



2025-2026

Annual Report



**United Way
Centraide**
Stormont, Dundas
& Glengarry



Land Acknowledgement

We, the employees, volunteers, and board members of United Way Centraide SDG acknowledge that our office is located on the unceded territory of the Kanien'kehá:ka and we are privileged to live, work, and play on this land. We are grateful to the Haudenosaunee, Huron-Wendat, and other Indigenous peoples that resided and were keepers of this land long before our own arrival.

We recognize we are on an ongoing journey of reconciliation and, as individuals and as an organization, still have much to learn and unlearn so as to create the safer spaces necessary to build true partnerships across all communities.

We pledge to do the work that has to be done, both inwardly and outwardly, to meet recommendations and lessons from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls Calls to Justice, and United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. We are working on improving our conscious and unconscious biases that permit forms of discriminatory practices to be embedded in our work.

We believe in education, awareness, relationship building, addressing systemic issues and supporting self-determination of the marginalized groups that call our region home. It is only by doing this work that we can achieve our mission to improve lives and respond to our communities' needs and respect our vision of a future where collective action empowers us to create lasting positive impact, ensuring equitable access to support and opportunities for all members of our communities.

Table of Contents

Interim Executive Director & Board Chair Message.....	4-5
Our Role.....	6
Our Team.....	7
A Human Rights-based Approach.....	8
Committment to Anti-oppression.....	9
Our Impact in 2025/26.....	10-11
How we Respond to Local Issues.....	12-13
Housing and Homelessness	14-17
Mental Health.....	18-21
Food Insecurity.....	22-25
Poverty.....	26-29
Youth Investing In Community Grants.....	30-31
Financial Overview.....	32-33
Fundraising.....	34-35
Community Champions.....	36-37

A message from our Interim Executive Director & Board Chair

Across Canada, financial anxiety continues to rise at an alarming pace.

Recent national research conducted by United Way Centraide Canada and Léger paints a concerning picture. In 2025, nearly half of Canadians reported they could cover basic expenses for only one month or less before falling into debt if they lost their primary source of income tomorrow. Additionally, 31% shared that their financial situation had worsened over the previous six months.

These trends are reflected in our own communities across Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry, Cornwall, and Akwesasne, where rising costs, housing instability, food insecurity, and mental health challenges continue to place significant pressure on individuals and families.

Against this backdrop, 2025/2026 was a year of both challenge and resilience for United Way Centraide SDG.

Like many organizations across the charitable sector, we experienced a difficult fundraising environment. The year was also shaped by multiple leadership transitions that required our organization to adapt while continuing to respond to the evolving needs of our communities.

We made a deliberate choice: community impact would remain our highest priority.

While navigating financial pressures and organizational change, we continued to invest in programs and initiatives that prevent crisis and support people through some of life's hardest moments.

This is just a snapshot of what your support made possible.

- It meant someone experiencing homelessness accessed a warm meal, shower, clean clothes, and compassionate support through a rural Community Hub and Warming Centre.
- It meant someone experiencing emotional distress called a helpline and heard a caring voice on the other end of the line at no cost.
- It meant a child facing mental health challenges could attend summer camp, build friendships, gain confidence, and simply have the opportunity to be a kid—an experience their family may not otherwise be able to afford.
- It meant seniors experiencing isolation could find connection, community, and support navigating grief through a peer-led mental health learning centre developed by and for their community.

Last year, together with our community partners, we impacted more than 8,000 lives across Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry, Cornwall, and Akwesasne. Beyond those directly reached, this work also extends to families, caregivers, and the broader community,

strengthening the connections and supports that help our region thrive.

But the real impact isn't found in a number.

It's found in the parent who can finally breathe a little easier when their bills are paid.

The child who finds a new friend at camp.

The teenager who feels accepted for who they are.

The senior who no longer feels alone.

The evidence is clear: community-based supports matter. United Way Centraide Canada and Léger research emphasized the importance of a strong community safety net, showing that 40% of those who accessed support from community organizations reported a positive impact on their financial situation, while 36% shared that these supports helped them manage their financial anxiety.

As we reflect on the past year, we are grateful for the dedication of those who stepped forward during a period of transition and uncertainty for our United Way. For all of you that worked alongside us, that supported us, that believed in us, thank you for being part of our story this year.

This report is a highlight reel of how your support and collaboration made a difference in Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry, Cornwall and Akwesasne.

Thank you. Merci. Nia:wen.



Stephanie Lapointe
Interim Executive
Director



Gerard McDonald
Board Chair





Our role is in our name: **we unite**

For more than 60 years, the United Way Centraide SDG has strived to break down barriers, create opportunities, and improve lives in our region.

Housing, homelessness, poverty, food insecurity, and mental health are deeply connected—and deeply complex. None of them exist in isolation, and none can be solved without understanding the root causes, the systems at play, and the real impact on people's lives.

That's where the United Way comes in.

We don't focus on a single issue—we look at the whole picture. We listen, learn and connect with our communities to understand what the needs are, who is and isn't accessing programs, what barriers may exist, and how we can ensure that no one is getting left behind.

We are a small and passionate team who cares about our home. Like you, we want to live in a community where everyone is given the opportunity to belong and thrive.

Our mission is to improve lives and respond to our communities' needs.

We envision a future where collective action empowers us to create lasting positive impact, ensuring equitable access to support and opportunities for all members of our communities.

Our values provide the philosophical foundation for all that we do, collectively and individually, with our agencies, donors, staff, volunteers, and communities.

We believe in:

Accountability
Trust
Respect

Engagement
Collaboration
Hope



Meet our team

Board of Directors

Gerard McDonald
Chair

Chantal Gilmour
Vice Chair

Donna Villeneuve
Treasurer

Kris McCarthy
Secretary

Binal Bhavsar
Director

Dominic Bonucchi-Bilow
Director

Alex de Wit
Director

Shannon Ferguson
Director

Anastasia George
Director

Lyle Warden
Director

Alexander Moussa
Youth Advisor

Olivia Soares
Youth Advisor

Staff

Stephanie Lapointe
Interim Executive Director
(December 2025 - present)

Ray Houde
Interim Executive Director (July -
November 2025)

Juliette Labossiere
Executive Director (on temporary
leave as of July 2025)

Jan Vesna
Community Investment
Coordinator

Susan Currier
Finance, Data and Compliance
Coordinator

Olivia Leroux
Housing Projects & Community
Opportunities Coordinator

Melanie Boileau
Fundraising and Marketing
Coordinator

Haleema Chaudhry
Office Administrator &
LEAP/OESP

Srdz Abelada
Fundraiser (2025 Summer
Student)

A human rights-based approach to poverty

For decades, our conversations about local poverty have often focused on its outcomes: the challenges, experiences, and barriers people face. While this understanding remains important, there is a growing need to reframe how we talk about poverty: not simply as an issue of need, but as a matter of human rights.

According to the Government of Canada, “At the heart of a human rights-based approach (HRBA) is the recognition that inequality and marginalization deny people their human rights and keep them in poverty...”

The foundation for these rights is the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This commitment was further strengthened through the adoption of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which are grounded in the principles of equality and non-discrimination.

Although poverty is not explicitly named in these agreements, it is deeply connected to the

protection of economic, social, and cultural rights, including the rights to housing, food, work, health, and an adequate standard of living.

A human rights approach changes the way we understand poverty. It recognizes people as rights-holders with agency, voice, and the right to opportunity rather than as individuals who must prove they are deserving of support. It challenges the idea that poverty is the result of individual failure and instead focuses attention on the systems, structures, and inequities that create and perpetuate barriers.

