

United Way Niagara invests in programs and services that address complex human and social issues faced by individuals and families in our community. Investments from United Way Niagara should serve those experiencing vulnerability in our communities today and create an equitable future for all. United Way Niagara addresses issues from both an immediate-needs perspective and a future-focused lens.

United Way Niagara provides three-year funding in the following priority areas, on a rotating basis:

Accepting applications in 2025**FROM POVERTY
TO POSSIBILITY**

Meeting basic human needs and moving people out of poverty

Accepting applications in 2026**ALL THAT KIDS CAN BE**

Encouraging children and youth to reach their full potential

Accepting applications in 2027**HEALTHY PEOPLE,
STRONG COMMUNITIES**

Building social capital, for both individuals and neighbourhoods

2025 CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The From Poverty to Possibility priority area will invest in programs throughout Niagara that address issues of food security, housing stability and income stability.

ISSUE

The economic impact of high inflation and rising cost of living has been damaging to many individuals and families. Now more than ever, Niagara is facing hunger and poverty among its citizens. From Poverty to Possibility funding will focus on immediate relief of poverty as well as longer term programming to help break the cycle of poverty over time.

Diversity and Inclusion

United Way Niagara is committed to Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility & Indigenous Collaboration (DEIA & IC). All funding applications will be evaluated through this lens.

FUNDING OVERVIEW

Through From Poverty to Possibility funding, United Way Niagara will provide three-year funding for programs and services that provide immediate relief for the effects of poverty, as well as longer term solutions to break the cycle of poverty.

DIVERSITY, EQUITY, INCLUSION, ACCESSIBILITY AND INDIGENOUS COLLABORATION (DEIA & IC)

United Way Niagara is committed to centering equity in all that we do. We will implement a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion, Accessibility & Indigenous Collaboration (DEIA & IC) framework and equitable systems and practices that are representative of the local community.

FUNDING GOAL

The goal of this priority area is to meet basic human needs and help break the cycle of poverty.

FUNDING OUTCOMES

Through this funding stream, programs that contribute to the following Aligned Outcomes will be supported:

Improved Food Security**Increased Income Stability****Improved Housing Stability**

Programs that align with this category will address one or more of the following Program Outcomes:

**Increased access to nutritious
and culturally appropriate food****Improved life skills****More unhoused people
become housed****Increased access to
emergency food****Increased employment
readiness****Increased housing retention**

To be eligible for funding, programs must address one or more of the [United Nations Sustainable Development Goals](#).

PRIORITY AREA PROGRAM EXAMPLES:

- Community Meal Programs
- Housing Support Programs
- Housing Stabilization Programs
- Life Skills Programs
- Emergency Food Programs

TIMELINE

There is a two-step application process. The first step is the Letter of Intent (LOI), that will be available on the United Way Niagara website on January 4, 2025. Successful applicants to the LOI will then be invited to submit a full application, which will be available in February 2025. Funding for successful applicants will begin in April 2026.