
REPORT TO: Public Health and Social Services Committee

MEETING DATE: Tuesday, November 08, 2016

SUBJECT: Evaluation of 2014 Niagara Prosperity Initiative Projects

RECOMMENDATIONS

That this report **BE RECEIVED** for information.

KEY FACTS

- In September 2008 (COM 53-2008) Regional Council authorized staff to reinvest \$1.5 million, achieved through cost savings resulting from the implementation of the Ontario Child Benefit (OCB), toward increasing prosperity for Niagara families living in poverty, and this funding commitment has been renewed annually since then
- Projects funded through NPI can be for one or two years
- Committee reports detailing investments have been completed for each year since implementation
- This report provides information on projects that were funded by the Niagara Prosperity Initiative (NPI) in 2014 and evaluated in 2016
- The expected number of people to be served from the 2014 projects was estimated at 6,255. The actual total number of people served as reported by the projects was 9,180, an increase of 47 per cent.

CONSIDERATIONS

Financial

The investment of \$1.5 million is reviewed annually by Council as part of Community Services' operating budget. In 2014, a total of \$1,206,704 was contracted to 18 projects and were approved as part of the 2014 operating budget.

Corporate

By investing funding and collaborative action in neighbourhoods in need of attention, this program supports performance outcomes related to Council's Strategic Priorities impacting employment and community symptoms.

Governmental Partners

The Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Community and Social Services expect, but do not require, municipalities to use OCB savings to maintain investments in programs that benefit social assistance recipients and their children.

Public and/or Service Users

An estimated 9,180 people were served through the 2014 NPI projects across Niagara.

ANALYSIS

The NPI focuses on neighbourhood-based interventions aimed to increase prosperity for Niagara residents living in poverty. Research shows that strong neighbourhoods are ones that engage residents and are essential to healthy, safe and prosperous communities.

Neighbourhoods in need of attention have been identified throughout the region based on key indicators such as the low income measure, unemployment rate, and educational attainment. To date, since 2008, 318 projects have been funded by NPI with over 83 different community groups and agencies involved.

In 2014 a total of 18 projects were funded through NPI. NPI projects can be funded for one or two years. All 2014 projects were completed by June 2016. Details of each project are provided in Appendix A.

Investments were made in the following communities:

2014 NPI Projects		% of Projects	Contracted Amount
St. Catharines	9	43	\$648,673.26
West Lincoln	1	5	\$184,128.16
Port Colborne	2	10	\$171,649.75
Regional	3	14	\$87,436.62
Welland	2	10	\$64,980.94
Niagara Falls	1	5	\$22,444.33
Thorold	2	10	\$13,995.58
Fort Erie	1	5	\$13,395.57
			\$1,206,704.20

* Three projects were offered in more than one municipality

The types of projects funded are as follows:

NPI Contracted Amounts by Project Type (2014)				
Types of Projects	\$	% of total funding available	# of Projects	% of total project completed
Educational Programs for children/youth	\$266,594.59	22%	6	33%
Life Skills Programs for Adults	\$456,063.02	38%	4	22%
Access to Food	\$188,036.95	16%	2	11%
Direct Services	\$130,982.68	11%	2	11%
Job Specific Skills	\$87,425.26	7%	2	11%
Community Development	\$66,127.76	5%	1	6%
Research/Conference/Seminar	\$11,473.94	1%	1	6%
	\$1,206,704.20	100%	18	100%

NPI projects are required to submit quarterly and final reports that include:

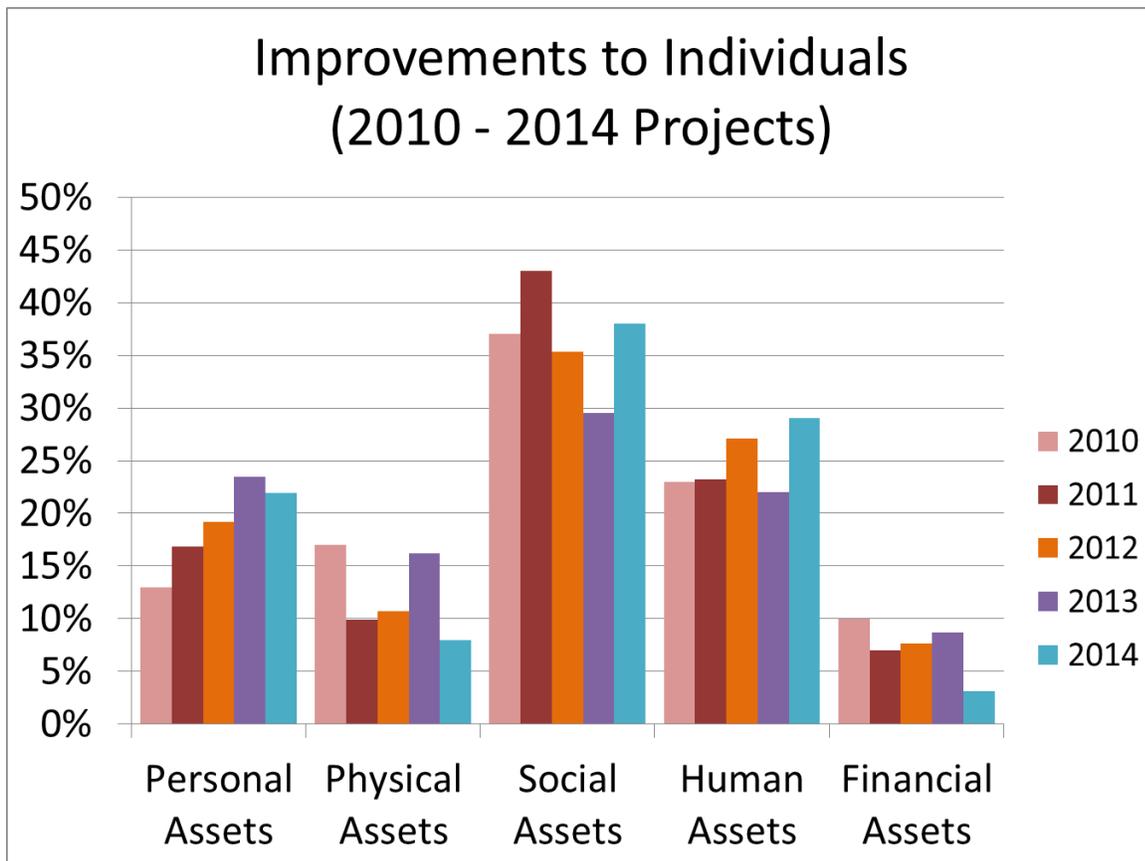
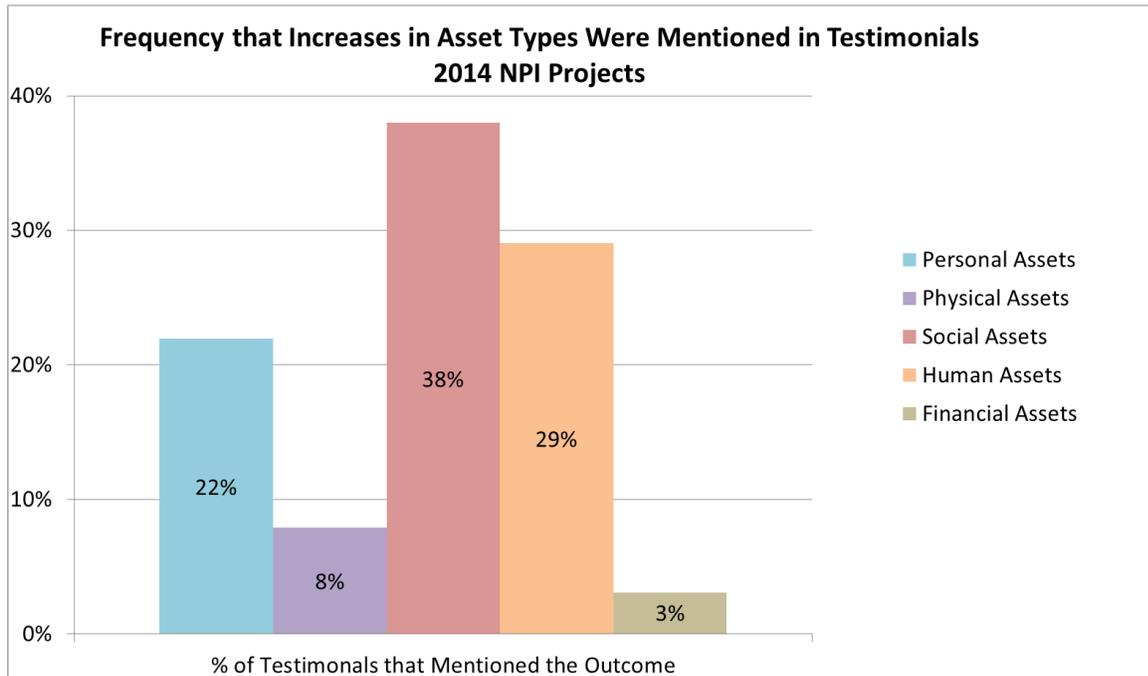
- The number of children (0-12), youth (13-18), adults (19-64) and/or Seniors (65+) served by the project;
- explanation of how the project achieved the outcomes set out in their application;
- an account of how the project measured these achievements;
- lessons learned and recommendations for future initiatives;
- a specific example of an occurrence where the initiative made a difference in the neighbourhood/community; and
- testimonials from project participants.