For United Way Centraide SDG, reframing poverty through a human rights lens means continuing to focus on dignity, inclusion, and meaningful change. It means recognizing that addressing poverty requires more than responding to immediate needs. It also requires building communities where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.



Our commitment to anti-oppression

As a non-profit organization and one of the largest local non-profit funders in our region, we have a responsibility to ensure our work is grounded in cultural safety, anti-racism, and anti-oppressive policies and practices.

In the current climate, where many businesses and organizations are reducing or stepping away from their investments in Diversity, Inclusion, Equity, and Anti-oppression work, our commitment is more important than ever. We have continued to play a leading role in the IDEA Community Coalition along with joining the Anti-Racism Network and Eastern Ontario Local Immigration Partnership to work with local organizations to keep moving this critical work forward.

In 2025, we continued to strengthen the knowledge and capacity of our Board of Directors and staff through ongoing learning and education. This included a three-day training on the Equity Indicators Framework led by Becky Sasakamoose-Kuffner, Transformational Leadership for EDI and Anti-Oppression led by Jean Samuel, and Indigenous Cultural Safety delivered by Len Pierre Consulting.

With this learning and our participation on three committees, we further commit to put equity, diversity, inclusion, anti-oppression, Truth and Reconciliation at the forefront of our work to foster sustainable, meaningful, and authentic structural and community change.

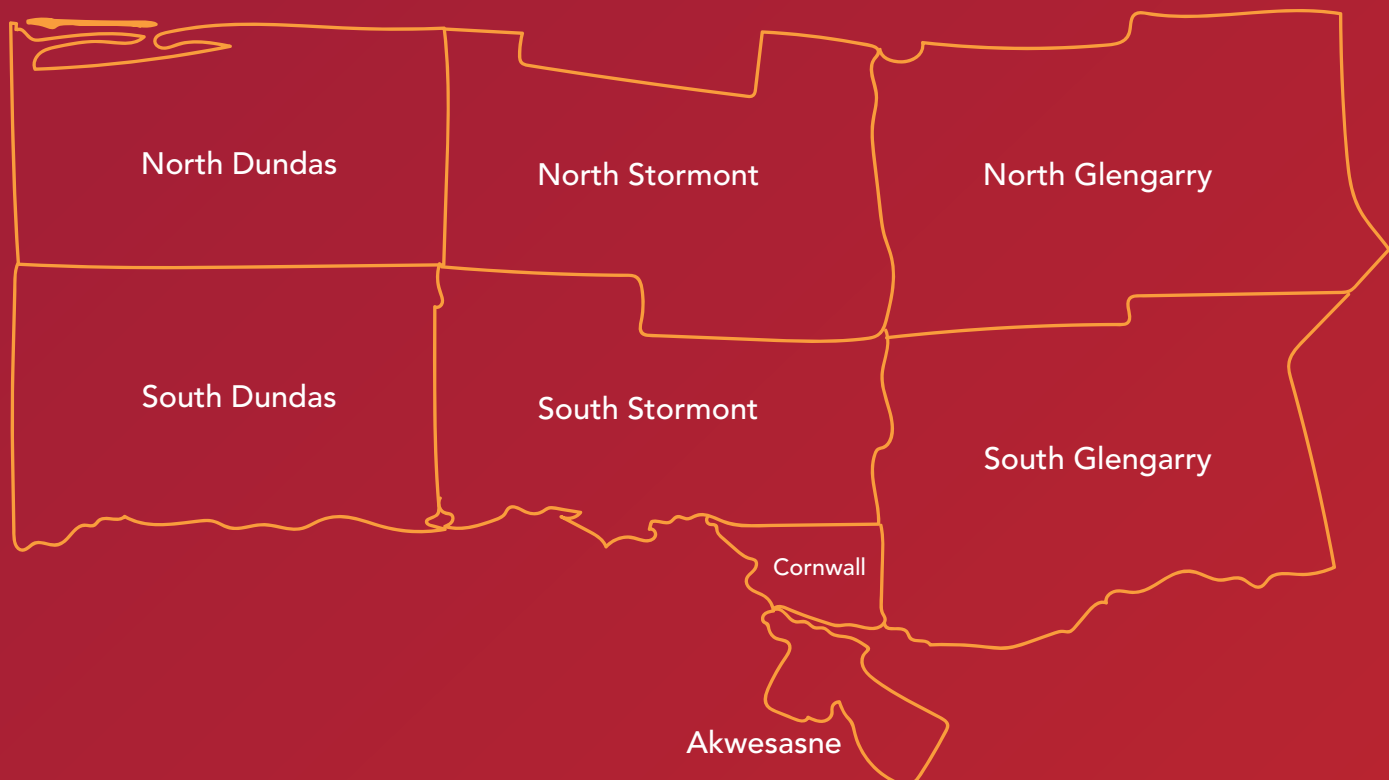


Our **impact** in 2025/26

United Way serves the communities of Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, Cornwall, and Akwesasne, a region shaped by diverse communities, unique local realities, and varying levels of access to services and supports.

From rural townships and small towns to an urban centre and the territory of Akwesasne, communities across our region face different social challenges. Addressing these needs requires strong partnerships, local knowledge, and a commitment to ensuring no community is left behind.

Through strategic investments, collaborative leadership, and a network of community partners, we support programs and services that reach people throughout Stormont, Dundas and Glengarry, Cornwall, and Akwesasne. As needs continue to evolve, we remain focused on strengthening our impact, expanding our partnerships, and helping create positive change in every community.



