

Change Starts Here

United Way's Report to the Community | 2012-2013

By supporting United Way, you're helping your entire local community. You're giving where you live to ensure that all residents of Windsor and Essex County and future generations have a great place to call home. This is our community and together, we're committed to making Windsor-Essex a great place for everyone.



We're working with community partners to develop plans to **help families move into stable and affordable housing.**

We're investing in programs that **support basic needs** and **help to reduce poverty in Windsor-Essex.**

We're teaching people how to prepare meals on a budget and how to access **local, fresh and nutritious produce.**

We're **helping kids improve their academic performance,** increase self-confidence and get along with others in their lives.

We're strengthening parenting skills to **build stronger families.**

We're providing **emergency financial assistance** to individuals and families in our community who have nowhere else to turn.

We're inspiring residents to get involved in their **neighbourhoods** to change conditions and create a **stronger and safer community.**

We're **supporting seniors** by reaching out to those who are isolated and helping them to become **active and involved.**



Message from United Way



A Message from the Chair of the Board and CEO

As we end the third year of our new direction, we are proud of the accomplishments we have achieved. United Way/Centraide Windsor-Essex County is working hard to ensure that your donations are used in the most effective and efficient manner possible. Our partners have been working in collaboration to ensure that essential programs and services are available in Windsor and Essex County to people in need.

Last year, thousands and thousands of individuals and families received vital programs and services funded by United Way. These programs and services are critical to a thriving and vibrant community and you, our donors, are helping to make things happen. Change is happening; we are having a positive impact in our community.

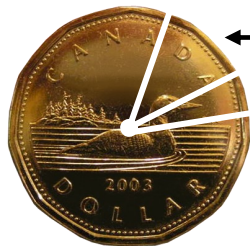
In order for United Way to continue to do its work, we depend on hundreds of volunteers throughout Windsor and Essex County. To our valued volunteers, we extend our deepest thanks for your commitment to our community through United Way. A heartfelt thank you to our Board of Directors, Committee Members and Staff for your continued hard work and commitment to United Way. We could not do it without you. To our donors, thank you for your continued support. Without you, we would not be able to continue working with our funded partners and our collaborators to have long-lasting positive impact in our community. **Change starts here.**

Sincerely,

Carolyn Marcotte
Chair, Board of Directors

Penelope (Penny) Marrett
Chief Executive Officer

As part of our commitment to you, we work every day to maintain the trust and confidence of our community through fundraising best practices and transparent accounting. Our fundraising costs are some of the lowest in the sector.



Direct Fundraising (12.3%)

General Organization and Administration (5.3%)

Investment in our community (82.4%)

For more information or a copy of our audited financial statements, please visit www.weareunited.com/reports

Board of Directors

Bringing knowledge and understanding of their respective sectors, the Board is responsible for setting the direction of the organization and monitoring the impact of our work.

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Dino Chiodo
Sherrilynn Colley-Vegh
Margaret Corio
Patrick Goggins
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Gary Parent
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Helga Reidel
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Alicia Trepanier
William Willis
**began in 2013*

Supporting Basic Needs & Independence

Last year, 165,112 visits were made by 9,188 individuals and families to local food banks funded by United Way.

To ensure that people have access to fresh and nutritious food, 30 community kitchen workshops were also offered to Essex County residents. Participants learned how to prepare healthy, low-cost meals.

9,821

individuals & families accessed United Way Funded Programs to support basic needs and independence

Positioning Kids & Families For Success

2,015 individuals, couples and families received one-to-one and group support through counselling services funded by United Way.

Counselling helped people better cope with mental health concerns related to parenting, addictions, anger management, life transition, family needs, mood disorders and self-esteem.

15,569

individuals & families accessed United Way Funded Programs to position kids and families for success

Creating Thriving Neighbourhoods

Last year, United Way funded neighbourhood engagement programs across Windsor and Essex County to inspire residents to get involved in creating a stronger and safer community.

Since 2010, United Way has been funding programs in the neighbourhoods of Ford City and Leamington. In 2013, we began funding programs in Meadowbrook, Glengarry-Marentette and the west end of Windsor.

3,248

individuals & families accessed United Way Funded Programs to create thriving neighbourhoods

Recognition & Thanks



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*Left in 2012/2013

**On Leave

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Don Larose
Darlene Malcom
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Sandra Sahli

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Green Shield Canada
Rosemary E. Grayer, City of Windsor
Randy Homenick, Sponsored by
Green Shield Canada
Pam Strong, CAW Local 200 (Retiree)

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Eileen Chen
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Aislynn Johnson
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Project Partnerships

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Joel Furlotte
Adeline Gaspard
Michele Legere
Laura Tucker
Adam Vasey

Thank you to the following for their generous sponsorship:

Accucaps Industries Limited
AlphaKOR Group
Ambassador Bicycles
AM800 CKLW
Blackburn Radio
Bubi's Awesome Eats
Bull and Barrell Urban Saloon
Caesars Windsor
Canadian College of
Health Science & Technology
CAW Local 195
CAW Local 200
CAW Local 444
CAW Local 2027
CAW Local 2458
Chrysler Canada Inc.
City of Windsor
Corporation of the County of Essex
Culligan Windsor
CUPE Local 82
CUPE Local 543
Deloitte
Detroit Tigers Foundation
Downtown Windsor Farmers Association
Ford Motor Company of Canada Limited
Green Shield Canada
Giovanni Caboto Club
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Westmoreland Sales
Windsor Ambassadors
Windsor-Essex Mobility Group
Windsor Express Basketball
Windsor Family Credit Union
Windsor Fire & Rescue Services
Windsor Optimist Youth Club
Windsor Police Service
Windsor Parade Corporation
Windsor This Week
Xerox



I Believe in My Community Awards

In March, United Way held its 6th annual I Believe in My Community Awards Celebration at Caesars Windsor. Hundreds of organizations and volunteers attended the event to celebrate the United Way Campaign and to recognize 12 award recipients for their contributions.