Along with the reporting from agencies, the NPI secretariat and/or the convener complete site/program visits/reviews throughout the time that projects are funded to ensure contractual obligations are being met.

Once all of the projects are completed a further analysis is completed to measure project impacts on individuals and communities. Through the collection of the testimonials a review is completed to measure how individual and community assets have been affected by the projects.

NPI has adopted the Sustainable Livelihoods measures as a way to track our progress and impact. Sustainable Livelihoods measures improvement in terms of individual and household assets in five asset areas: personal, social, human, financial and physical.

A total of 453 testimonials were received in 2014; the chart below details how investments have increased assets. From the testimonials, an improvement in social assets continues to be the highest outcome of the NPI funding:



All of the projects that received funding were reviewed by asking the following questions:

- Did the project deliver the approved programs and services as per the approved objectives?
- Did the project meet the targets they said they were going to meet: # of people served; # of networks, links and/or partnerships formed in the community; # of people directly or indirectly involved in civic engagement activities; # of jobs created and filled by people who live in poverty?
- Did they stay within their approved budget?
- Did they pass the site/program visit/review?
- Did they meet all of the contractual obligations such as sending in financial and program information?

All 18 projects funded in 2014 provided the services that the agency operating the project said they would provide. Five of the 18 projects did not meet their expected targets of people served although total numbers served from all projects were exceeded by 47 per cent.

A tally of the final reports from the 2014 projects funded showed that:

- The expected number of people to be served from the 2014 projects was estimated at 6,255. The actual total number of people served as reported by the projects was 9,180, an increase of 47 per cent
- The total number of networks, links and/or partnerships formed in the community was estimated at 423 but reported at being 688
- The number of people directly or indirectly involved in civic engagement activities was estimated at 6,859 but was reported at 15,872
- The number of jobs created and filled by people living in poverty was estimated in the applications at 90 but was reported at 195

All of the projects funded in 2014 stayed within their approved budgets with some projects spending less than their allotment.

All of the projects passed their site/program visits/reviews and all of the projects met their contractual obligations.

ALTERNATIVES REVIEWED

This report is an evaluation of the 2014 Niagara Prosperity Initiative Projects.

ORIGIN OF REPORT

This report is initiated by staff to report outcome of the 2014 NPI to Regional Council.

OTHER PERTINENT REPORTS

COM 04-2008	A Legacy of Poverty Addressing Cycles of Poverty and the Impact on Child Health in Niagara Region
COM 53-2008	Increasing Prosperity for Niagara Families Living in Poverty
COM 12-2010	Update on “Increasing Prosperity for Families Living in Poverty;” 2009 Prosperity Projects
COM 45-2010	Administration of the Niagara Prosperity Initiatives (NPI)
COM 44-2011	Niagara Prosperity Initiative Update (<i>Building a New Legacy: Building Prosperity by Improving the Quality of Neighbourhood Life</i>)
COM 19-2012	2012 Prosperity Projects Funding Update
COM 41-2012	Niagara Prosperity Initiative 2012 Update
COM 37-2013	Niagara Prosperity Initiative 2013 Update
COM 15-2014	Niagara Prosperity Initiative 2014 Update
COM 13-2015	Evaluation of 2012 NPI Projects
COM 14-2015	Niagara Prosperity Initiative 2015 Update
COM 12-2016	Evaluation of 2013 NPI Projects
COM 21-2016	Niagara Prosperity Initiative 2016 Update

SUBMITTED BY:

Adrienne Jugley
Acting Commissioner, Community
Services

APPROVED BY:

Maurice (Mo) Lewis
Acting Chief Administrative Officer

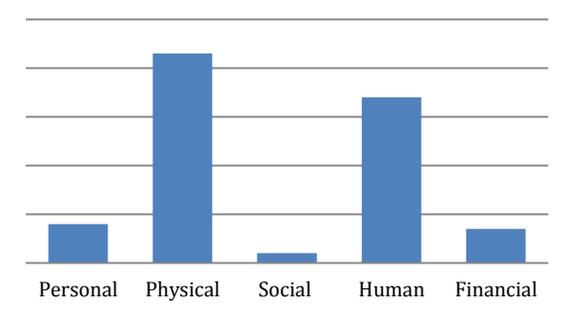
This report was prepared by Marc Todd, Manager Community Services and reviewed by Lori Watson, Director SAE0.