\$494,375
invested in SDGCA

8,800
lives impacted

13
local programs
supported

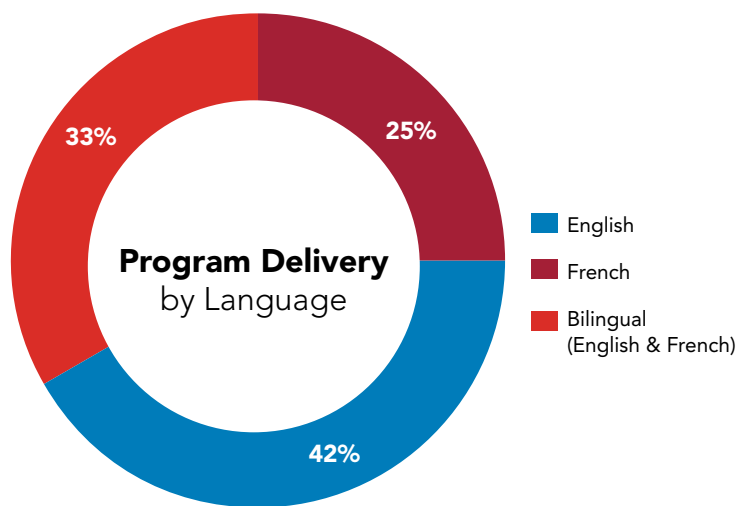
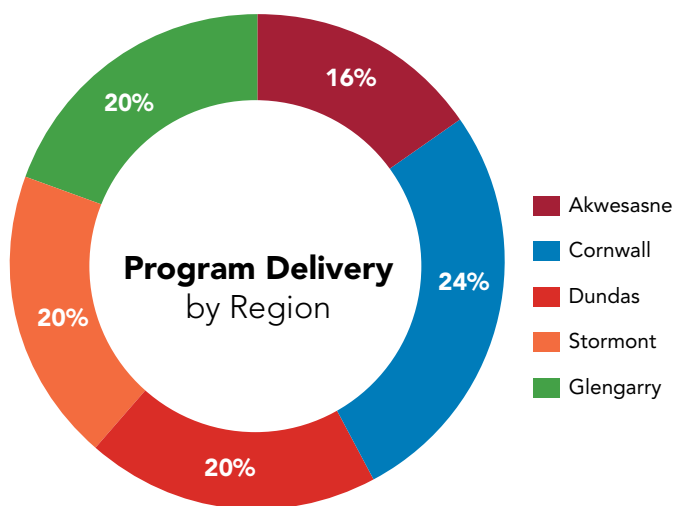
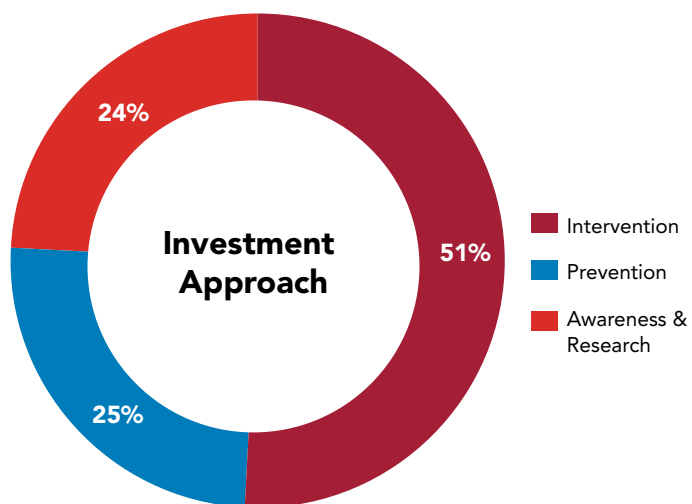
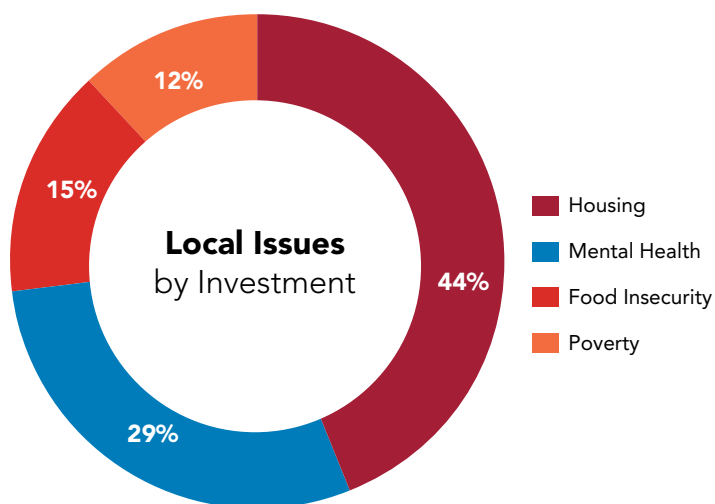
11
youth-led programs
supported

58%
of programs funded
were able to support
French-speaking clients

50%
of individuals supported
by funded programs live
in rural communities



How we respond to local issues



Intervention

Programs and services that provide timely support when individuals are already experiencing challenges such as financial hardship, mental health distress, housing instability, or other urgent needs. These services focus on stabilizing situations, connecting people to essential resources, and addressing immediate needs while supporting longer-term pathways to recovery and stability.

Prevention

Programs and services that strengthen well-being before significant challenges arise. These initiatives focus on building protective factors such as skills, confidence, connection, and access to supports. The goal is to reduce risk factors and support individuals, families, and communities early, so that challenges are less likely to escalate into crisis situations.

Awareness & Research

Activities that improve understanding of local needs, strengthen coordination between partners, and increase knowledge of available services. This includes sharing information, engaging community partners, and using data and lived experience to identify gaps in services and inform decisions about where support, funding, and system changes are most needed.

Our response to

Housing & Homelessness



30%

increase in rural homelessness across Ontario from 2024 to 2025 as the rate of homelessness continues to grow the fastest in rural and northern communities.

50%

increase in homelessness across Ontario since 2021 with more 85,000 Ontarians unsheltered in 2025.

1 in 5

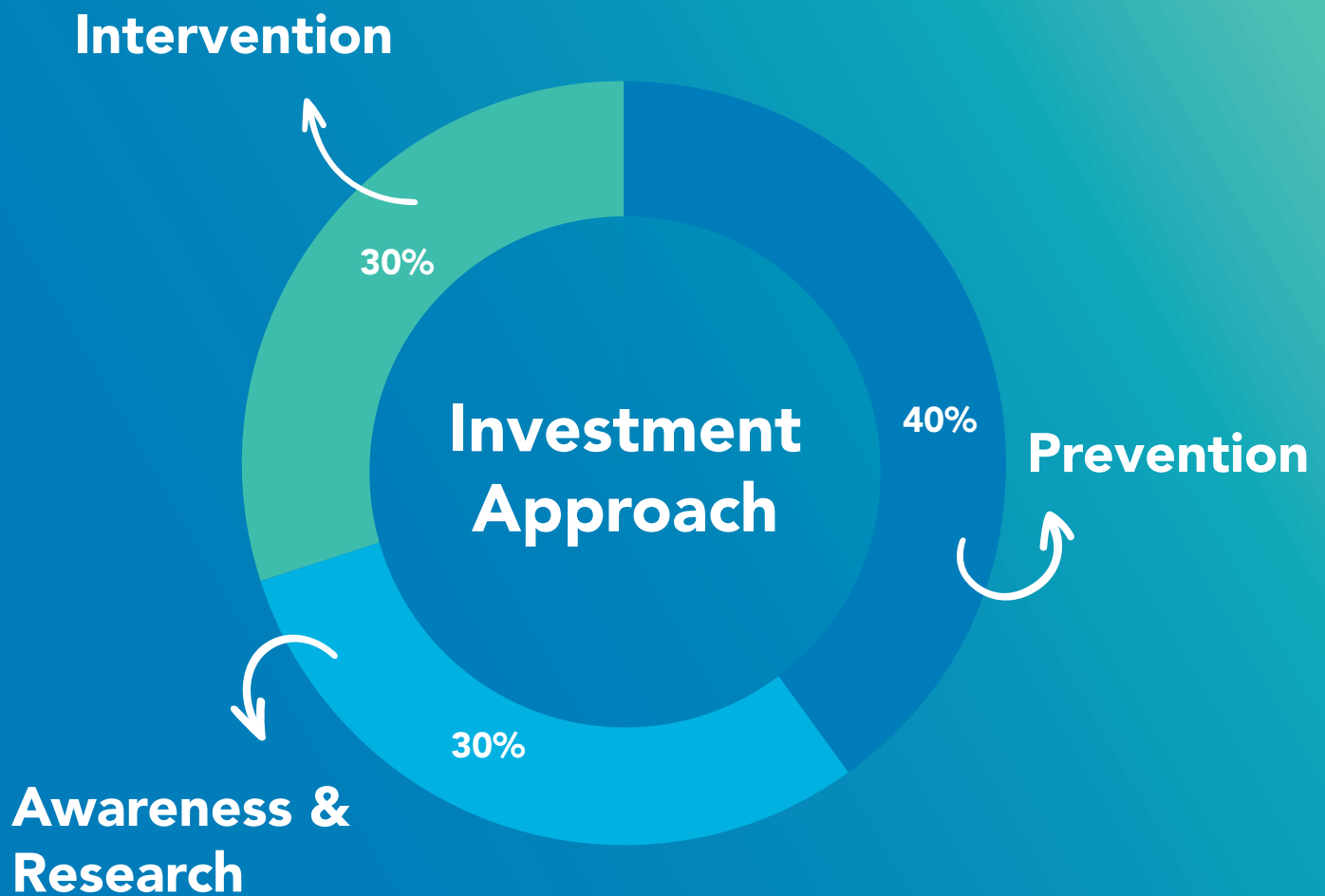
renter households in Canada spend more than 50% of their income on rent.

