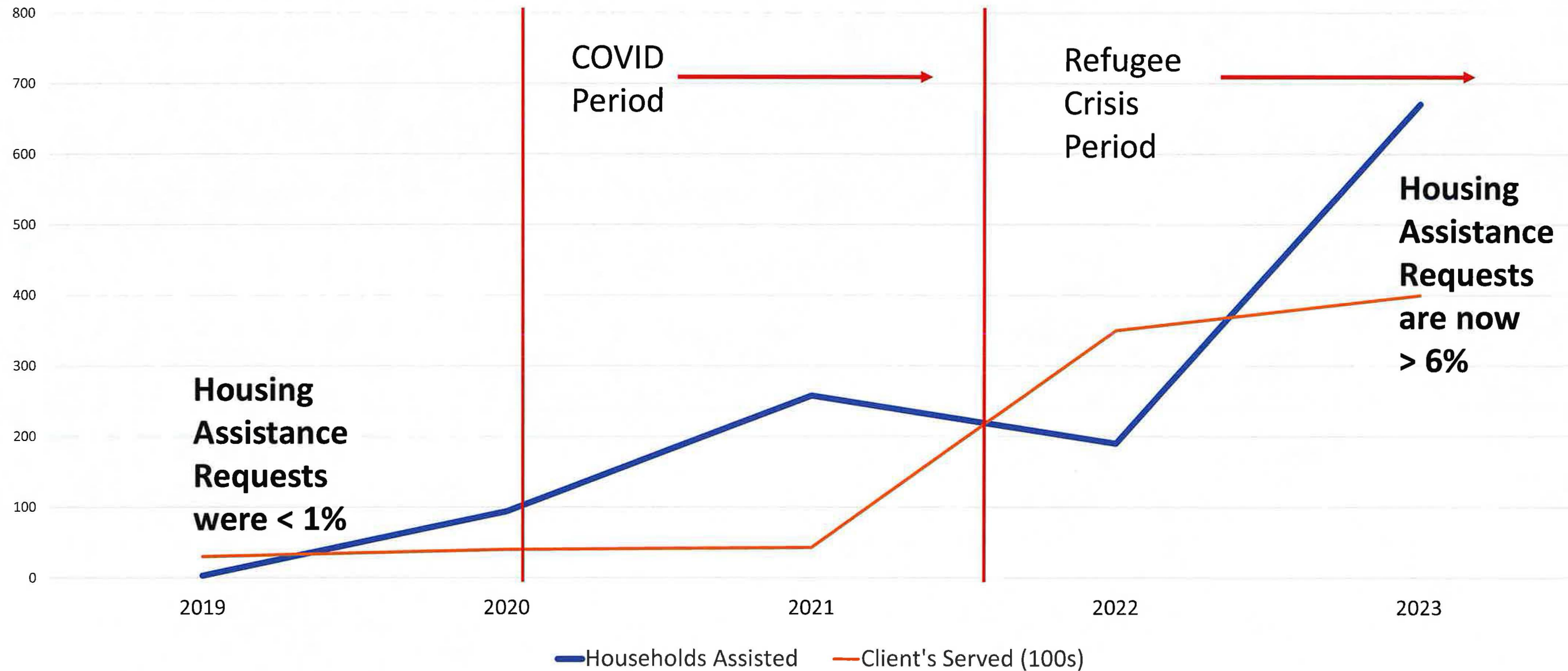
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Assistance for Housing Versus Clients' Served



CFN Percentage Increase in Clients and Housing Assistance Requests 2019 to 2023 & 2024



Newcomer Housing Policy Key Points

- **We are in a wartime era.** The international refugee crisis will pressure cities to accommodate large numbers. **100+ million displaced people worldwide.**
- Interprovincial migration of immigrant and refugee people is the main source of growth and settlement/housing clients. **Newcomers are a key growth source.**
- Although immigrant and refugee clients are increasing at a large rate, housing assistance requests are increasing at a far faster rate, **5.4 times faster.**
- Without immediate change in housing policy and approvals, the crisis is projected to get far worse. i.e. CFN's requests are **87 times higher** than in 2019.
- **Key indicators of success** can be learned from international models –
 - Transparency in **the numbers of public housing units built** (not just planned).
 - The response needs to be a **quick wartime-like response.**
 - **International models of community**, living, working, learning, playing in one place.
 - Creating **Housing Trusts** focused on **large volume affordable housing ownership.**