

News Release

United Way Waterloo Region Communities

For Immediate Release – July 5, 2022

<u>United Way Waterloo Region Communities distributes \$727,371 through the General Community Fund</u>

Funds to support 57 local agencies and programs

Waterloo Region – United Way Waterloo Region Communities (UWWRC) is pleased to announce the distribution of \$727,371 to 57 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 support, and reduce isolation. The total funds requested during this application period were \$1,848,311. 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.

<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.

Donations collected for the recent Waterloo Region Relief Fund were also distributed. \$37,456 was granted to 3 local agencies, Compass Refugee Centre, Kitchener-Waterloo Multicultural Centre, and Reception House Waterloo Region, as general operating support grants. These funds will go towards helping ensure refugees fleeing conflicts in places like Ukraine and Afghanistan are provided critical settlement services including navigation of the refugee process, medical interpretation, connections to supportive communities, translation services, pre-employment programs, conversational English programs, appropriate housing, and connection, support, and friendship to help build a sense of belonging and peace.

"We are so thankful for the incredible donors we have in Waterloo Region", said Joan Fisk, UWWRC CEO. "But the fact remains that we receive over double the amount in

requests for funding than we can distribute each quarter. We realize so many people are facing uncertainty presently but we are going to continue to extend our reach and ask for a little from a lot of people in our community so our local agencies can provide programs and services to everyone that needs them. It's crucial that everyone have somewhere to turn when they need help."

Funding Recipients (July- September 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. Anishnabeg Outreach
- 5. Argus Residence for Young People
- 6. Big Brothers Big Sisters of Waterloo Region
- 7. Bridges to Belonging
- 8. Cambridge Self Help Food Bank
- 9. Cambridge Shelter Corporation
- 10. <u>Canadian Arab Women's Association</u> (sponsor: Greenway-Chaplin Community Centre)
- 11. Carizon Family and Community Services
- 12. Child Witness Centre of Waterloo Region
- 13. CNIB Foundation (formerly Canadian National Institute for the Blind
- 14. Community Care Concepts of Woolwich, Wellesley and Wilmot Townships
- 15. Community Justice Initiatives of Waterloo Region
- 16. <u>Community Kitchen Cooperative KW Inc</u>. (sponsor: The Church of St John The Evangelist)
- 17. Community Support Connections- Meals on Wheels and More
- 18. Compass Refugee Centre (formerly MCRS)
- 19. Crow Shield Lodge
- 20. DeafBlind Ontario Services
- 21. Extend-A-Family Waterloo Region
- 22. Family Counselling Centre of Cambridge and North Dumfries

- 23. Food4Kids Waterloo Region Inc.
- 24. Greenway-Chaplin Community Centre
- 25. House of Friendship
- 26. <u>Immigration Partnership</u> (via Region of Waterloo)
- 27. Interfaith Community Counselling Centre (ICCC)
- 28. John Howard Society of Waterloo-Wellington
- 29. Kinbridge Community Association
- 30. Kind Minds Family Wellness (sponsor: Community Justice Initiatives)
- 31. Kitchener-Waterloo Multicultural Centre
- 32. Langs Farm Village Association
- 33. March of Dimes Canada
- 34. Muslim Social Services Waterloo Region
- 35. oneROOF Youth Services
- 36. Peace for All Canada (sponsor: Social Development Centre)
- 37. Preston Heights Community Group
- 38. Reception House Waterloo Region
- 39. Sanguen Health Care
- 40. Sexual Assault Support Centre of Waterloo Region
- 41. Sexual Health Options, Resources & Education Centre (SHORE Centre)
- 42. Shalom Counselling Services Inc.
- 43. Social Development Centre Waterloo Region
- 44. Social Venture Partners
- 45. Somali Canadian Association of Waterloo Region
- 46. Spectrum Waterloo Region's Community Space
- 47. Strong Start Charitable Organization
- 48. Supportive Housing of Waterloo
- 49. <u>The Healing of The Seven Generations</u> (sponsor: Family and Children Services Waterloo Region)
- 50. The Literacy Group of Waterloo Region
- 51. <u>The Resilience Project</u> (sponsor: Family and Children's Servcies of Waterloo Region Foundation)
- 52. Volunteer Action Centre of Waterloo Region
- 53. Wilmot Family Resource Centre Inc.
- 54. Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region
- 55. YMCA of Three Rivers (Midwestern Ontario)

56. YW Kitchener-Waterloo (aka YWCA KW)

57. 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.



- 30 -

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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