\$178,284

invested in 2025/26

925

lives impacted



Stability starts with a **safe home**

A home is more than four walls and a roof. It's the foundation for a stable, healthy life. It's the first step toward accessing education, employment, health care, food, and a sense of belonging.

Yet today, too many people in our region are living in uncertainty and stress. As access to safe and affordable housing becomes increasingly out of reach, especially in the rental market, more individuals and families are finding themselves unable to hold onto their homes or find new ones when life takes a turn.

At United Way, we know that homelessness is never a choice. It doesn't happen

because of one event, but because of a complex combination of systemic barriers, service gaps, and personal hardship. And it can happen to anyone.

That's why we're committed to a Housing First approach — one that recognizes housing as a human right and provides people with a safe, stable place to live, no matter their circumstances.

From emergency shelter and supportive housing to affordable rentals and homeownership, we're working with our partners to support the full spectrum of housing needs in our community.



Prevention

We lead and administer programs that help prevent evictions and improve unsafe living conditions, supporting individuals and families to remain safely and stably housed.

Helping households keep their power on: We administer the Low-income Energy Assistance Program (Cornwall Electric & Rideau St. Lawrence) and Ontario Electricity Support Program.

Helping households with unexpected expenses: We run the United Way Centraide SDG Last Resort Fund, funded by the Kinsmen Club of Cornwall and Canadian Federation of University Women in 2025, for cases where the households were facing a large expense that put them at risk of homelessness.

Intervention

HoL Community Hub & Warming Centre

A safe space for people experiencing homelessness or currently living in an unsafe home (i.e. no running water) in Dundas run by House of Lazarus (HoL).

The Hub offers specialized support with community programs and services in Morrisburg while also offering access to a kitchen, shower, toilet, bed and warm/cold space to relax. Along with emergency services, it has also become a gathering space with a variety of activities for anyone who is isolated and looking to connect with others.

Awareness & Research

We invested in research and collaboration to deepen our understanding of local housing needs while learning from communities where non-profits are playing a critical role in reducing homelessness through innovative housing solutions. This work helps inform local approaches and identify opportunities to strengthen housing stability across our region

Thanks to the **Community Housing Transformation Centre Grant**, we developed and led community housing information sessions across our region.



Community Housing
Transformation Centre
Centre de transformation
du logement communautaire

119

households supported with Cornwall Electric and Rideau St. Lawrence utility arrears to avoid or reconnect a disconnection.

4

households received financial support with rent arrears through the United Way/Centraide SDG Last Resort Fund to avoid eviction.

304

households were supported with their OESP application and received a rebate of \$45 per month (avg), a \$540 saving per household annually.

475

individuals unsafely housed or experiencing homelessness were supported at the Community Hub and Warming Centre.

3,500

meals were eaten at the Hub or taken home by individuals also experiencing food insecurity.

91

were in crisis and left with a plan. Staff helped fill in government forms, housing applications, access financial assistance, and referrals to other programs.

8

Community Housing Information sessions across Cornwall & SDG.

60+

Participants took part in community housing discussions, helping build momentum and advocacy for local housing solutions.



Our response to

Mental Health

32%

of adults in Eastern Ontario reported feelings of helplessness at least once or twice in the past month according to the Eastern Ontario Health Unit.

2 in 5

Canadians living with mental health conditions say their mental health care needs are not met due to affordability stigmas and difficulty navigating the system.

1 in 7

people in Canada use health services for a mental illness every year

60%

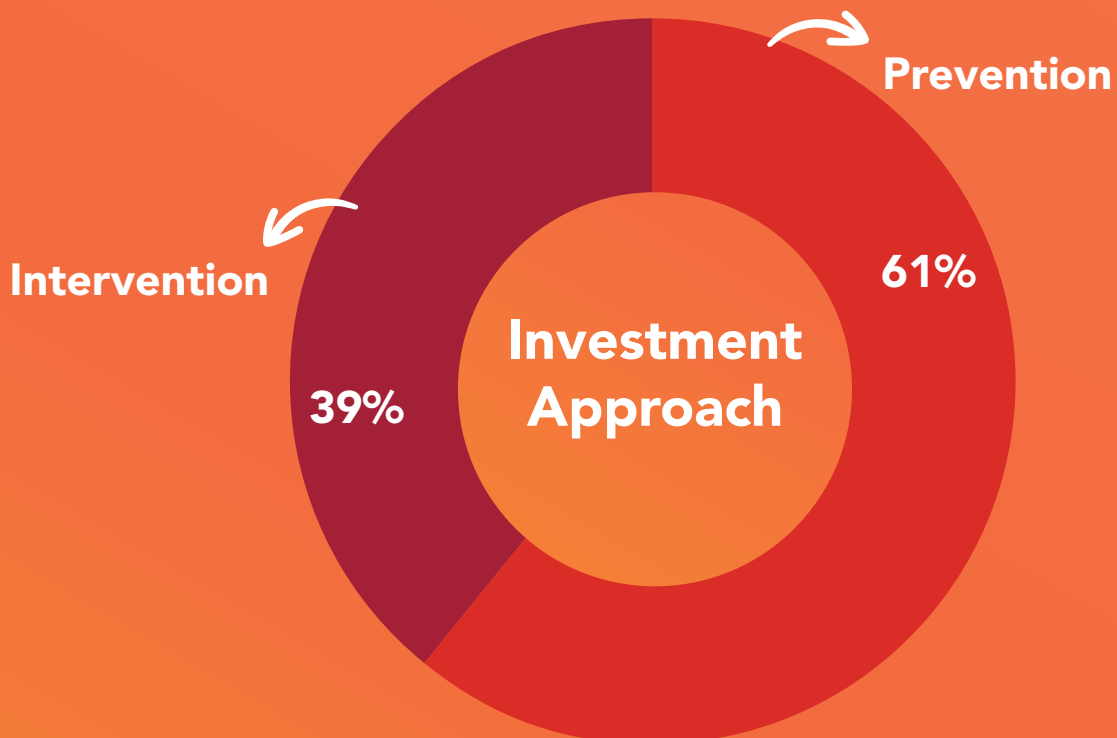
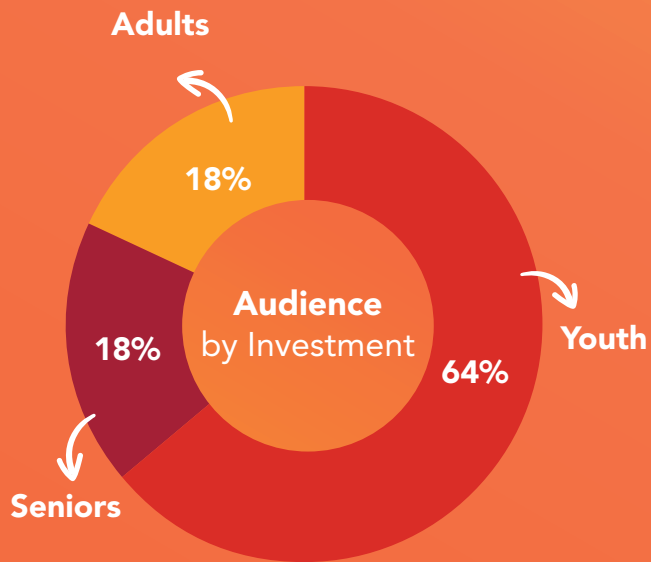
of Canadians experienced financial anxiety in 2025, demonstrating the growing connection between financial pressures and mental well-being.

