



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – April 1, 2020

## FUNDERS UNITE TO SUPPORT REGION’S CHARITABLE SECTOR

***United Way Waterloo Region Communities, Kitchener Waterloo Community Foundation, Social Venture Partners Waterloo Region, and Cambridge & North Dumfries Community Foundation spearhead community support initiative.***

**Waterloo Region** – United Way Waterloo Region Communities, Kitchener Waterloo Community Foundation, Social Venture Partners Waterloo Region (SVPWR), and Cambridge & North Dumfries Community Foundation, along with other regional funders, are working together to support urgent and emerging community needs in response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

“Lasting community change happens when service providers work together as part of a larger service network – no one individual or organization can do it on their own,” notes United Way WRC CEO Joan Fisk.

These funding organizations are pooling collected money in a revolving fund – as donations are received, money will be dispersed to local charities addressing our community’s immediate needs, and fundraising will continue. Urgent and immediate needs may include, but are not limited to: access to shelter, food, and crisis-related supports.

Rose Greensides, Executive Director at SVPWR, adds: “Social Venture Partners is proud to work together to structure joint fundraising criteria and streamline the application process, which helps us raise and deploy the money as soon as possible. By uniting, we can share our skills and amplify our impact.”

You can help ensure vital community services remain uninterrupted by donating via United Way’s Community Response Fund: <https://www.uwaywrc.ca/communityresponsefund/> or SVPWR’s Emergency Fund: <https://www.socialventurepartners.org/waterloo-region/news/svpwr-emergency-fund-launch/>.

Registered charities may now apply online for the first round of funding. Applications are open until April 9, 2020, at noon. Please apply through the United Way portal, here: [www.UWAYWRC.ca](http://www.UWAYWRC.ca).

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### About United Way Waterloo Region Communities

[United Way Waterloo Region Communities](http://www.uwaywrc.ca) is dedicated to helping people live better lives in every one of the seven communities we serve. We are fundraisers and local community builders that support a network of agencies whose programs and services are locally focused, informed, connected, and deeply invested in helping people reach their full potential.

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## About Social Venture Partners Waterloo Region

Through engaged philanthropy, [SVPWR](#) builds relationships between people who want to give back and the charities who make change possible. Since launching in 2010, SVPWR has turned \$500,000 of grants into \$3.5M+ of support for nine Waterloo Region charities, and connected 100+ community builders through volunteer projects & events.

## About Kitchener Waterloo Community Foundation

[Kitchener Waterloo Community Foundation](#) (KWCF) enables people, companies and organizations to do more good by making it easy for Fundholders to give and invest, and for charities to receive money. As a leading community-building organization in Waterloo Region, KWCF is focused on collaborating with partners to identify and meet current and future needs of our community by enabling social capital and developing creative forward-thinking innovative solutions for place-based philanthropy.

## Press Contacts

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