

United Way / Centraide Windsor-Essex County's 2010-2015 Funded Strategies

Over the next five years, United Way/Centraide Windsor-Essex will focus its energy and resources on Supporting Basic Needs & Independence, Positioning Kids & Families for Success and Creating Thriving Neighbourhoods. The following initiatives are being supported by United Way.

PRIORITY: SUPPORTING BASIC NEEDS & INDEPENDENCE

STRATEGY	LEAD PARTNERS	Funded Collaborative Partners	Non-funded Collaborative Partners	FUNDED INITIATIVE
Food Security	Youth and Family Resource Network	South Essex Community Council	Salvation Army Leamington, Cardinal Carter High School, Amherstburg Community Services	The Community Nourishment Partnership: The Community Nourishment Partnership will establish a community garden and community kitchen. This project will provide fresh, nutritious produce and teach participants how to use the ingredients to prepare delicious low-cost meals. This program will teach people to provide for themselves in a supportive and social environment.
	Unemployed Help Centre of Windsor Inc.	Drouillard Place, Windsor Homes Coalition	Windsor Essex County Food Bank Association, Salvation Army	The Food Security Network: The Unemployed Help Centre of Windsor Inc, Windsor Homes Coalition Inc, and Drouillard Place will collaborate to strengthen the network of emergency food programs to ensure access to food that is nutritious and culturally appropriate. A community kitchen program will provide opportunity to teach cooking and preserving techniques. Our commitment is to ensure the basic need of having food is fulfilled for individuals and families in our community.
	Salvation Army		Windsor and Essex County Food Bank Association	Making Food Accessible: Making Food Accessible is an emergency food assistance strategy to improve access to food and other basic needs for those who live below the poverty line and / or are at risk of homelessness. The goal of this program is to ensure that every person who comes for assistance leaves with food and referrals to other community supports.
Income Management, Debt Prevention and Asset / Wealth Building	Citizen Advocacy	Family Service Windsor-Essex County	Financial Fitness	The Voluntary Trusteeship and Financial Education Program: The Voluntary Trusteeship and Financial Education Program provides families with financial education services combined with an optional financial stabilization program while teaching the individual the basics of budgeting and planning. The goal of this program is to teach individuals and families how to manage monthly financial matters independently and to achieve a savings account. A purchased service agreement between Citizen Advocacy and Financial Fitness exists to deliver the financial literacy component of the strategy.
Supports that transition people from homelessness to stable housing	Canadian Red Cross		City of Windsor, County of Essex, Victim Services of Windsor-Essex County, Salvation Army, St. Vincent de Paul	Disaster Response: Direct Client Support: The Canadian Red Cross in Windsor trains Disaster Response volunteers to respond 24/7, 365 days a year when a tragedy strikes and individuals/ families/ youth have been displaced from their homes. A team of highly trained volunteers complete a needs assessment to determine what assistance is needed. It is through United Way funding we are able to help these clients, when they are most vulnerable, with temporary lodging, food, clothing, transportation and referrals to other agencies.
	Windsor Homes Coalition		Hiatus House, Family Service of Windsor-Essex County, Canadian Mental Health Association Windsor-Essex County Branch, Homeless Coalition of Windsor, Windsor Essex County Children's Aid Society, Tenants at Risk	Supports that Transition People to Stable Housing: A collaboration of community resources to pro-actively support the complex needs of families and individuals seeking stable housing. Our Tenant Support program assists victims of domestic violence and the socially fragile in combating poverty and promoting justice. Our Tenant Support program plays an important role in obtaining safe, secure and affordable housing. Community resources are utilized to assist clients needing support that goes beyond subsidized housing.