\$140,000

invested in 2025/26

3,823

lives impacted



Mental health isn't a **secondary problem**

Over the past few years mental health has become an important part of public health conversations—but access to care remains unequal and inconsistent, especially for those facing systemic barriers.

While publicly funded systems cover some essential clinical services, it's often non-profit organizations that step in to provide the affordable, accessible supports people rely on to fill in the gaps of specialized care. These

community programs provide vital help like youth mental health support, 2SLGBTQ+ affirming care, mental health education, a free crisis helpline and one-on-one specialized therapy.

Thanks to your generous support, we can invest in grassroots programs that are preventing crisis, and intervening to meet the complex and varying needs of people living in Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry, Cornwall and Akwesasne.



Prevention

We invested in programs that strengthen mental well-being through early intervention, meaningful connections, skill development, and safe, supportive environments

Diversity Cornwall Rainbow Roots

Provided peer support, counselling, gender-affirming services, and community events for 2SLGBTQ+ youth and adults, including youth 18 and under.

CMHA Wellness Learning Centre

A senior-led and senior-focused pilot course, *Choosing Joy Over Grief*, designed by and for older adults. This peer-supported, non-clinical program focused on grief, coping strategies and mental wellness, strengthening connection and reducing isolation.

Bien Ici Francophone Wellness Camp

An inclusive, low-barrier summer camp for Francophone children with complex mental health needs combined recreation and connection with mental health promotion. Affordable access options ensured participation for families who could not otherwise afford programming.

Intervention

We invested in two programs that provided timely, targeted support for individuals experiencing mental health distress, focusing on stabilization, accountability, connection to services, and addressing underlying trauma and emotional challenges.

TAO Tel-Aide

Provided immediate, accessible French-language mental health support through a helpline and referral service for individuals experiencing emotional distress. The program supported emotional stabilization, helped callers clarify their needs, and strengthened coping strategies. When appropriate, callers were connected to community resources to support continuity of care.

Laurencrest Intersections SDG

Provided structured intervention for youth involved in, or at risk of involvement in, the justice system. The program focused on building accountability, improving emotional regulation, and supporting positive decision-making.

163

participants registered for Diversity Cornwall Rainbow Roots services and activities in 2025/26.

66.7%

2SLGBTQ+ participants reported improved mental health after participating in Rainbow Roots.

86%

of the participants who participated in CMHA's *Choosing Joy over Grief* reported increased confidence using healthy coping strategies

51

youth (ages 7 - 13) attended the Bien Ici Francophone Wellness Camp.

90%

satisfaction rate among campers and families as the camp improved self-confidence, social skills, peer interaction, and well-being.

3,455

calls were made to TAO Tel-Aide's helpline from residents in SDG.

94%

of callers were between the ages of 35 and 49. The majority of calls were for loneliness, social isolation, anxiety, and stress.

126

youth (ages 6 - 18) were supported by Laurencrest's Intersections programs.

64%

of youth are referred due to increasing and unmanageable parent-child conflict and aggression.



Our response to

Food Insecurity



83%

increase in food bank visitors with employment compared to pre-pandemic levels, demonstrating the struggle with the cost of living.

1 in 4

households in Eastern Ontario are currently experiencing food insecurity.

16.1%

of children living in Eastern Ontario are living in food insecurity.

\$68,525*

invested in 2025/26

295

lives impacted

Intervention



100%

**Investment
Approach**

*\$10,000 from the United Way East Ontario School Food Infrastructure Fund was paid directly to House of Lazarus by United Way East Ontario.

Food insecurity is a **growing crisis**

Continued inflation, unaffordable housing, and stagnating wages are forcing more individuals and families into difficult choices—often between paying rent or buying food.

According to Canada's Food Price Report in 2025, the average family of four spent \$16,833.67 on food for their household. Food Banks Canada recorded the highest visits to food banks ever in March 2026 with 2.2 million visits, a 90% increase compared to 2019.

For those who rely on social supports and/or work low-wage or precarious jobs, the risk of food insecurity is high with many households faced with food costing nearly 30% of their income, leaving many to rely on food banks or meal programs to get through the month.

These financial pressures are not distributed equally: Indigenous communities, already impacted by colonial policies and systemic marginalization, face disproportionately high rates of food insecurity, particularly where traditional food systems have been disrupted by environmental and regulatory changes.

Locally, we funded one community meal initiative that serves lunch on weekends—ensuring that those facing food insecurity have access to nutritious, reliable meals. In 2025, we also administered two local grants through the United Way East Ontario School Infrastructure to invest in equipment for school food programming across Eastern Ontario.



Intervention

We invested in programs that addressed immediate food insecurity needs by increasing access to reliable, nutritious meals for individuals and families experiencing hardship, particularly during periods when other supports are limited.

Agape Centre Everyone Eats!

Provided funding to expand weekend food access through a Saturday lunch program in Cornwall. The program offers a hot meal on Saturdays along with a take-home meal for Sunday, helping to fill a critical service gap for families experiencing food insecurity when other supports are not available.

School Food Infrastructure Fund (SFIF)

Through the United Way East Ontario School Food Infrastructure Fund (SFIF), supported by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, we invested in two infrastructure projects that strengthened the capacity of community partners to prepare, store, and distribute nutritious food to students. This fund focuses on improving the physical infrastructure needed to expand school food programming and strengthen local food security across SDG schools.

House of Lazarus

Supported upgrades to kitchen infrastructure, including two large prep tables and one commercial refrigerator, to enhance the preparation and distribution of School Food Back Packs. These improvements strengthened food storage and preparation capacity, supporting consistent access to nutritious food for students across 15 schools and approximately 300 students.

Bien Ici Francophone Youth Program

Supported the construction of a new kitchen space, including installation of an industrial dishwasher to improve food safety and increase meal production capacity. This investment strengthened school food programming delivery across 21 schools and 8 individual students, while ensuring safe, efficient, and sustainable food preparation.

Funded under the School Food Infrastructure Fund (SFIF) by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada.

175

unique individuals accessed Agape's Community Kitchen on Saturdays for lunch and received take-home meal for Sunday.

300

rural students served from the two new large prep tables and fridge for House of Lazarus' School Food Back Pack program.

36

schools across SDGCA supported through Bien Ici's and House of Lazarus' kitchens.

8

students with complex mental health needs supported through Bien Ici's new kitchen space (they are selected annually for specialized support from 21 schools)



Our response to

Poverty



46%

of Canadians possess a financial buffer that would allow them to cover basic living expenses for only one month or less before falling directly into debt

25%

of families, that equates to 6,105, residing in private households in Cornwall, earn less than \$40,000 a year, and of these families, 2600 earn less than \$20,000 per year.

39%

of Canadians have personally experienced poverty, or closely know someone who has, showing that the margin of financial security is shrinking across the social fabric.

