

in this together.

2017 / 2018 PEEL REGION
ANNUAL REPORT



WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES IN
**PEEL, TORONTO
& YORK REGION**



United Way
Peel Region



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Peel Region



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Peel Region



a message to our community

In 1957, a group of volunteers gathered in Brampton to establish the Community Chest to solve complex social issues. We quickly evolved to become United Appeal and then United Way of Peel Region in 1967, to increase our reach but always committed to working with communities across Peel Region to mobilize volunteer and financial resources to meet urgent human needs and drive social change.

More recently, a changing market and donor expectations, punctuated with an increasing complexity of community needs, has signalled to us that we must evolve once more and increase our ability to meet those needs. Our Board of Directors began a journey to explore several new approaches to scale up our resources and strategies to increase our social impact. Poverty does not recognize geographic boundaries and to address it is a responsibility that we have taken very seriously.

During the past year, we continued our transition and on April 1, 2018, unanimously supported by the respective Boards and Trustees, United Way of Peel Region and United Way Toronto & York Region officially merged to form United Way Greater Toronto. With our larger scale, we're working with communities in Peel, Toronto and York Region and already drawing on our region-wide resources, strengthening our shared strategies to fight local poverty in all its forms.

With your support, we have maintained local investments to our agency partners. Our staff continue to work with our partners such as our three Community Advisory Councils—for the South Asian, Chinese and Black communities in Peel Region to address and remove systemic barriers. Some of our board members from the Peel Board are joining the Board of the newly merged United Way. We have already launched our Campaign Cabinet with corporate, community and labour volunteers from across Peel, Toronto and York Region. We have continued to provide leadership to important initiatives such as Peel's Poverty Reduction Strategy—a Peel Region-wide strategy that works with government, community and agency partners, and people with lived experience to build a poverty free future.



**A sincere thank you
to our Board of Directors
for their foresight,
leadership, and
commitment to
our community.**

Thomas Dyck
Chair

Bruce McCuaig
Vice Chair

Wayne Halenda
Treasurer

Mariam Hashmi
Secretary

Michelle Cole
missing from picture

Andrea Czapary-Martin

Anil Gupta

Chuck Hounsell

Ian Marshall
Chair, Government
Nominations Committee

Andrew Roberston

Nicole Skeete-Williams

Kris Smith
Chair, Campaign Cabinet
missing from picture

Jeanie Theoharis
Chair, Community
Investment Cabinet

And, all the while, we have continued to engage you in our transition towards a more effective way of making a difference—to fighting local poverty with its complex systemic causes and local effects. We know that as one United Way covering all of Peel, Toronto and York Region, we'll be able to do more to expand local investments, strengthen our ability to respond to the issues and challenges that our region and its people are facing, and provide outstanding service to our donors and volunteers. Working with you, we continue to strengthen the vision and commitment of those volunteers who first gathered in 1957 to make our communities stronger and better.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to our Board of Directors, our volunteers, donors, staff, funded agencies, labour, community and government stakeholders for their incredible support and partnership over the years.

Your support fuels this collaboration across our region and we look forward to you joining us in the next part of our chapter as United Way Greater Toronto, working with communities in Peel, Toronto and York Region - a stronger regional lens for local impact to change even more lives and communities.

With humble appreciation and gratitude, we are pleased to share with you the 2017/18 Annual Report for United Way of Peel Region which highlights our impact and commitment to our communities in Brampton, Caledon and Mississauga.

Tom Dyck
Chair of the Board

Anita Stellinga
Interim President and CEO



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IT LOOKS LIKE
STRENGTH

IT LOOKS LIKE
VITALITY

IT LOOKS LIKE
CARE

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our impact

With your support, in 2017/18, United Way invested \$7,004,575 in 53 partner agencies that delivered 88 programs across Peel Region that help kids be all they can be, move people from poverty to possibility and build strong communities.

\$7M

invested

53

agencies

88

programs

211

African Community Services of Peel

Associated Youth Services of Peel

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Peel

Boys and Girls Club of Peel

Brampton Caledon

Community Living

Brampton Multicultural
Community Centre

Caledon Community Services

Caledon Meals on Wheels

Caledon Parent-Child Centre

Caledon Dufferin Victim Services

Canadian Hearing Society -
Peel Region

Canadian Mental Health
Association - Peel Branch

Carefirst Seniors &
Community Services

Catholic Cross-cultural Services

Catholic Family Services
Peel-Dufferin

CNIB Halton-Peel

Community Living Mississauga

Dixie Bloor Neighbourhood
Drop-in Centre

East Mississauga Community
Health Centre, a branch of LAMP

Eden Food for Change

Elder Help Peel

Elizabeth Fry Society of Peel-Halton

Erin Mills Youths Centre

Family Association for
Mental Health

Family Services of Peel

Indus Community Services

Interim Place

John Howard Society
Peel-Halton-Dufferin

Knights Table

Labour Community Services
of Peel Inc.

