

Community Investment Team Volunteer

United Way Waterloo Region Communities (WRC) relies heavily on the support of hundreds of volunteers who give their time each year. One key group of volunteers is the Community Investment Team (CIT).

The CIT is a group of community-minded individuals passionate about social change and making a difference in our community, particularly when it comes to addressing poverty. They lend their expertise and varied experience to assist in reviewing applications for funding from community agencies, assessing alignment with United Way priority areas (basic needs, mental health, and social isolation), and making recommendations for funding based on a set of established criteria.

United Way WRC is currently seeking a team of volunteers that represent the broader community, including from multiple sectors, geographic locations, and personal backgrounds.

Purpose: Volunteers to review United Way Waterloo Region Communities Community Investment applications assessing how this work contributes to addressing poverty in our community within one of three Impact Strategies.

Description: Volunteers will...

- learn about the needs, issues and opportunities affecting the lives of community members.
- participate in the review of Community Investment applications. Criteria includes assessing alignment with United Way WRC focus areas, impact for participants, and accessibility of the service(s).
- ensure funding reaches all parts of Waterloo Region and a diverse group of vulnerable or marginalized populations.
- be assigned a selection of applications and are supported by United Way WRC staff every step of the way.

Skills for Role:

Knowledge of United Way WRC areas of focus and prior community investment experience would be an asset. Knowledge about and skills in community issues and local social service agencies are also an asset.

Training Details: Volunteers will be trained on United Way WRC's investments and review processes. Training will also be provided on community issues, needs and opportunities; best practices and promising models; and measurement and evaluation, as appropriate.

Timing: Estimated commitment of 11-12.5 hours per granting cycle (1.5 hrs one time training, 7.5-9 hrs independent application review, 2 hrs application review meeting)

- Independent review of assigned applications
- 1 virtual meeting per funding cycle, typically on a weekday – late afternoon/evening.

Open calls for applications occur quarterly and there is one review meeting for each funding cycle. Grants are reviewed independently prior to the review meeting. There is no obligation to commit to every granting cycle.

Upcoming Opportunities:

Spring Application Reviews

- Application Reviews: May 23rd – June 3rd
- Application Review Meeting: June 6th

Summer Application Reviews

- Application Reviews: August 8th – 19th
- Application Review Meeting: August 25th

For more information, please contact:

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