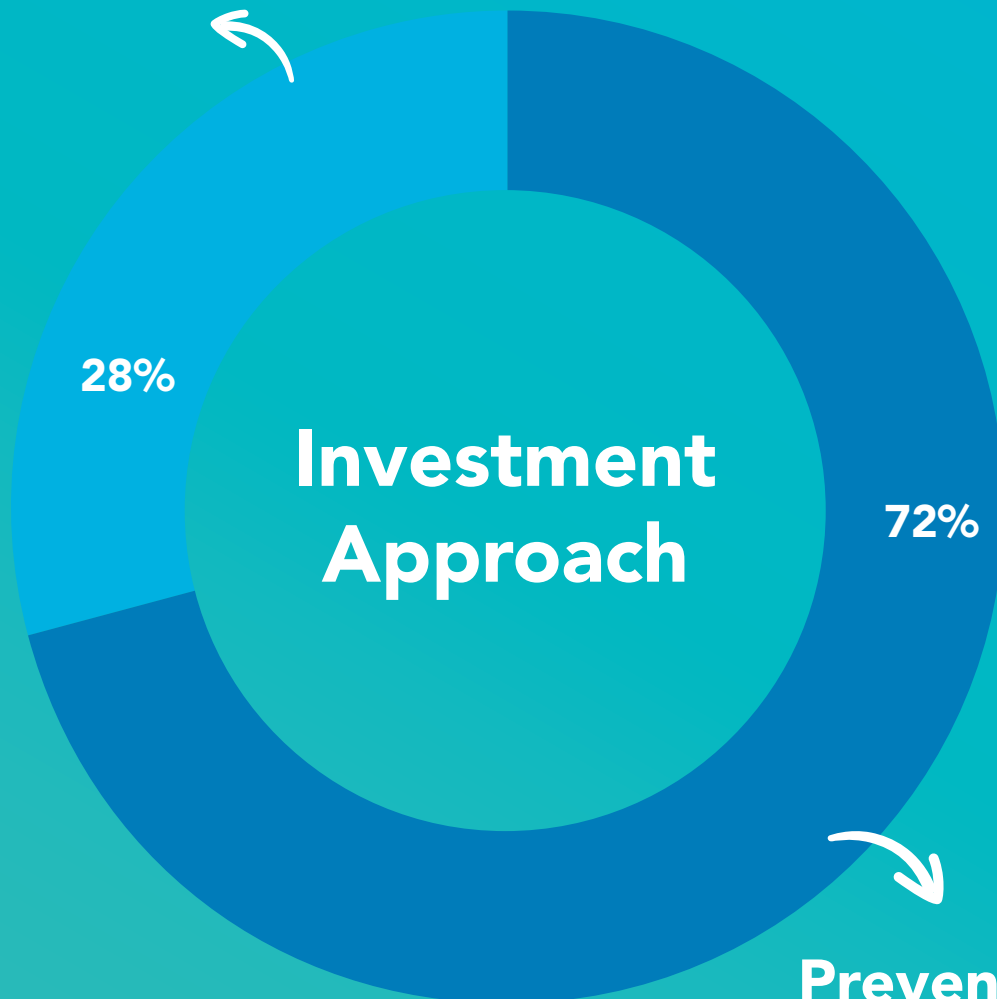
\$48,900

invested in 2025/26

951

lives impacted

Intervention



Prevention

Poverty isn't a **level playing field**

An outcome of poverty is the absence of adequate income to cover the cost of living; however, the roots of poverty go much deeper. It is the result of complex, interconnected barriers that limit individuals' ability to access stable housing, healthy food, education, and meaningful employment.

Poverty disproportionately impacts marginalized groups due to systemic inequities, including racism and the ongoing effects of colonialism. Stigma, discrimination, and other forms of oppression can create barriers to economic stability and opportunity, increasing the likelihood of living in poverty.

While financial literacy and planning are important tools, they cannot address the

broader structural realities that contribute to economic instability.

In our region, many individuals and families work hard yet still struggle to meet their basic needs. Factors such as the rising cost of living, lack of affordable housing, limited access to child care, and gaps in support during times of transition all contribute to the persistent cycle of poverty. This is why we invest in programs that support people in building skills, finding stable employment, and navigating times of crisis. It is why we advocate for policies that reflect the real cost of living and the importance of equitable opportunity.



Prevention

We invested in a prevention program that provided youth with hands-on work experience, skill development, and opportunities to build confidence in a supportive community setting. The program focused on youth facing barriers to employment and participation, including newcomers and other marginalized populations.

ACFO SDG La Friperie du Sourire

Provided structured, hands-on learning opportunities for youth through the operation of a community thrift store. Participants gained practical workplace experience, developed transferable skills, and strengthened teamwork, communication, and problem-solving abilities. The program created an inclusive environment where youth could build confidence, develop employability skills, and connect with their community. Through their involvement, participants also supported a valuable community resource that provides free clothing and essential items to individuals and families experiencing financial hardship.

Intervention

We invested in an intervention program that connected residents to essential services and supports, helping them navigate complex systems and access timely assistance when needed.

Community Navigation Eastern Ontario 211

Provided free, confidential information and referral services that connected individuals to community, social, health, and government resources. Through trained navigators, the service helped residents identify their needs, access appropriate supports, and navigate available services more effectively.

51

youth participated in hands-on learning opportunities while providing a community service for the community.

4,516

visits to La Friperie du Sourire which provides free clothing and essential items to individuals and families experiencing financial hardship.

2,443

hours of community engagement because of youth participation in this project.

900

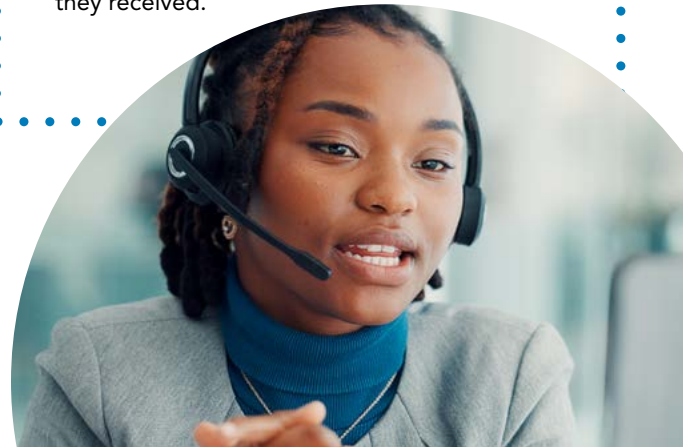
individuals in SDGCA called 211 for support navigating programs and services, a 15% increase compared to 2024/25.

94%

of callers received a referral and/or information to support their needs.

90%

of callers were satisfied by the support that they received.



Local Committees focused on Poverty Reduction

United Way Centraide SDG plays a key leadership and convening role in strengthening the local social services system by leading the Regional Emergency Strategic Response Council for SDG and Housing & Homelessness Working Group, collaborating with Linking Hands (Dundas), and engaging with the SDGCA Network. Through these tables and networks, we work alongside non-profit partners, municipal leaders, and community organizations to respond to emerging local needs, coordinate services, and strengthen system-wide collaboration. This work helps identify service gaps, surface emerging pressures, and guide where investment and capacity-building are most needed to better support individuals and families across the region.



Youth Investing in Community Grants

IMPACT

Empowering local youth to reach their full potential

For the third year, our Board of Directors' Youth Advisors managed the Youth Investing in Community Grants, supporting young leaders who are creating meaningful change in their communities.

At United Way, we recognize the impact young people can make when they are trusted with resources and decision-making opportunities. As experts in their own experiences, youth are uniquely positioned to identify challenges and develop solutions that strengthen their communities.

From youth mental health and period poverty to food security, we invested in youth-led projects that address issues affecting local young people and create lasting community impact.

\$14,000*

invested in local youth-led projects

11

projects funded in 2025/26

162

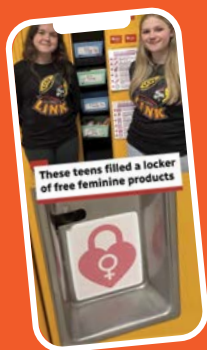
youth involved in the planning and execution of projects.

2,641

youth impacted by the projects

*An additional \$2,000 was invested in youth grants, made possible through unspent funds from the previous year's allocation.