APPENDICES

Appendix A	2014 Individual NPI Project Evaluation	pages 7-23
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Appendix A

2014 Individual NPI Project Evaluation
St. Catharines / Thorold

Municipality	Neighbourhoods	Agency	Project	Description																													
St. Catharines Thorold	Facer, Downtown, Haig, Western Hill, Fairview, Carleton / Bunting Thorold Proper	Community Care St. Catharines & Thorold	Good Food Box Subsidy	Increase the use of the Good Food Box by offering a three month subsidy to entice people to try this program and continue after the subsidy. Increased health benefits due to increased access to fresh produce.																													
Contract Requirements		Number Served		Improvements to Individual's Assets																													
Contract Amount - \$2,983.00 Within Budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met Targets Established <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed Objectives <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reporting Requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site/Program Review <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Expected</th> <th>Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Children 0-12</td> <td>30</td> <td>171</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth 13-18</td> <td>34</td> <td>117</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult 19-64</td> <td>228</td> <td>478</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seniors 65 +</td> <td>12</td> <td>31</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>304</td> <td>797</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Expected	Actual	Children 0-12	30	171	Youth 13-18	34	117	Adult 19-64	228	478	Seniors 65 +	12	31	TOTAL	304	797	 <table border="1"> <caption>Improvements to Individual's Assets</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Asset Category</th> <th>Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personal</td> <td>~100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physical</td> <td>~400</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social</td> <td>~20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Human</td> <td>~300</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Financial</td> <td>~100</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Asset Category	Value	Personal	~100	Physical	~400	Social	~20	Human	~300	Financial	~100
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<p>Impact Subsidy for the Good Food Box allowed for people to target their spending in other food areas while increasing the amount of produce they consumed. While participants still frequented the food bank, they were able to spend their points on different items instead of canned vegetables as they had already secured fresh produce. A public health worker was able to assist the specific area she worked in by telling her clients about the program, collecting the money, dropping it off at Community Care and then picking up the produce and delivering it to them. It made the program accessible to those who didn't have adequate transportation.</p> <p>Testimonial "I could purchase more meat with my money, because the Good Food Box provided the vegetables." "Limited finances so extra money in middle of month is not an option. The arrival of the GFB in the middle of the month is very helpful."</p> <p>Lessons Learned The project required more staff time than anticipated. Paper trail of tracking so many particulars (demographics/age break down etc.) is very time consuming. Transferring Good Food Box contents on delivery day from supplier to participants took more time for warehouse staff than anticipated. All clients who participated think that it is a great project, but always with the qualifying statement that participant money is scarce.</p>																																	

St. Catharines / Thorold

Municipality	Neighbourhoods	Agency	Project	Description																													
St. Catharines Thorold	Facer, Queenston, Haig, Old Western Hill Thorold Proper	Big Brothers Big Sisters of St. Catharines, Thorold and District	Homework Club	This project will provide free homework opportunities to various schools located in high risk neighbourhoods. Volunteers mentor and assist children that are in grades 3-8, for one hour, once per week at the child's school.																													
Contract Requirements		Number Served		Improvements to Individual's Assets																													
Contract Amount - \$25,008.16 Within Budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met Targets Established <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed Objectives <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reporting Requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site/Program Review <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Expected</th> <th>Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Children 0-12</td> <td>75</td> <td>113</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth 13-18</td> <td>75</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult 19-64</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seniors 65 +</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>150</td> <td>124</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Expected	Actual	Children 0-12	75	113	Youth 13-18	75	11	Adult 19-64	0	0	Seniors 65 +	0	0	TOTAL	150	124	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Asset Category</th> <th>Improvement Level</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personal</td> <td>High</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physical</td> <td>Low</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social</td> <td>Highest</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Human</td> <td>Medium</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Financial</td> <td>Lowest</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Asset Category	Improvement Level	Personal	High	Physical	Low	Social	Highest	Human	Medium	Financial	Lowest
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<p>Impact Children and youth were able to increase their self-esteem and self-confidence through the assistance of their mentors. Informal discussions took place amongst the mentors and participants in relation to issues and challenges that they faced while in school. Surveys indicated that children and youth increased their self-awareness by the end of the school year.</p> <p>Testimonial “One accomplishment we’ve had this year is that the children have all improved their math skills and are more confident in them”. “Loved homework club; I felt like I belonged!”</p> <p>Lessons Learned In some of the schools, the new principals were not familiar with the program and made alternate plans for the space available in the schools. In these instances they were unable to accommodate this program.</p>																																	

St. Catharines / Thorold

Municipality	Neighbourhoods	Agency	Project	Description																													
St. Catharines	Queenston, Downtown	Start Me Up Niagara	Agri-Food Leadership	This project will create five new employment opportunities within the growing Agri-Food sector. Leaders from the Resourcing Food Plus project will support this new initiative. New training components will be implemented and an off-site food processing space will be created.																													
Contract Requirements		Number Served		Improvements to Individual's Assets																													
Contract Amount - \$185,053.95 Within Budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met Targets Established <input type="checkbox"/> Completed Objectives <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reporting Requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site/Program Review <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Expected</th> <th>Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Children 0-12</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth 13-18</td> <td>30</td> <td>32</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult 19-64</td> <td>180</td> <td>124</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seniors 65 +</td> <td>18</td> <td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>228</td> <td>180</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Expected	Actual	Children 0-12	0	0	Youth 13-18	30	32	Adult 19-64	180	124	Seniors 65 +	18	24	TOTAL	228	180	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Asset Category</th> <th>Improvement Level (Relative)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personal</td> <td>High</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physical</td> <td>Medium</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social</td> <td>Low</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Human</td> <td>High</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Financial</td> <td>Medium</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Asset Category	Improvement Level (Relative)	Personal	High	Physical	Medium	Social	Low	Human	High	Financial	Medium
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<p>Impact Participants that were involved in working or volunteering in the garden and markets received additional benefits to support them. The whole community benefitted from the harvest and its products with accessible, affordable fresh vegetables. Costs for the kitchen program were also reduced. Gaining employment skills has been demonstrated as a highly successful outcome of this project. From customer service skills to sowing seeds to working in a greenhouse, there was a broad range of opportunities available for participants.</p> <p>Testimonial This project was significant to me because of “the economic benefits, feeling of contribution and friendship derived from being part of a team. Most important it was through one of the team members that I found work through the winter at a greenhouse; he was hired first and then gave me a reference helping me get in too.”</p> <p>Lessons Learned Transportation resources are very limited. We are in need of an adequate location to process and distribute the vegetables. Additional refrigeration storage capacity is also necessary. As the project moved forward it became evident that the project would require more capital to develop product and market it successfully. Meetings have been set up to work with a number of retired farmers throughout the region.</p>																																	