Learning Disabilities Association of
North Peel

Malton Neighbourhood Services

MIAG Centre for Diverse
Women & Families

Newcomer Centre of Peel

Nexus Youth Services

Our Place Peel

SHIP (Peace Ranch)

Peel Family Education Centre

Polycultural Immigrant
& Community Services

Punjabi Community Health Services

Rapport Youth & Family Services

Rehabilitation Foundation for the
Disabled (Ontario March of Dimes)

Safe City Mississauga

Sexual Assault/Rape Crisis
Centre of Peel

St. Leonard's Place Peel

Telecare Brampton Inc o/a Spectra
Community Support Services

The DAM (Develop Assist Mentor)

Victim Services of Peel

Vita Centre

Volunteer MBC

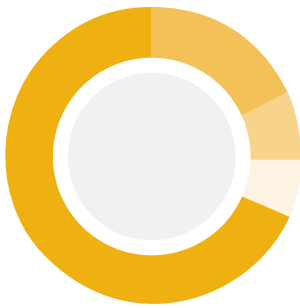
YMCA of Greater Toronto

YWCA of Greater Toronto

your donation at work

HELPING KIDS BE ALL THEY CAN BE

Investments made in 2017/18

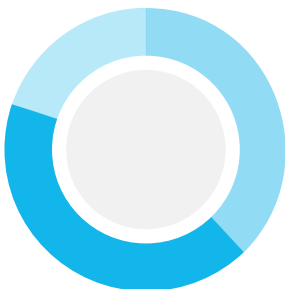


By partnering with generous partners like you, investing in our kids' development from early childhood to young adulthood is a key part of our poverty prevention strategy. Building self esteem and mental health, developing leadership skills, supporting their families in parenting are all critical to helping children thrive and removing barriers to success.

STRATEGY	INVESTMENT
Wellbeing and Social Competence	\$ 1,879,300
Parenting Capacity	\$ 494,740
Increase youth engagement in the community	\$ 193,937
School Success	\$ 178,583
TOTAL	\$ 2,746,560

MOVING PEOPLE FROM POVERTY TO POSSIBILITY

Investments made in 2017/18

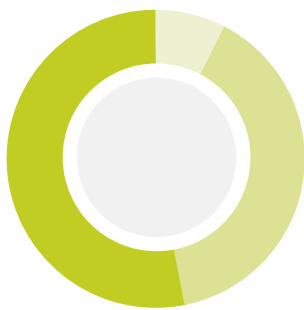


Your commitment and support helps ensure everyone has access to the most basic needs in life – food security, emergency shelter and transitional housing supports. But meeting urgent needs alone isn't enough. We work with community leaders and government to make sure there are policies in place that lift people from poverty and build their independence.

STRATEGY	INVESTMENT
Shelters and Transitional Housing Supports	\$ 381,088
Food Security	\$ 345,502
Other	\$ 176,246
TOTAL	\$ 902,836

BUILDING STRONG COMMUNITIES

Investments made in 2017/18



You help our most vulnerable neighbours overcome complex challenges—abuse, mental illness and social isolation—by improving access to services and supports, increase sense of belonging and build resident leadership.

STRATEGY	INVESTMENT
Supports for Individuals with Mental Health Challenges and Disability	\$ 1,791,413
Safety and Supports for Victims of Violence and Abuse	\$ 1,301,688
Awareness of Mental Health and Stigma	\$ 262,078
TOTAL	\$ 3,355,179

In addition, you also supported neighbourhoods, low income families and youth in the following ways:

NEIGHBOURHOODS

\$120,000

Invested in 3 neighbourhood-development projects in Brampton, Caledon and Mississauga.

YOUNG LEADERS COUNCIL

\$15,000

Invested in 8 Youth in Action grants to support leadership development for youth by youth.

WOMEN'S LEADERSHIP COUNCIL

\$76,076

This group of strong women leaders raised \$ 76,076 for United Way and promoted financial literacy to empower youth and low income families in Peel region.

- Partnered with 10 of United Way's partner agencies, one corporate partner and Peel Regional Police to deliver 28 financial literacy workshops to youth and adults
- \$8,000 invested in four youth led projects focussed on financial literacy for youth
- \$30,600 invested in seven income tax clinics offering free income tax filing services for low income youth and families in Peel

community advisory councils

With your support, United Way's 3 Community Advisory Councils have been working hard, on the ground, to remove barriers and create inclusive communities.

BLACK COMMUNITY ADVISORY COUNCIL

Our Council has been instrumental in leading change to remove systemic barriers. Our Facilitating Access, Change and Equity in Systems (FACES) REPORT was a catalyst for the We Rise Together, the Peel District School Board Action Plan to identify, understand, minimize and eliminate the marginalization experienced by black male students in schools. United Way provides leadership and support on Committees and acts as a liaison between the school board and community to guide and oversee the implementation of this initiative.

The Black Youth School Success Initiative, another direct response to recommendations in the FACES Report, received \$1.1million in funding over five years from the Ontario Trillium Foundation, Youth Opportunities Fund to address the need for complementary, culturally specific programming to increase graduation rates of Peel's young Black community. A ripple effect of your support! www.unitedwaygt.org/facesofpeel.