PRIORITY: POSITIONING KIDS & FAMILIES FOR SUCCESS

Youth Engagement	Youth and Family Resource Network	Leadership Windsor-Essex	South Essex Community Council	Voices of Youth in the Community: Voices of Youth in the Community (VOYC) will provide basic leadership training to at-risk youth and progress to civic leadership training for 18-25 year olds. Focusing on the communities of Leamington, Kingsville, Cottam, and Harrow, participants will learn about identifying community needs, developing solutions, and the importance of community service.
	Windsor Essex School Safety Patrol Association		Canadian Automobile Association, Windsor Police Services, Essex County School Bus Association, Student Transportation Services	Safety Patrol: Ensuring the Safety of Children arriving and departing from school. Shy, apprehensive students blossom into confident peer leaders through the experiences that being a school safety patrol provides. Being a safety patrol gives our students an important role within the wider school community. • Patrols have the opportunity to model great citizenship skills, learn the value of good work ethics and assist others in a volunteer capacity.
	Windsor Occupational Health Information Service		Windsor and District Labour Council, University of Windsor Labour Studies, CAW Local 444 Education Committee, CAW National Youth Network, New Beginnings, Sandwich Community Health Program	Preparing Youth for the Workplace: It is the goal of Windsor Occupational Health Information Service (WOHIS) to ensure that every youth in Windsor Essex County is made aware of his/her rights under the Occupational Health and Safety Act and the Employment Standards Act. Through our engagement strategy, our goal is to provide youth with skills and training to prevent injury and illness in their future, and to connect with other youth on issues of rights and responsibilities in the workplace.
After School Programs	Big Brothers Big Sisters Windsor Essex	House of Shalom, Sandwich Teen Action Group, Youth and Family Resource Network, Drouillard Place		Windsor-Essex Youth Coalition: Through a partnership with the House of Shalom Youth Centre, Sandwich Teen Action Group, and the Youth and Family Resource Network of Essex County, Big Brothers Big Sisters Windsor Essex will lead the way in the delivery of common after school programs throughout our region. Programs will be designed to engage youth, provide leadership opportunities, and enhance scholastic achievement.
	Muslim Association of Canada		YMCA of Windsor and Essex County	MAC Youth Leads: The Mac Youth Leads Program provides a structured environment for children from grades 1-12 to participate in peer-based activities including sports, homework clubs, food preparation, and arts and crafts. Focusing on leadership, social interaction, and culture, the MAC Youth Leads Program provides youth with exciting new opportunities outside of school.
Mentoring	Big Brothers Big Sisters Windsor Essex		House of Shalom, Sandwich Teen Action Group, Youth and Family Resource Network	Youth Mentoring: Big Brothers Big Sisters Windsor Essex (BBBSWE), in partnership with House of Shalom and Sandwich Teen Action Group, will deliver its nationally accredited Youth Mentoring programs to at-risk youth, ages 6-16, throughout our region. Building upon the strengths and volunteer base of our collaborative partners we will enhance our ability to develop social competencies, self-esteem, positive decision-making and problem solving skills in our clients. Youth will be engaged in the mentoring process and afforded opportunities for community involvement.
Children's social / cognitive development	Glengarda Child & Family Services		Greater Essex County District School Board, Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board, Conseil Scolaire de District du Centre-Sud-Ouest, YMCA of Windsor and Essex County	Early Intervention Program: The Early Intervention Program targets children between the ages of 7 to 14 years of age in community school classrooms. Skills are modeled and taught through role plays to allow children to both learn the skills and the teachers and support staff to gain an ability to teach the skills. Additional services are provided at the schools and can include children's therapeutic and skill based groups before and afterschool, recreational afterschool programs, and evidence based parent programs.