St. Catharines / Thorold

Municipality	Neighbourhoods	Agency	Project	Description																													
St. Catharines	Queenston	Westview Christian Fellowship	Westview Centre 4Women	This project will provide a "drop in" for women living in poverty. Diversified seminars will be offered concurrently three days/week.																													
Contract Requirements		Number Served		Improvements to Individual's Assets																													
Contract Amount - \$206,124.80 Within Budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met Targets Established <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed Objectives <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reporting Requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site/Program Review <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Expected</th> <th>Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Children 0-12</td> <td>300</td> <td>315</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth 13-18</td> <td>50</td> <td>65</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult 19-64</td> <td>2000</td> <td>3250</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seniors 65 +</td> <td>50</td> <td>85</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>2400</td> <td>3715</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Expected	Actual	Children 0-12	300	315	Youth 13-18	50	65	Adult 19-64	2000	3250	Seniors 65 +	50	85	TOTAL	2400	3715	<table border="1"> <caption>Improvements to Individual's Assets</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Asset Category</th> <th>Improvement Level</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personal</td> <td>High</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physical</td> <td>Low</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social</td> <td>Very High</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Human</td> <td>Medium</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Financial</td> <td>Very Low</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Asset Category	Improvement Level	Personal	High	Physical	Low	Social	Very High	Human	Medium	Financial	Very Low
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<p>Impact We provided tangible "help" education, taxation courses, bus passes, workshops, and daycare options. The approach of a group of community-like women provided a safety net for the participants. The "if you can do it so can I" attitude saw participants start to take responsibility for their ideas and actions. We have had some ladies start small home projects that have increased their income with our help.</p> <p>Testimonial "I have many new friends and am eating much better. I feel like getting up in the morning and leaving the house instead of sleeping all day." "I need to get clean to see my girls and be happy in life. I am working and it is offsetting my OW cheque so I feel more like I am taking care of myself."</p> <p>Lessons Learned We had to add a breakfast to the program because most women were hungry and lost focus, so this was very valuable. Housing waiting lists are still a huge struggle. We need a place to stay for women who are actively using drugs so that they can find a place to sleep. Coming in from the street it is hard to help them with issues of any nature when they were up all night.</p>																																	

St. Catharines / Thorold

Municipality	Neighbourhoods	Agency	Project	Description																													
St. Catharines	Fairview	Niagara Children's Centre	Grantham Neighbourhood Family Centre	A rotational hub model offering clinics and learning sessions (e.g. car seat clinic, healthy eating, newcomer services, parenting programming etc.) in three schools to better engage all families in need and reduce the perceived barrier of accessing services in a school other than their own.																													
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<p>Impact We strived to provide programming that addressed all aspects of life. We had fitness classes, cooking classes, literacy classes, and opportunities for parents with ESL to connect and practice their English. We also offered two budgeting seminars as well as an income tax preparation night. Providing dinner before our events also allowed families to have a little extra cash at the end of the month.</p> <p>Testimonial “We attend every second Thursday. My daughter looks forward to the activities and the fellowship with the other students. I enjoy the educational sessions; I look forward to tips/strategies for parenting from presenters and other parents. It is a valuable opportunity to liaise with other moms and dads.”</p> <p>Lessons Learned It was difficult to find one person that would be available for so many evenings. Our original intent was to have two separate staff, one for planning, paperwork, and the other to be present in the evenings but there was such overlap in necessary information it was difficult to determine how to split it into two positions. We were fortunate to have found an amazing coordinator however, for future planning, more thought into the division of duties needs to occur.</p>																																	

St. Catharines / Thorold

Municipality	Neighbourhoods	Agency	Project	Description																													
St. Catharines	Merritton	Niagara Folk Arts Multicultural Centre	MCAP - Merritton Children's Afterschool Program	This project will offer children ages 8-12 years the opportunity to participate in an after-school program which aims to provide safe and fun recreational, educational and leisure opportunities for low-income parents of the Merritton community.																													
Contract Requirements		Number Served		Improvements to Individual's Assets																													
Contract Amount - \$15,608.28 Within Budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met Targets Established <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed Objectives <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reporting Requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site/Program Review <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Expected</th> <th>Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Children 0-12</td> <td>30</td> <td>49</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth 13-18</td> <td>10</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult 19-64</td> <td>15</td> <td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seniors 65 +</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>55</td> <td>87</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Expected	Actual	Children 0-12	30	49	Youth 13-18	10	14	Adult 19-64	15	24	Seniors 65 +	0	0	TOTAL	55	87	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Asset Category</th> <th>Improvement Count</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personal</td> <td>49</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physical</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social</td> <td>24</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Human</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Financial</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Asset Category	Improvement Count	Personal	49	Physical	14	Social	24	Human	0	Financial	0
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Human	0																																
Financial	0																																
<p>Impact This after school program offered parents a safe place for their children to go after school. Our youth volunteers have really shown substantial increases in self-confidence. The best example is of one youth that was being bullied at school, she reported this and has been able to work through it and has now created a bullying workshop session that she plans to present at her school with the assistance of one of our staff members.</p> <p>Testimonial “Without this program my daughter would not have the opportunity to socialize with her peers outside of school, while doing fun things. I am grateful to have this program since I am financially unable to provide this for her.”</p> <p>Lessons Learned Marketing through sharing the information with the community needs improvement and we have made some progress in this area. The need for summer activities was identified and luckily we are able to run a one week camp each month of the summer which helps but there is still a ways to go in this area.</p>																																	