Project	Issue	About
Where2Turn Booklet (BGC)	Mental Health	Youth-developed a Mental Health resource booklet to connect rural youth with mental health resources. These booklets were distributed to students to ensure they knew where to turn in a time of need.
Pink Lock Project (CCVS)	Period Poverty	Student-led initiative designed to discreetly provide students with reliable access to essential menstrual hygiene products and emergency clothing in a small locker.
St. Matthew's Prom (St. Matthews)	Mental Health	Students organized a prom and graduation that their peers will always remember.
The Meeting Place (Tagwi)	Mental Health	Youth designed a safe space for students that offered mental health supports and aimed to address stigmas related to mental health and wellness.
Sharing Pantry Expansion (CCVS)	Food Insecurity	Students in a hospitality and tourism class extended the school's small food bank to include the types of foods that their peers could access in a time of need, adding frozen and fresh meals to the pantry.
Wellness Fair (South Dundas)	Mental Health	Youth-led wellness event at Seaway District High School focused on mental health, physical fitness, nutrition, and overall well-being.
Diversity Mural (St. Joseph's)	Mental Health	Students worked with a professional artist to create a high quality, inclusive mural within the school to promote diversity and representation in their high school.
Volunteer Appreciation Night (La Citadelle)	Mental Health	Youth-led ceremony to thank their fellow peers who have volunteered throughout the year on various community projects.
Cram & Cocoa (Holy Trinity)	Mental Health	Youth-led initiative that brought students together during exam season to reduce stress, build confidence, and support positive mental health.
Haven Café (Cornwall Islamic Foundation)	Mental Health	Youth-led two-part café series: one set of sessions for girls, and one for boys, giving every youth a space that feels safe, calm, and judgment-free.
The Compass Young Men Rising (CCVS)	Mental Health	Student-led program designed to support the social, emotional, and academic well-being of male students in Grades 7–12.



As seen on CBC Ottawa

The Pink Lock project organizers were interviewed by CBC Ottawa, and content was shared on their TikTok and Meta platforms, highlighting how this youth-led initiative was supporting their classmates while breaking down stigmas about women's health.

Funded by:



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Foundation™



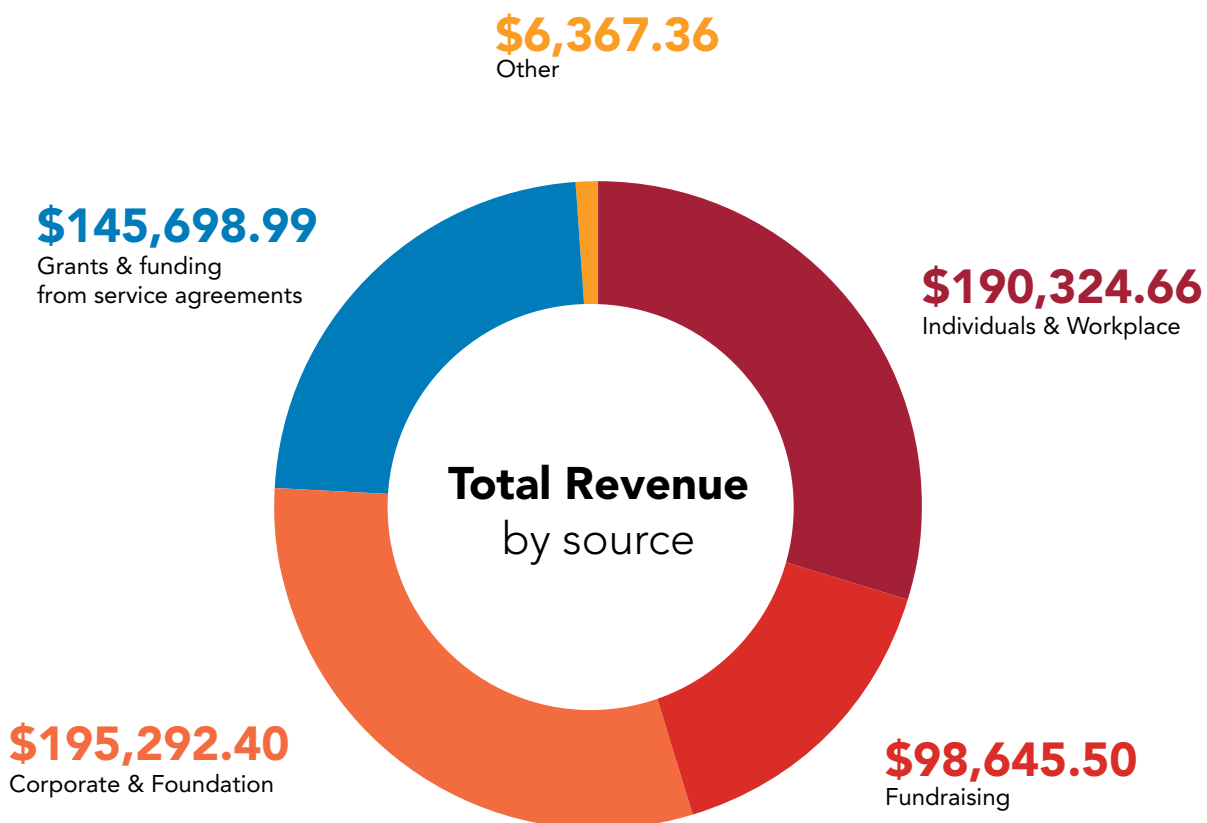
Social Development
Council SDGCA Conseil
de développement social

Financial Overview

This year's financial results reflect a planned reduction in overall revenue and expenditures while continuing to prioritize investments where they matter most. As the needs in our communities become more complex, responding to the moment requires intentional investments in programs focused on prevention, early intervention, research, and awareness, alongside direct support for those facing immediate challenges.

Every dollar entrusted to United Way is invested with purpose and accountability. Our audited financial statements and commitment to transparent reporting demonstrate how community contributions are managed with integrity to create meaningful, lasting impact across Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry, Cornwall, and Akwesasne.

Financial statements are audited by an independent auditor and are available at:
<https://unitedwaysdg.com/about-us/accountability/>



\$45,272

Low-income Energy
Assistance Program (LEAP)

\$126,453

Programs and Research

\$281,326

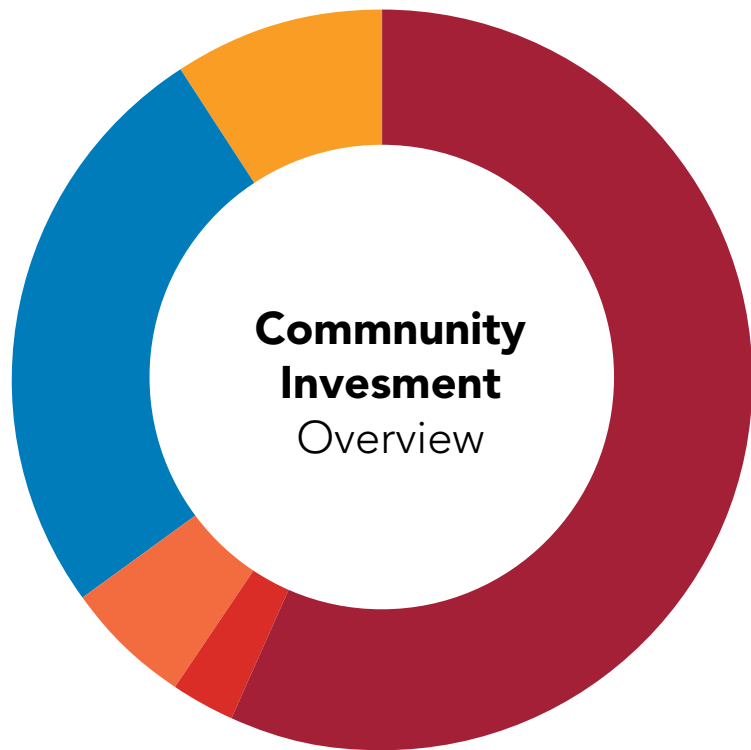
Community Investment

\$28,525

School Food
Infrastructure Fund (SFIF)

