

News Release

United Way Waterloo Region Communities

For Immediate Release – April 26, 2022

<u>United Way Waterloo Region Communities distributes \$712.357 through the General Community Fund</u>

Funds to support 60 local agencies and programs

Waterloo Region – United Way Waterloo Region Communities (UWWRC) is pleased to announce the distribution of \$712,357 to 60 local agencies and programs through the General Community Fund for this quarter. The monies will fund services and programs that support basic needs, provide mental health supports, and reduce isolation. The total funds requested during this application period was over \$2 million. The demand for funding far outweighs what is presently available and the situation is becoming more critical as the cost of food, housing, and other basic needs continues to increase.

UWWRC also has a long history of helping refugees and newcomers to our region, through various settlement activities and programs. In preparation for this, UWWRC recently wrapped up their Waterloo Region Relief Fund campaign, which raised an additional \$40,000. These funds will enable refugee and immigrant settlement supports locally such as:

- Mental health
- Culturally sensitive family and child counselling
- Systems navigation
- Housing
- Food security
- Pre-employment and employment services

<u>UWWRC's General Community Fund</u> is now distributed every 3 months in order to be more responsive to community needs and provide rapid local solutions. There is an <u>open call for applications</u> quarterly to fund the most relevant programs and organizations, with a more agile and focused application process, including a stronger emphasis on equity and inclusion. All funds are raised locally and are distributed to local organizations.

"Our General Community Fund is just that, it goes to organizations in our community who apply on a quarterly basis and through the reporting information in those applications we can truly determine what is needed and when", said Joan Fisk, UWWRC CEO. "The challenge we continue to face is that the demand far outweighs what we are able to grant. The war in Ukraine is going to exacerbate that problem and we want to be prepared."

Funding Recipients (April - June 2022)

<u>Visit our website</u> to see the full list of organizations/programs we have been able to support this year. We are proud to have funded the following organizations in our most recent quarter.

- 1. Ontario 211
- 2. A Better Tent City Waterloo Region (Sponsor: Social Development Centre)
- 3. ACCKWA
- 4. Adventure4Change
- 5. Anishnabeg Outreach
- 6. Argus Residence for Young People
- 7. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Waterloo Region
- 8. Bridges to Belonging
- 9. <u>Bring on the Sunshine</u> (sponsor: Kitchener Waterloo Multicultural Centre)
- 10. Cambridge Self Help Food Bank
- 11. Cambridge Shelter Corporation
- 12. <u>Canadian Arab Women's Association</u> (sponsor: CIDO, The Canadian International Development Organization)
- 13. CNIB Foundation (formerly Canadian National Institute for the Blind
- 14. Capacity Canada
- 15. Carizon Family and Community Services
- 16. Child Witness Centre of Waterloo Region
- 17. Children & Youth Planning Table (CYPT)
- 18. Coalition of Muslim Women of KW
- 19. Community Care Concepts of Woolwich, Wellesley and Wilmot Townships
- 20. Community Justice Initiatives of Waterloo Region
- 21. <u>Community Kitchen Cooperative KW Inc</u>. (sponsor: The Church of St John The Evangelist)

- 22. Compass Refugee Centre (formerly MCRS)
- 23. Crow Shield Lodge
- 24. DeafBlind Ontario Services
- 25. Family Counselling Centre of Cambridge and North Dumfries
- 26. Focus for Ethnic Women Waterloo Region Inc.
- 27. Food4Kids Waterloo Region Inc.
- 28. Frontier College
- 29. Greenway-Chaplin Community Centre
- 30. Highland Stirling Community Group (HSCG)
- 31. House of Friendship
- 32. Immigration Partnership (via Region of Waterloo)
- 33. Independent Living Centre
- 34. Interfaith Community Counselling Centre (ICCC)
- 35. John Howard Society of Waterloo-Wellington
- 36. Kinbridge Community Association
- 37. Kind Minds Family Wellness (Sponsor: Community Justice Initiatives)
- 38. Kitchener-Waterloo Access-Ability
- 39. Kitchener-Waterloo Counselling Services Inc.
- 40. Kitchener-Waterloo Multicultural Centre
- 41. Langs Farm Village Association
- 42. March of Dimes Canada
- 43. Muslim Social Services Waterloo Region
- 44. oneROOF Youth Services
- 45. Peace for All Canada (sponsor: Social Development Centre)
- 46. Sexual Assault Support Centre of Waterloo Region
- 47. Sexual Health Options, Resources & Education Centre (SHORE Centre)
- 48. Social Development Centre Waterloo Region
- 49. Social Venture Partners
- 50. Spectrum Waterloo Region's Community Space
- 51. Strong Start Charitable Organization
- 52. <u>The Healing of The Seven Generations</u> (sponsor: Family and Children Services Waterloo Region)
- 53. The Literacy Group of Waterloo Region
- 54. Volunteer Action Centre of Waterloo Region
- 55. Wilmot Family Resource Centre Inc.

56. Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region

57. Woolwich Counselling Centre

58. The Working Centre

59. YW Kitchener-Waterloo (aka YWCA KW)

60. YWCA Cambridge

Digital Assets:

Please visit www.uwaywrc.ca/about-us/communications/ to download our digital assets and further information, including photos, CEO bio and photo, and other United Way materials.

To Donate: Visit our website, or print and scan this QR code.



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About United Way Waterloo Region Communities

United Way is the second largest funder of social service programs across the country, second only to government. Thanks to generous donors and partners, United Way is creating change on key social issues such as food security, mental health, and isolation in seniors by investing almost \$3.2 million in critical services to 209 agencies and programs across Waterloo Region and beyond in 2021.

For more information or for media interviews, please contact:

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