St. Catharines / Thorold

Municipality	Neighbourhoods	Agency	Project	Description																													
St. Catharines	Downtown	United Way of St. Catharines & District	Brushed Aside: Dental Care Access Pilot Project	A pilot project to provide access to dental care for adults in need of treatment through existing agency relationships. The project will provide loans for dental treatment, with repayment plans tailored to ability to pay.																													
Contract Requirements		Number Served		Improvements to Individual's Assets																													
Contract Amount - \$58,009.40 Within Budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met Targets Established <input type="checkbox"/> Completed Objectives <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reporting Requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site/Program Review <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Expected</th> <th>Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Children 0-12</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth 13-18</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult 19-64</td> <td>120</td> <td>83</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seniors 65 +</td> <td>0</td> <td>11</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>120</td> <td>94</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Expected	Actual	Children 0-12	0	0	Youth 13-18	0	0	Adult 19-64	120	83	Seniors 65 +	0	11	TOTAL	120	94	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Asset Category</th> <th>Improvement Level</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personal</td> <td>High</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physical</td> <td>Low</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social</td> <td>Medium</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Human</td> <td>Medium</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Financial</td> <td>Medium</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Asset Category	Improvement Level	Personal	High	Physical	Low	Social	Medium	Human	Medium	Financial	Medium
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Financial	Medium																																
<p>Impact Removing or reducing the barriers associated with untreated dental conditions has helped participants to develop their self-confidence and also reduced the stigma they face when interacting with other people. Without this project, these adults would need to live with severe, untreated dental conditions, which may require frequent visits to the hospital for antibiotics and painkillers. By properly addressing their dental issues, individuals may now be able to focus on other concerns, such as housing, food, and employment.</p> <p>Testimonial "I built up my confidence and went back to school and am now working full-time." "I had pain every day and I started to lose too much weight because I couldn't eat. I can eat without pain again."</p> <p>Lessons Learned The cost per participant was higher than expected because our agency partners were submitting only the most expensive applications. As such, we did not serve as many clients as expected because there is simply a finite amount of monies available. One potential improvement is to create a new information package that explains the project in brief and outlines the steps required of agency partners.</p>																																	

St. Catharines / Thorold

Municipality	Neighbourhoods	Agency	Project	Description																													
St. Catharines	Queenston	Niagara Centre for Independent Living	Ramp It Up	Training offered to Peer Advocacy Members to support persons with disabilities to self-advocate for disability rights including income, housing stability, and to run peer support groups that increase community engagement, volunteering and employment.																													
Contract Requirements		Number Served		Improvements to Individual's Assets																													
Contract Amount - \$32,049.48 Within Budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met Targets Established <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed Objectives <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reporting Requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site/Program Review <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Expected</th> <th>Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Children 0-12</td> <td>0</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth 13-18</td> <td>0</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult 19-64</td> <td>94</td> <td>151</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seniors 65 +</td> <td>0</td> <td>5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>94</td> <td>160</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Expected	Actual	Children 0-12	0	3	Youth 13-18	0	1	Adult 19-64	94	151	Seniors 65 +	0	5	TOTAL	94	160	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Asset Category</th> <th>Improvement Level (Relative)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personal</td> <td>High</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physical</td> <td>Low</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social</td> <td>Medium</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Human</td> <td>Highest</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Financial</td> <td>Low-Medium</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Asset Category	Improvement Level (Relative)	Personal	High	Physical	Low	Social	Medium	Human	Highest	Financial	Low-Medium
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Social	Medium																																
Human	Highest																																
Financial	Low-Medium																																
<p>Impact All participants in the group developed skills in active listening and problem solving that make them "more employable." All participants acknowledge that increased confidence and self-esteem also makes them better candidates for employment. Two participants are now employed and two other participants are working with Work Link to find competitive employment or self-employment.</p> <p>Testimonial Because of this program "I have been able to get my own apartment where I am living independently. I was also connected with a doctor." "I feel I now have more marketable skills and my ability to advocate for myself and others is stronger."</p> <p>Lessons Learned We found participants who had access to internet and were able to connect with each other and with relevant "new" information were more engaged and continue to be engaged now that the first phase of the project is over. For this reason we built refurbished laptops and internet for all participants in year two to equal the playing field and keep everyone engaged.</p>																																	

St. Catharines / Thorold

Municipality	Neighbourhoods	Agency	Project	Description																													
St. Catharines	Queenston	Quest Community Health Centre	Transcending Poverty in the LGBTQ Community of Niagara Region	This project offers Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, Questioning (LGBTQ) individuals the opportunity to develop advocacy and employability skills. Via a peer led model, local leaders will effect change towards a more inclusive community service sector.																													
Contract Requirements		Number Served		Improvements to Individual's Assets																													
Contract Amount - \$71,704.01 Within Budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met Targets Established <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed Objectives <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reporting Requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site/Program Review <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Expected</th> <th>Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Children 0-12</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth 13-18</td> <td>0</td> <td>130</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult 19-64</td> <td>15</td> <td>488</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seniors 65 +</td> <td>0</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>15</td> <td>621</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Expected	Actual	Children 0-12	0	0	Youth 13-18	0	130	Adult 19-64	15	488	Seniors 65 +	0	3	TOTAL	15	621	<table border="1"> <caption>Improvements to Individual's Assets</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Asset Category</th> <th>Improvement Level</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personal</td> <td>Low</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physical</td> <td>Very Low</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social</td> <td>High</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Human</td> <td>Medium</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Financial</td> <td>Very Low</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Asset Category	Improvement Level	Personal	Low	Physical	Very Low	Social	High	Human	Medium	Financial	Very Low
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<p>Impact The program was focused on providing training and support to individuals with lived experience in order to foster skills around advocacy and social justice in order to then provide training and advocacy for community service organizations. There have been 30 community service organization trainings reaching over 500 service providers. Participation in the program inspired one of the participants to return to college and they are currently attending part time and another participant started full time university.</p> <p>Testimonial "I needed to have a place to go to do things and build skills. Breaks down isolation. Helps me work toward employment. Made friends."</p> <p>Lessons Learned The support component of the project was very important as a way to create safety and decrease anxiety amongst the participants. Continuous marketing of the project via email and social media was also invaluable. Recognizing the need for back-end work i.e. developing marketing strategy for peer participants and community service organizations, developing course curriculum, inviting guest speakers to participate, informal discussions with peer participants and community service organizations, proved useful in ensuring success of the project.</p>																																	

Niagara Falls / Welland

Municipality	Neighbourhoods	Agency	Project	Description																													
Niagara Falls Welland	Drummond / Victoria South Pelham	Niagara Folk Arts Multicultural Centre	Volunteering is KEY!	This project will create and enhance meaningful volunteer opportunities for newcomer clients while also providing information and training to community agencies on cultural sensitivity.																													
Contract Requirements		Number Served		Improvements to Individual's Assets																													
Contract Amount - \$44,888.64 Within Budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met Targets Established <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed Objectives <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reporting Requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site/Program Review <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Expected</th> <th>Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Children 0-12</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth 13-18</td> <td>10</td> <td>25</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult 19-64</td> <td>70</td> <td>88</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seniors 65 +</td> <td>20</td> <td>14</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>100</td> <td>127</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Expected	Actual	Children 0-12	0	0	Youth 13-18	10	25	Adult 19-64	70	88	Seniors 65 +	20	14	TOTAL	100	127	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Asset Category</th> <th>Improvement Level</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personal</td> <td>Medium</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physical</td> <td>Low</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social</td> <td>High</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Human</td> <td>Medium</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Financial</td> <td>Low</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Asset Category	Improvement Level	Personal	Medium	Physical	Low	Social	High	Human	Medium	Financial	Low
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Asset Category	Improvement Level																																
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Physical	Low																																
Social	High																																
Human	Medium																																
Financial	Low																																
<p>Impact Clients who have successfully landed volunteer placements are able to enhance their resumes with Canadian work experience which has previously been a barrier to their ability to find employment. Communication skills are being enhanced through this project which is very important in life but also in obtaining employment. Clients are now attending either credit or other programs to help them reach their goals outside of the ESL environment.</p> <p>Testimonial “I have benefitted from this program because it allows me to stay up to date and remain exposed in a hospital setting. Hopefully, I will be given the chance in the future to work in a hospital setting once more as soon as my RPN license gets processed.” “It is a good opportunity to gain work experience, make contacts and find a job. For new immigrants like me it also a great chance to become familiar with Canadian work place environment.”</p> <p>Lessons Learned The time that we have spent to build relationships with organizations is invaluable and time consuming. It is so hard to accomplish this without staff dedicated to it and it really allows more opportunities to develop these relationships. Building relationships with community agencies that take on volunteers is ideal, allowing us the chance to discuss better opportunities for newcomers to encourage a more valuable volunteer opportunity.</p>																																	