\$12,800

Youth Investing In
Community



32%

Community Investment
Fund

25%

Fundraising &
Administration

43%

Community Programs
& Research

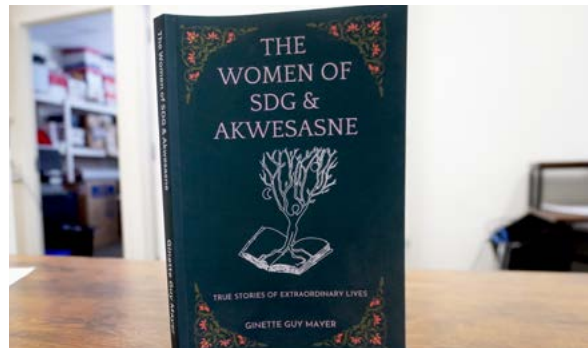
Everything we do would not be possible without the support of our donors & volunteers

Fundraising is vital to the work we do in the community. Thank you to the **all** of you who have so generously donated to us in 2025/26 to help care for our communities. You are part of the solutions that are tackling the social issues impacting our region.

As a small team, fundraising can be challenging throughout the year. There are individuals, businesses, and organizations who have gone above and beyond for us this year by fundraising on our behalf. **Thank you.** Your time, energy and passion are what fuel us to keep working hard for our community.



Angel Ornaments
Pommier Jewellers



The Women of SDG & Akwesasne Book Sales
Ginette Guy Mayer



Third Annual Hockey Tournament
Cornwall Electric



Sign up for E-billing
Cornwall Electric



In 2025, we took building community to new heights again with the third annual go Over The Edge for United Way SDG.

49 people rappelled down one of Cornwall's tallest buildings, St. Lawrence Seaway Management Corporation, and collectively raised nearly over **\$57,000** by pushing their own personal limits.

To rappel, participants had to raise a minimum of \$1000 for the United Way. Thank you to all of our Over The Edge participants who showed us what's possible when we come together to raise funds and have fun.



The St. Lawrence
Seaway Management
Corporation

Corporation de Gestion
de la Voie Maritime
du Saint-Laurent



Social Development
Council SDGCA Conseil
de développement social



2026 Community Impact Awards

Creating meaningful change takes a community. As a small team, we depend on the passion, generosity, and commitment of people and organizations across our region to amplify our impact. Every contribution matters: whether it's organizing a charity hockey tournament, serving as a board member representing local youth perspectives, running a workplace campaign, making a payroll donation, volunteering your time, or leading a business that invests in the well-being of its employees, customers, and community.

Each year at our Annual General Meeting, we proudly recognize those who have gone above and beyond in support of United Way Centraide SDG. These awards celebrate the individuals, businesses, volunteers, workplace campaigns, and community organizations whose leadership, generosity, and dedication have strengthened our organization and helped improve the lives of thousands across Stormont, Dundas, Glengarry, Cornwall, and Akwesasne.

Business of the Year

P38 Energy Inc.

Board of Director of the Year

Olivia Soares (Youth Advisor)

Workplace Campaign of the Year

Ministry of Labour, Immigration, Training and Skills Development

Community Impact Organization of the Year

Rideau St. Lawrence Distribution

Community Impact Business of the Year

Walmart Logistics

Low Stanley Award Volunteer of the Year

Cornwall Electric Hockey Tournament Planning Committee



THANK YOU

We don't work alone

Community Champions

Committees

Over The Edge Planning

Maureen Amistoso
Chantal Gilmour
John Gilmour
Shannon Ferguson
Kevin Lajoie
Stephanie Lapointe
Olivia Leroux
Kris McCarthy
Lorelei McLean
Jacob Pilon

Youth Investing in Community

Shannon Ferguson
Chantal Gilmour
Alexander Moussa
Olivia Soares
Jan Vesna

Community Investment Fund

Melanie Baker Brown
Sherry Fairweather
Chantal Gilmour
Ayesha Khan
Olivia Leroux
Gabriel Riviere-Reid
Jan Vesna

2024 Over The Edge Rappellers

Maureen Amistoso
Jim Athanasiou
Shirley Bissonnette
Ashlynn Boer
Aidan Boer
Dominic Bonucchi-Bilow
Danny Calhoun

Brad Cote
Ricardo D'Amore
Anastasia George
Chantal Gilmour
Tina-Marie Gilmour
Sarah Good
Marije Harbers
Meghan Henderson
Kevin Lajoie
Jennifer Lauzon
Cassandra Leduc
Olivia Leroux
Catherine Lortie-Vachon
Wendy MacDonald
Kris McCarthy
Gerard McDonald
Cairo McDonell
Austin Nelson
Stacey Olson
Matt Paquette
Melanie Paquette-Allaire
Jacob Pilon
Kathi Poirier
Dan Poirier
Sophie Poirier
Pamela Poirier-McClain
Thom Racine
Jason Riley
Martin Sabourin
Taylor Seguin
Chelsea Seguin
Olivia Soares
Adam St. Louis
David Thibeault
John Towndrow
Darwin Unrau
Micah Vesna
Ayssa Villeneuve
Chad Z



Employee Workplace Campaigns

BMO Financial Group
City of Cornwall
City of Ottawa
CMHA
Cornwall Community Hospital
Cornwall Electric
Desjardins Groupe
Eli Lilly Canada
Enbridge
Enterprise Holdings
GCWCC - Retirees
Government of Canada
Hydro One
IGM Financial
Inspire Community Support Services
Job Zone
Johnston Beaudette
Lactalis
Laurencrest Youth Services
LCBO
MacDougall Hunt Insurance Brokers
Metro Ontario Incl
Ministry of Agriculture, Food and Rural Affairs
Ministry of Community and Social Services
Ministry of Community Safety and Correctional Services
Ministry of Environment, Conservation and Parks
Ministry of Francophone Affairs
Ministry of Government and Consumer Services
Ministry of Heritage, Sport, Tourism and Culture
Ministry of Infrastructure
Ministry of Labour, Training, Skills Development
Ministry of Municipal Affairs
Ministry of the Attorney General
Morbern
Public Service Employees
Public Service Pension
RBC
RCMP Pension
Ross Video
Scotiabank
Seaway Chevrolet Cadillac Buick GMC
Seaway Express
St Lawrence College
St Lawrence Seaway Management Corp.
TD Bank Group
The Counties of SDG
Trans-Northern Pipelines

Trans-Northern Pipelines
Upper Canada District School Board
UPS Canada
UW Calgary - Designation
UW Simcoe - Designation

Corporate & Foundation

Major Donors

Cornwall Electric Employee Matching
Five B Family Foundation
Ontario Lottery and Gaming Corporation
The Robert Campeau Foundation
RBC Foundation
Scotiabank

Community Builders

Adams, Sherwood, Swabey & Follon
Al Groupe Financier
BMO Financial Group
Canada Life
Cantech/IPG
CIBC
Cornwall Gravel
Desjardins Cares & Shares Donations
Enbridge Corporate Employee Matching
Enterprise Holdings
IGM Financial Employee Matching
Johns Manville Canada
LCBO
LKQ Canada
MacEwen Petroleum Inc.
Medical Arts Pharmacy
P38 Energy Inc
Rolston-Mollard Endowment Fund
Social Development Canada
Social Development Council SDGCA
TD Bank
UPS Canada
Walmart Canada Corp



**United Way
Centraide**
Stormont, Dundas
& Glengarry

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impact and latest news.



www.unitedwaysdg.com

