



United Way
Niagara

HEALTHY PEOPLE, STRONG COMMUNITIES

Improving personal wellbeing and neighbourhood health

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

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

Accepting applications in 2024

HEALTHY PEOPLE, STRONG COMMUNITIES

Building social capital, wellbeing and resiliency - for people and neighbourhoods

ALL THAT KIDS CAN BE

Investing in children, youth and families so they can reach their full potential

FROM POVERTY TO POSSIBILITY

Meeting immediate basic human needs and breaking the long-term cycles of poverty

2024 CALL FOR PROPOSALS

The Healthy People, Strong Communities priority area will invest in programs and services under two funding streams:

1 Traditional Three-Year Funding

2 Neighbourhood Collaborative Three-Year Funding

ISSUE

The negative effects of social isolation are far reaching. Conversely, the restorative effects of social connectedness, sense of belonging and inclusion can lead to positive outcomes such as improved resiliency and overall health and wellbeing.

The development of Social Capital is key to addressing issues that arise from isolation and lack of connectedness. Social Capital can be defined as "the networks and relationships among people who live and work in a particular society, enabling that society to function effectively." Strong Social Capital can build resilience in people and in neighbourhoods, leading to stronger, healthier communities.

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

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

Three Year Funding Stream - FUNDING OVERVIEW

As part of the Healthy People, Strong Communities Priority Area, United Way Niagara will provide three-year funding for programs and services that improves the health, wellbeing and strength of the community, through equitable access to supports, for people in need in Niagara. Programs and services funded within this Priority Area will ultimately build the social capital within the community and contribute to the health of Niagara's people.

FUNDING GOAL

The goal of this priority area is to build social capital, both at an individual and community level, to improve the health and wellbeing of individuals, while also creating stronger and healthier neighbourhoods.

FUNDING OUTCOMES

Through this funding stream programs will be supported that contribute to:

**Improved personal wellbeing
and neighbourhood health**

**A stronger community with
equitable opportunities for
everyone to participate**

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

**Build and strengthen
social capital and resiliency**

**Equitable access to
programs and services**

Overall health and wellbeing

**Wraparound and/or participant
centred approaches**

Social inclusion and belonging

**Sense of connection(s) to
community**

Programs that align with the Healthy People, Strong Communities Framework must address one or more of the [**United Nations Sustainable Development Goals**](#).

PRIORITY AREA PROGRAM EXAMPLES:

- Skills for independent living
- Programs that remove barriers
- Programs that allow people to feel connected
- Programs that promote social inclusion
- Counselling programs

Neighbourhood Collaborative Project - FUNDING OVERVIEW

As part of the Healthy People, Strong Communities Priority Area, United Way Niagara will fund one or more collaborative(s), for up to three years, between two or more agencies, to develop social capital in an at-risk neighbourhood(s) in Niagara. The program should be developed with input from community members/neighbours through an outreach and/or consultation process, and may be a pilot that can be replicated in other neighbourhoods in the future.

The Program should address systemic issues at the neighbourhood level, build social capital, connectedness and belonging, and remove barriers to participation.

FUNDING GOAL

The goal of the Neighbourhood Collaborative funding is to invest in a collaborative focused on building social capital within priority neighbourhood(s), at both an individual and community level, [by working collaboratively and creatively], to improve the health and wellbeing of individuals, while also creating stronger and healthier neighbourhoods.

The Neighbourhood Collaborative funding opportunity will provide a range of funding dependent upon the scope of the project and proposed outcomes.

PROGRAM DESIGN

The program plan should include, but may not be limited to, the following components:

- Overall framework and vision for the program

Anticipated outcome(s):

Phase one: consultations with identified community, determine needs and program design

Phase two: program planning and implementation, continuous improvement based on feedback from community being served

- Partner agencies
- Roles of partner agencies
- Identification of at-risk neighbourhood(s)
- Utilize community mapping to demonstrate neighbourhood need
- Consultation process with community
- Development of program implementation plan
- Implementation of program
- Budget

Interested collaboratives are required to contact Chandra Hardeen, Director of Community Investment at chandra@unitedwayniagara.org or at 905-688-5050, Ext. 2104.