Niagara Falls / Welland

Municipality	Neighbourhoods	Agency	Project	Description																														
Welland	West Main, Cordage, Market Square, Eastside	The Hope Centre	Food Service Training Program	Provide a culinary training program to individuals in our community. Partnering with many local agencies, we are providing "stations" where individuals will gain further skills such as safe food handling, WHMIS, Smart Serve, job readiness, customer service, and career planning.																														
Contract Requirements		Number Served		Improvements to Individual's Assets																														
Contract Amount - \$42,536.61 Within Budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met Targets Established <input type="checkbox"/> Completed Objectives <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reporting Requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site/Program Review <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Expected</th> <th>Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Children 0-12</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth 13-18</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult 19-64</td> <td>40</td> <td>36</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seniors 65 +</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>40</td> <td>36</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Expected	Actual	Children 0-12	0	0	Youth 13-18	0	0	Adult 19-64	40	36	Seniors 65 +	0	0	TOTAL	40	36	<table border="1"> <caption>Improvements to Individual's Assets</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Asset Category</th> <th>Count</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personal</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physical</td> <td>1</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social</td> <td>3</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Human</td> <td>2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Financial</td> <td>0</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Asset Category	Count	Personal	1	Physical	1	Social	3	Human	2	Financial	0
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Financial	0																																	
<p>Impact After attending and successfully completing our program, majority of participants gained a sense of increased self-esteem and self-confidence. One participant in particular was very shy and uncomfortable meeting new people but by the end of our program was volunteering in our food bank waiting on clients with no issue. Three of our graduates have been successful in finding employment.</p> <p>Testimonial "It will better my chances of getting employment. It also helped my confidence and self-esteem." "Learn a lot of new things. Got my CPR and First Aid, also my certification for safety food, WHMIS, health and safety and so much more."</p> <p>Lessons Learned We did not use as many bus passes as anticipated as many of the individuals lived nearby or received monthly bus passes from Ontario Works. Three of our participants secured employment during the six week program. We faced some barriers as we moved into our new building which did not have a kitchen and we were required to locate the kitchen off site at a church. Also with moving, renovations and building the social service hub, we were unable to complete as many six week programs as we wanted to.</p>																																		

Fort Erie

Municipality	Neighbourhoods	Agency	Project	Description																													
Fort Erie	Fort Erie North	Fort Erie Public Library	After-school Drop-in Homework Help Program	In cooperation with local schools and volunteers provided by our local high school and service groups, the library will provide an after-school drop-in homework help program for Kindergarten to grade 8 students. The program will run from September to June.																													
Contract Requirements		Number Served		Improvements to Individual's Assets																													
Contract Amount - \$13,395.57 Within Budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met Targets Established <input type="checkbox"/> Completed Objectives <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reporting Requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site/Program Review <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Expected</th> <th>Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Children 0-12</td> <td>200</td> <td>209</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth 13-18</td> <td>80</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult 19-64</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seniors 65 +</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>280</td> <td>209</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Expected	Actual	Children 0-12	200	209	Youth 13-18	80	0	Adult 19-64	0	0	Seniors 65 +	0	0	TOTAL	280	209	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th>Asset Category</th> <th>Improvement Level</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personal</td> <td>High</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physical</td> <td>Low</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social</td> <td>High</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Human</td> <td>Medium</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Financial</td> <td>Low</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Asset Category	Improvement Level	Personal	High	Physical	Low	Social	High	Human	Medium	Financial	Low
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Financial	Low																																

Impact

The children attending the program regularly have exhibited greater self-motivation in terms of completing homework and assignments. This is a significant change especially for parents who have previously had to do a great deal of convincing to have their children complete homework. The academic activities are positively affecting academic growth, while the games and other activities in which the kids participate are helping them develop their social skills as well. Many of these students are also benefiting socially from interaction with other children and the tutors.

Testimonial

"I am very thankful for this program. English is not my first language. I can't help my son much with his writing. All the volunteers all very helpful and patient." My daughter "has learned to accept help and enjoys doing her homework and make new friends. This has also built her confidence, and has helped her be more socially active."

Lessons Learned

We could do have done a better job of advertising the program to schools and parents earlier in the school year, or even in the late summer before school begins, to avoid the very slow growth we saw early in the school year. Also, while we can't prove causation between participation and improved academic performance, some pre and post testing would have been useful. The other obvious place for improvement would be expansion of the program into other library locations.