Individual and Family Support	Sexual Assault Crisis Centre		Regional Children's Centre, Canadian Mental Health Association, University of Windsor	Services to Adolescent and Male Victims of Sexual Violence: The Sexual Assault Crisis Centre provides adolescent and male victims of sexual violence immediate crisis intervention, crisis management education, individual and group counselling, and education and support to non-abusive family members. Adolescents and male victims are connected to counselling programs to resolve post traumatic stress disorder (crisis reactions), depressive and anxiety symptoms as well as address distortions about safety, the trustworthiness of others and the world, power and control, esteem and intimacy. Clients reconnect to their ideal self (not the one distorted by the abuse) and form healthy connections with others.
	Distress Centre of Windsor Essex		Alive Canada, Hotel-Dieu Grace Hospital-Community Crisis Centre of Windsor-Essex County	Crisis Response and Support Network: The Distress Centre of Windsor-Essex County provides Crisis Intervention, Suicide Prevention, Emotional Support, and Community Referrals to anyone who calls the Distress Line (519-256-5000). This free, confidential, and anonymous service is available from noon to midnight, 365 days a year, and is for anyone who needs support. The Distress Line is answered by highly trained, dedicated, and caring volunteers, and each caller is treated with respect, empathy, and consideration at all times.
	House of Sophrosyne		Addiction Services at Windsor Regional Hospital and other community-based providers, Hiatus House, St. Paul's Anglican Church-Essex, Amherstburg Community Services	Substance Misuse Intervention for Women: Substance Misuse Intervention for Women assists individuals aged 16+ who are either experiencing a crisis with their own use of alcohol/other drugs, or have concerns regarding a loved-one. Services include information, brief intervention, referrals to community/ hospital-based programs, outpatient counselling/ groups, etc. The service can be accessed by telephone, internet or in person. Available to assist all residents of Essex County, with Windsor, Essex, and Amherstburg locations. The service will be housed at St. Paul's Anglican Church-Essex, Hiatus House, and Amherstburg Community Services. Referrals will be made to Withdrawal Management and other addiction services. All services are provided at no charge.
	Canadian Mental Health Association Windsor Essex County Branch	Family Service Windsor-Essex County, The Hospice of Windsor and Essex County, Citizen Advocacy		Community Response to Family, Couple, and Individual Support: The Community Counselling Collaborative strategy is a partnership between Canadian Mental Health Association Windsor-Essex County Branch, Family Service Windsor-Essex County, The Hospice of Windsor and Essex County, and Citizen Advocacy to provide one-to-one and group support for people in Windsor and Essex County, as well as offer a crisis-response walk-in clinic. The program addresses the mental health needs of individuals, couples, families and seniors. The team of experts offers supportive, confidential counselling on many topics including parenting, addictions, anger management, life transition, short term family therapy, mood disorders and self-esteem.
	Alive Canada		Community Crisis Centre, Distress Centre, Windsor Essex Community Health Centre, City Centre Health, Multicultural Council of Windsor and Essex County	Suicide Prevention Education: Choosing Life: The Suicide Prevention Education strategy promotes suicide awareness and the seeking of assistance when individuals are concerned that they or their loved ones are at risk of suicidal behaviour. This strategy aims to enhance the delivery of crisis response services through education and information concerning suicide awareness, prevention and available community resources.
	Canadian Mental Health Association-Windsor-Essex County Branch		Canadian Mental Health Association-Windsor-Essex County Branch, Unemployed Help Centre of Windsor Inc.	Coping with Job Loss: The Coping with Job Loss program is offered through Canadian Mental Health Association Windsor-Essex County Branch and helps individuals and groups navigate the mental health aspect of job loss or threat of job loss. Many families in Windsor and Essex County are facing the reality of job loss and require supports during this challenging time. Educational sessions and individual sessions are available, free of charge, for businesses and workers facing unemployment or underemployment.
Parent Education and Support	Windsor Essex Community Health Centre		Centre for Addiction and Mental Health, Windsor Essex Children's Aid Society, Windsor Essex County Health Unit	Strengthening Families for the Future: Strengthening Families for the Future is a prevention program for families of children ages 7 to 11 who may be at risk for substance abuse, depression, violence, delinquency and school failure. The program is unique because it is designed to reduce risk factors, build resilience and enhance family protective factors. The 15 week program consists of weekly family meals, parent, child and family sessions and addresses transportation and child care barriers.
	Windsor-Essex Family Network		Community Living Windsor, Windsor Essex Brokerage for Personal Supports, Youth and Family Resource Network, Family Respite Services Windsor-Essex, Citizen Advocacy, Children First, Family Service of Windsor-Essex County	Families Helping Families in Partnership: The 'Families Helping Families in Partnership' strategy 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; receive mentoring; build on existing strengths and gifts in order to advocate, be a champion and navigate systems; be involved in identifying what works and in the design of resources and learning events; and expand relationships and connections.
	Glengarda Child and Family Services		Multicultural Council of Windsor and Essex County, Youth and Family Resource Network, YMCA of Windsor and Essex County, Ontario Early Years, Amherstburg Community Services, Lakeshore Community Services, Essex Community Services, South Essex Community Council	Family Education and Support Services: Learning About Divorce is designed to assist families, both parents and children, who are experiencing or have experienced issues related to separation or divorce. The program will help improve communication between children and their parents, and help each to better understand their own experiences during and after separation and divorce. The most common issues of separation and divorce will be addressed and strategies to help cope and rebuild will be presented.
PRIORITY: CREATING THRIVING NEIGHBOURHOODS				
Neighbourhood Engagement	Drouillard Place		Community University Partnership, Ford City Business Improvement Area (BIA), Ford City Redevelopment Committee	Ford City Neighbourhood Renewal: This strategy will develop a community-based initiative for neighbourhood revitalization and development through a collaboration involving the University of Windsor, community partners, and residents. The initiative will focus on developing a comprehensive community development strategy which addresses the needs and capacities of the neighbourhood, and emphasizes social and economic renewal. There are three components: 1) resident engagement and leadership; 2) a community-university partnership model; 3) the creation of an extensive network of partners from all sectors.
	Youth & Family Resource Network	South Essex Community Council	Windsor-Essex Community Housing Corporation, Kids Alliance, Greater Essex County District School Board	Neighbours Helping Neighbours: Residents in at-risk neighbourhoods will engage in activities that provide leadership training to develop strong civic leaders. Residents will identify problems facing their neighbourhood and develop solutions to those conditions. Small seed grants will be awarded to the solutions, allowing participants to strengthen their community in a measurable, hands-on, home-grown way.
	Centres for Seniors Windsor		Citizen Advocacy, University of Windsor School of Nursing, Multicultural Council of Windsor and Essex County, Family Service Windsor-Essex County	Promoting Seniors Independence: Promoting Seniors Independence will develop, strengthen, and maintain the capacity of older adults to be active and contributing community members. These results will be achieved by providing activities focusing on health and wellness, continuous learning, participation and social engagement, and supportive care. Activities will be available at both Centre for Seniors sites and expanded to include outreach to isolated seniors wherever they are located. Active social engagement can promote the delay, and frequently reverse the adverse, but normal impact of aging. Outreach will play an important role in addressing the risk factors for isolated seniors living in neighbourhoods with limited resources.

11-Jul-11



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