



United Way
Niagara



NEWS RELEASE

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United Way Niagara and the Niagara Community Foundation announce Emergency Community Support Fund Opportunities

Niagara, ON (May 19, 2020) - United Way Niagara and the **Niagara Community Foundation** are accepting funding applications for the Emergency Community Support Fund (ECSF). The fund provides financial support to charities and other qualified donees adapting their frontline services to support vulnerable Canadians during the COVID-19 pandemic. The ECSF was announced by the Government of Canada and is administered in collaboration with United Way Centraide Canada, Community Foundations of Canada and the Canadian Red Cross.

United Way Niagara is proud to support the important investment of a little over \$1,000,000 into our local communities. For details on United Way's fund visit <https://www.unitedwayniagara.org/how-we-help/apply-for-funding>

The Niagara Community Foundation is proud to support the important investment of a little over \$900,000 into our local communities. For details on the Community Foundation's fund visit <https://www.communityfoundations.ca/initiatives/emergency-community-support-fund/>

"Canadian charities and not for profits are always there to help you, in your time of need. But the COVID-19 pandemic is bringing real challenges to these important organizations. With today's announcement, the Government of Canada will be there for them so they can continue to be there for Canadians."

– The Honourable Ahmed Hussen, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development

"United Way Niagara is so grateful for the significant funding from the Government of Canada; it could not have come at a better time. Agencies across Niagara who serve vulnerable people are now able to apply for funding and receive grants to help them respond to the need in our community. The application is open today. We welcome agencies to visit our website for full details and to apply for needed funding." – Frances Hallworth, Executive Director of United Way Niagara.

"The Niagara Community Foundation – along with our Community Foundation siblings across the country in collaboration with United Way Canada and the Canadian Red Cross – is proud to be part of the Federal Government's response in support of the charitable sector during these unprecedented times," states NCF Executive Director Bryan Rose. "Here in Niagara, we know all too well the devastating impact the COVID-19 has had. The Foundation and our United Way

Niagara partners are eager to team up to deploy the nearly \$2 million dollars our region has been allocated effectively, efficiently and with expediency in order to support the amazing work being done on the ground by local Niagara charities serving the urgent needs of our community.”



About Niagara Community Foundation: The Niagara Community Foundation is a charitable public foundation dedicated to improving the quality of life in Niagara through building endowment funds, providing grants and enabling philanthropic partnerships.

About United Way Niagara: United Way works to tackle some of the biggest social issues in Niagara; investing in solutions to poverty, food security, mental illness, homelessness, domestic violence & social isolation.

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