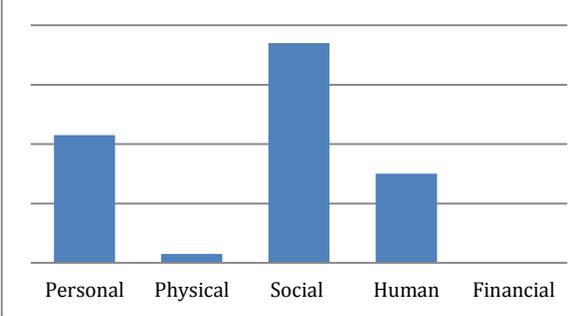
Port Colborne

Municipality	Neighbourhoods	Agency	Project	Description																													
Port Colborne	Three Bridges, Stonebridge, Sugarloaf	Port Cares	Growing Us Further	With great success in the Three Bridges Neighbourhood project, the current program will be grown into the Stonebridge and Sugarloaf Neighbourhoods and provide cooking classes, gardening workshops and the establishment of various gardens.																													
Contract Requirements		Number Served		Improvements to Individual's Assets																													
Contract Amount - \$146,184.73 Within Budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met Targets Established <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed Objectives <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reporting Requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site/Program Review <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Expected</th> <th>Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Children 0-12</td> <td>50</td> <td>104</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth 13-18</td> <td>80</td> <td>80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult 19-64</td> <td>120</td> <td>109</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seniors 65 +</td> <td>20</td> <td>10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>270</td> <td>303</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Expected	Actual	Children 0-12	50	104	Youth 13-18	80	80	Adult 19-64	120	109	Seniors 65 +	20	10	TOTAL	270	303	<table border="1"> <caption>Improvements to Individual's Assets</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Asset Category</th> <th>Value</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personal</td> <td>~10</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physical</td> <td>~20</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social</td> <td>~100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Human</td> <td>~50</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Financial</td> <td>~5</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Asset Category	Value	Personal	~10	Physical	~20	Social	~100	Human	~50	Financial	~5
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<p>Impact This project expanded the garden grounds to facilitate greater growing capacity as well as included other areas of the community, to increase the expected harvest and therefore food supports. All participants were eligible and able to access emergency food supports through the foodbank and the community meal program.</p> <p>Testimonial "I learned about gardening, to work as a team and got to meet and interact with new people."</p> <p>Lessons Learned We learned that it takes time to develop the engaging relationship between clients and participants, and takes consistent engagement to increase interest in the community garden project. We engaged community partners/businesses and individuals, integrating them into specific aspects of the program i.e. greenhouses/nurseries assisting with donation of plants for the garden, or collaborative efforts to bring workshops such as the pop bottle herb garden.</p>																																	

Port Colborne

Municipality	Neighbourhoods	Agency	Project	Description																													
Port Colborne	Three Bridges	Community Living Port Colborne~ Wainfleet	Fun in the Sun Playground Program	A free playground program will be located at the East Village Playground five days per week during the summer months in partnership with the Port Cares Reach Out Center.																													
Contract Requirements		Number Served		Improvements to Individual's Assets																													
Contract Amount - \$25,465.02 Within Budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met Targets Established <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed Objectives <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reporting Requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site/Program Review <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>Expected</th> <th>Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Children 0-12</td> <td>40</td> <td>80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth 13-18</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult 19-64</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seniors 65 +</td> <td>0</td> <td>0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td>40</td> <td>80</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Expected	Actual	Children 0-12	40	80	Youth 13-18	0	0	Adult 19-64	0	0	Seniors 65 +	0	0	TOTAL	40	80	<table border="1"> <caption>Improvements to Individual's Assets</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Asset Category</th> <th>Improvement Level (Relative)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personal</td> <td>Low</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physical</td> <td>Medium</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social</td> <td>High</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Human</td> <td>Very Low</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Financial</td> <td>Medium-Low</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Asset Category	Improvement Level (Relative)	Personal	Low	Physical	Medium	Social	High	Human	Very Low	Financial	Medium-Low
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<p>Impact The children (and therefore their families) were engaged in an inclusive program. The families were introduced to services and support through Community Living, that they would not have necessarily been had their children not participated in this program. Parents could access the program free of charge and therefore childcare was not an added expense for this summer. Children also had access to other support services, such as family support workers, art therapy etc.</p> <p>Testimonial “My son was kept busy every day and he got to go on some nice trips and do fun things. My son is very active and I am on OW so it was nice that the program was free.”</p> <p>Lessons Learned We hired some youth and childcare workers to run the program. This was very important as many of the children had some special needs. We hired six individuals. three were full-time and three were part-time. We also provided some extensive training. We learned that doing something very physical with the kids was best in the morning and a quieter activity in the afternoon.</p>																																	

West Lincoln

Municipality	Neighbourhoods	Agency	Project	Description																													
West Lincoln	Smithville; Caistor	The FORT	Capacity Building - West Lincoln Programs	After school youth services drop-in will be offered in Smithville three+ days a week. Services include recreational programming, healthy snacks, homework help, mentorship, life-skills workshops, and community social service referrals.																													
Contract Requirements		Number Served		Improvements to Individual's Assets																													
Contract Amount - \$184,128.17 Within Budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met Targets Established <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed Objectives <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reporting Requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site/Program Review <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">Expected</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Children 0-12</td> <td style="text-align: center;">209</td> <td style="text-align: center;">225</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth 13-18</td> <td style="text-align: center;">110</td> <td style="text-align: center;">102</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult 19-64</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">2</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seniors 65 +</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td style="text-align: center;">319</td> <td style="text-align: center;">329</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Expected	Actual	Children 0-12	209	225	Youth 13-18	110	102	Adult 19-64	0	2	Seniors 65 +	0	0	TOTAL	319	329	 <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <caption>Improvements to Individual's Assets</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Asset Category</th> <th>Improvement Level</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personal</td> <td>Medium</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physical</td> <td>Low</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social</td> <td>High</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Human</td> <td>Medium</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Financial</td> <td>None</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Asset Category	Improvement Level	Personal	Medium	Physical	Low	Social	High	Human	Medium	Financial	None
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<p>Impact This project provided homework help and peer-to-peer tutoring in order to improve student's grades. It also provided workshops aimed at increasing self-esteem and self-confidence via healthy body image and healthy relationships. The project also built confidence in youth by encouraging the development of life skills, and by exposing youth to new experiences that many would not have the opportunity to enjoy otherwise.</p> <p>Testimonial "My parents can't afford to buy a lot of different craft supplies and take us on trips. It is really nice that the FORT is free because I can try new things and go to different places without having to spend money. I probably wouldn't have been able to do a lot of things that I have done."</p> <p>Lessons Learned The FORT's Smithville location is currently reaching its maximum capacity, and lacks running water and washroom facilities. Our Caistor location is very isolated, and transportation is a major problem. The FORT Smithville will be relocating soon. Our Caistor location is in a rural community, and transportation is a problem, but we have seen an increase in participation with the assistance of the local school and community outreach.</p>																																	