The **Black Community Advisory Council** launched Black History Month with a panel discussion on the stigma and cultural response to mental health in Peel's Black community.





The South Asian Community Advisory Council brought community leaders together in January 2018 to discuss overcoming taboos, stigmas and provide suggestions for breaking down barriers for racialized communities.

SOUTH ASIAN COUNCIL

Over 123 attendees joined our first ever breakfast forum which was organized, in partnership with the Canadian Labour Congress - Giving Voice to Unspoken Issues - focussing on Substance Use, Racism and LGBTTO communities.

CHINESE COUNCIL

In partnership with the University of Calgary, we released a research report on the Promising Practice for Chinese Youth in Conflict with the Law. The study was to understand the underlying reasons of youthful criminality taking into consideration family and cultural dynamics to apply the findings to interventions at different levels. The findings have implications for future collaborative research, policy and program development, and culturally sensitive practices for racialized youth in conflict with the law.



In December 2017, the Chinese Advisory Committee held a networking dinner to raise awareness and funds to address issues like homelessness. Photo by Robert Adams, Snapd South Mississauga.

community partnerships

16%

of racialized communities
(visible minorities) live in
poverty

19.7%

Youth unemployment
rate in Peel Region

8.2%

The unemployment rate
in Peel is 8.2% higher than
Ontario's 7.4%

PEEL ALLIANCE TO END HOMELESSNESS

35,000 Canadians are homeless on a given night. To help, you supported our efforts on the Peel Alliance to End Homelessness, where partners and agencies collaborated to improve the coordination of the homelessness system of care. In 2017/18, United Way chaired this initiative of community agencies and government partners. The Alliance also partnered with the Region of Peel to conduct a second enumeration of those experiencing homelessness in Peel Region.

PEEL POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY

With you at our back, we co-chaired (alongside the Region of Peel) the PEEL POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY Committee, ensuring that core needs—well-being and social inclusion, income security and economic opportunity—are understood as human rights. In May 2018, Peel Regional Council endorsed the 10-year Peel Poverty Reduction Strategy.

COMMUNITY BENEFITS

In partnership with the Region of Peel, United Way helped establish the Peel Community Benefits Network to work with partners on the Hurontario LRT to bring together labour, public and private sectors to incorporate training and employment opportunities into major infrastructure projects. This Network will be working in partnership with Metrolinx and municipalities to develop training and pathways to employment focussed on apprenticeship jobs in the construction trades and the professional, administrative and technical jobs that will be required over the span of the construction and operation of the LRT.

NATIONAL HOUSING STRATEGY

In Peel, 45% of renters spend over 30% of their income on shelter costs. Rising income inequality, a challenging labour market and scarcity of rental housing stock and subsidised housing, has created a crisis that makes too many families vulnerable. United Way, in partnership with the National Housing Collaborative advocated successfully for the development of a National Housing Strategy and support for a Portable Housing Benefit, which would provide immediate and direct support to residents unable to meet the difference between their income and their rent.

PEEL NEWCOMER STRATEGY GROUP

United Way continued to host the Peel Newcomer Strategy Group (PNSG), the region's local immigration partnership by providing leadership, financial, human resource and logistical support to improve the coordination of services for newcomer settlement and integration. Together with community agencies and partners, this table is planning for growth in newcomer settlement, supporting refugee resettlement and service coordination, and strengthening relationships between stakeholders.

52%

of neighbourhoods are now considered low income compared to 2% in 1980. The gap between the rich and poor has grown significantly in Peel

12.8%

of people in Peel live in poverty compared to 14.4% in Ontario

18%

of children 0-17 live in poverty

There are 13,597 households on the housing waiting list

THE LONGEST NIGHT

In Peel, 176,896 people face poverty and struggle to afford housing, resulting in many people using their cars for shelter. Kudos to the 18 teams of 132 community leaders in total that slept in their cars and raised \$80,000 to increase awareness about homelessness in our community on February 9.
#LONGESTNIGHTPEEL



To read our full 2017-18 Audited Financial Statements,
visit unitedwaygt.com/annualreport.

UNITED WAY'S MISSION
IS TO MEET URGENT HUMAN NEEDS
AND IMPROVE SOCIAL CONDITIONS
BY MOBILIZING THE COMMUNITY'S
VOLUNTEER AND FINANCIAL
RESOURCES IN A COMMON
CAUSE OF CARING.



United Way
Greater Toronto

Corporate Office:

26 Wellington St. E. 12th Fl.
Toronto, ON M5E 1S2
Tel 416 777 2001
Fax 416 777 0962
TTY 1 866 620 2993

Peel Region Office:

90 Burnhamthorpe Rd. W.
Suite 408, PO Box 58
Mississauga, ON L5B 3C3
Tel 905 602 3650
Fax 905 602 3651

York Region Office:

80F Centurian Dr. Suite 200
Markham, ON L3R 8C1
Tel 905 474 9974
Fax 905 474 0051

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