Charles E. Brooks Labour Service Award

United Way and the Windsor & District Labour Council present the Charles E. Brooks Labour Community Service Award annually to a trade unionist in recognition of outstanding contributions in the area of voluntary community service. In 2012, Father William Capitano received this prestigious award.



iClimb for United Way

United Way held its 4th annual iClimb for United Way event at the WFCU Centre in early 2013. United Way welcomed people of all abilities to walk, roll or climb in support of the community. More than 600 people participated and raised over \$43,000 in support of after-school programs.



Volunteers Changing Lives Awards

Each year, United Way, in partnership with The Windsor Star, recognizes outstanding local volunteers through the Volunteers Changing Lives Awards. In 2013, six individuals and two organizations were recognized for their dedication to our local community.



Tina's Story

Giving Circle

My name is Tina and I live in Windsor-Essex. This is my story:

I married my loving husband 16 years ago, and we adopted two children, Corbin and Jeremy. Our son, Corbin, was only three and a half years old when he was adopted, but he had already lived a lifetime of uncertainty and trauma. We didn't expect that parenting would be easy, but we weren't prepared for the issues that our family would face.

For nearly three years, we enrolled Corbin in activities that any typical young child would attend. Each and every time, we were told that he would have to leave. He had no attention-span and needed constant support. We tried everything to help him learn how to control himself, but our attempts failed. Nearly every day, I would get phone calls from his school, asking that he be taken home. Every time I heard the phone ring, I would get a sinking feeling – knowing that something was wrong. I was close to losing my job because I had to reduce my work schedule to be 'on-call' for my son.

My son was constantly getting suspended, and I felt like there was no end in sight. Our son was spending more time out of school than in school, and we were concerned for his future. I dreaded picking my son up from school, knowing that the evening would consist of meltdowns. My son would throw furniture, punch holes in walls, hit me and try to run away. My marriage and my family that I loved so dearly were falling apart. We reached out to service providers across the community, but received no diagnosis or help. At that point in time, I felt totally hopeless.

I was able to connect with Windsor Essex Family Network, a service funded by United Way, to discuss my situation. We talked for nearly two hours and I was finally able to share the problems that my family was going through.

They offered me on-going support and resources, and made me realize that my family could have a future. I learned about where to go and how I could get support. I was given information about community programs, summer camps and parenting groups that would help my family, and more importantly – my son. For once, I stopped feeling so isolated and began feeling hopeful.



Because of the support I received, our child was diagnosed with seven different mental health issues at the age of 8. With these reports in-hand and a strong advocate by our side, we were able to secure much-needed supports resulting in our being able to better care for our son.

If it wasn't for United Way funding the Families Helping Families In Partnership Program, I wouldn't have had access to the support that my family so desperately needed. It is this strategy that provides opportunities for families who have a family member with a disability or children's mental health concern to participate in a variety of education, parent leadership and engagement activities. Families are provided with a mentor that teaches advocacy skills, how to navigate systems, and expand relationships and connections, so that their family member's needs are more effectively addressed. Without the support of this United Way Funded Program, I don't know where my family would be today. I know with certainty that my family would not be as happy today without the help of United Way. **Please give generously to United Way. Your donation will help thousands of people across Windsor and Essex County – people like Tina and her son.**

We would like to recognize the following organizations for demonstrating incredible commitment to the United Way Campaign.

Support of \$500,000+

Chrysler Canada Inc.
CAW Local 444; CAW Local 1498;
CAW Local 195; ONA Local 8

Ford Motor Company of Canada
CAW Local 200; CAW Local 240

Support of \$100,000+

Caesars Windsor
CAW Local 444

Canadian Salt Company
CAW Local 1959; CAW Local 240

City of Windsor Combined Workplace Campaign
CUPE Local 82, CUPE Local 543;
Windsor Fire and Rescue, WPPFA;
Windsor Essex County Health Unit;
City of Windsor Non Union, CANUE;
Transit Windsor, ATU Local 616;
Huron Lodge, ONA Local 008;
Windsor Police Service, WPA;
Windsor Public Library, CUPE Local 2067

Greater Essex County District School Board
CUPE Locals 27 and 1348; ETFO Local 3255;
OSSTF District 9; WESSPA; OPC

Green Shield Canada
CAW Local 240

Government of Canada Workplace Charitable Campaign (GCWCC)
PSAC, UTE and PIPSC

**Rt. Hon. Herb Gray Parkway Partners
Parkway Infrastructure Constructors;
Windsor Essex Mobility Group**
LiUNA Local 625 and IUOE Local 793

University of Windsor
CUPE Locals 1001, 1393, 4580;
CAW Locals 195 and 2458; WUFA

Windsor-Essex Catholic District School Board
CAW Local 2458; OECTA; CUPE Local 1358

Support of \$75,000+

Diageo Canada
CAW Local 2098

RBC Royal Bank and RBC Dominion Securities
Russell A. Farrow Limited

Support of \$50,000+

Hiram Walker & Sons Limited
CAW Local 2027

Tregaskiss Limited

Valiant Machine & Tool Inc.

Windsor Mold Group,
CAW Local 195 and CAW Local 1959



**United Way
Centraide
Windsor-Essex County**