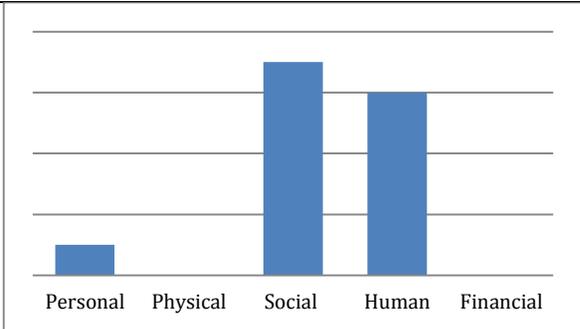
Regional

Municipality	Neighbourhoods	Agency	Project	Description																													
Regional	All Niagara	Community Care St. Catharines & Thorold	Niagara Region Identification Clinic	This project will assist people in replacing and obtaining ID required to access income supports, register for school, employment, health care, agency programs, housing etc. Other agencies across the region will be offered training on how to set up ID clinics from the lessons learned in the St. Catharines project.																													
Contract Requirements		Number Served		Improvements to Individual's Assets																													
Contract Amount - \$72,973.28 Within Budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met Targets Established <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed Objectives <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reporting Requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site/Program Review <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">Expected</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Children 0-12</td> <td style="text-align: center;">169</td> <td style="text-align: center;">206</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth 13-18</td> <td style="text-align: center;">327</td> <td style="text-align: center;">152</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult 19-64</td> <td style="text-align: center;">491</td> <td style="text-align: center;">725</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seniors 65 +</td> <td style="text-align: center;">93</td> <td style="text-align: center;">17</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1080</td> <td style="text-align: center;">1100</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Expected	Actual	Children 0-12	169	206	Youth 13-18	327	152	Adult 19-64	491	725	Seniors 65 +	93	17	TOTAL	1080	1100	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <caption>Improvements to Individual's Assets</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Asset Category</th> <th>Improvement Level (Relative)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personal</td> <td>Low</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physical</td> <td>Low</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social</td> <td>Medium</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Human</td> <td>High</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Financial</td> <td>Low</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Asset Category	Improvement Level (Relative)	Personal	Low	Physical	Low	Social	Medium	Human	High	Financial	Low
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<p>Impact Having identification, low income families are able to apply for child tax benefit and different tax credits. Subsidies for child care and sports can be provided as well with proof of identification. Participants are able to apply for post-secondary programs and financial aid. People were able to replace their health cards and attend long overdue doctors' appointments. As well as have their Social insurance number released to apply for new jobs and open bank accounts to get out of using the cash stores.</p> <p>Testimonial "I am able to put my name on the housing list so I can have more affordable housing." "I have ID now and I can go to the doctor."</p> <p>Lessons Learned Learned the importance of having your identification from this project. Applying for housing, having proper health care, even receiving assistance is not possible without ID. The unmet needs discovered while delivering the project was the lack of support for individuals with mental health. Also once ID is obtained for an individual with no fixed address and no phone number there is no way to trace the individual to get their ID to them. The identification gets locked in a safe and waits for them to return to obtain it.</p>																																	

Regional

Municipality	Neighbourhoods	Agency	Project	Description																													
Regional	All Niagara	Habitat for Humanity Niagara	Be A Voice	The Be A Voice program is a contest to challenge youth (14 to 18 years of age) in Niagara to use their creativity to give a voice to the issues of affordable housing and homelessness in Niagara.																													
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Contract Amount - \$2,989.40 Within Budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met Targets Established <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed Objectives <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reporting Requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site/Program Review <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">Expected</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Children 0-12</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth 13-18</td> <td style="text-align: center;">50</td> <td style="text-align: center;">84</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult 19-64</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">5</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seniors 65 +</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td style="text-align: center;">50</td> <td style="text-align: center;">89</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Expected	Actual	Children 0-12	0	0	Youth 13-18	50	84	Adult 19-64	0	5	Seniors 65 +	0	0	TOTAL	50	89	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <caption>Improvements to Individual's Assets</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Asset Category</th> <th>Improvement Level</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personal</td> <td>Medium</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physical</td> <td>Low</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social</td> <td>Low</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Human</td> <td>High</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Financial</td> <td>None</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Asset Category	Improvement Level	Personal	Medium	Physical	Low	Social	Low	Human	High	Financial	None
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<p>Impact The youth who participated in this project are our community's future leaders. The participants clearly learned about the housing issues that they had not known existed in their community. The project promoted leadership and the ability to do something about the problem. It was evident that there were a few entrants that had lived experiences with poverty. One student shared that she was couch surfing, and through this project discovered where to get help to get her own space and help her move forward.</p> <p>Testimonial "I have learned that affordable housing is not as simple as you think and so many people are affected." "We need to raise awareness! The cause of being homeless shouldn't matter. We need to ensure that everyone has a safe place to be."</p> <p>Lessons Learned Establishing a partnership with the two school boards was key to the success, as well as having a representative from each on the project team. Judges found it difficult to judge entries with such a wide variety of mediums. Although there was some interest from community youth agencies they did not engage. Would require an advocate within the agency to organize the activity.</p>																																	

Regional

Municipality	Neighbourhoods	Agency	Project	Description																													
Regional	All Niagara	Niagara Connects	Environmental scan of connectivity mapping	Measure and analyze the connections of groups working to eradicate poverty in Niagara. Niagara Connects will be working with the Niagara Poverty Reduction Network to strengthen existing relationships and target key groups that need to be engaged. This will help reduce duplication of work and strengthen the efforts being done in poverty reduction.																													
Contract Requirements		Number Served		Improvements to Individual's Assets																													
Contract Amount - \$11,473.94 Within Budget <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Met Targets Established <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Completed Objectives <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Reporting Requirements <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Site/Program Review <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th style="text-align: center;">Expected</th> <th style="text-align: center;">Actual</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Children 0-12</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Youth 13-18</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Adult 19-64</td> <td style="text-align: center;">100</td> <td style="text-align: center;">100</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Seniors 65 +</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> <td style="text-align: center;">0</td> </tr> <tr> <td>TOTAL</td> <td style="text-align: center;">100</td> <td style="text-align: center;">100</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Expected	Actual	Children 0-12	0	0	Youth 13-18	0	0	Adult 19-64	100	100	Seniors 65 +	0	0	TOTAL	100	100	 <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse; margin-top: 10px;"> <caption>Improvements to Individual's Assets</caption> <thead> <tr> <th>Asset Category</th> <th>Improvement Level (Relative)</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>Personal</td> <td>Low</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Physical</td> <td>None</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Social</td> <td>High</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Human</td> <td>Medium</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Financial</td> <td>None</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>	Asset Category	Improvement Level (Relative)	Personal	Low	Physical	None	Social	High	Human	Medium	Financial	None
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<p>Impact NPRN members built a Network Map to statistically illustrate connectivity among people and organizations, in Niagara and beyond, involved in NPRN. The NPRN Network Maps illustrate 416 people from 198 organizations who participate in NPRN or were identified as NPRN connections.</p> <p>Testimonial “Addressing a complex issue such as poverty requires the collaborative efforts of a diverse group of individuals and organizations. By increasing engagement with individuals who are well-connected outside the network and individuals who are potential leaders, we are able to bring more resources to bear on efforts to reduce poverty in Niagara and strengthen leadership.”</p> <p>Lessons Learned We were pleasantly surprised by the number of businesses and people working in the for-profit sector that were identified on the NPRN Maps. This helped to confirm results of other research Niagara Connects has done around areas of shared value between for-profit and for-social-profit partners in Niagara.</p>																																	