

Understanding the issues

Lack of Housing



111 people are experiencing homelessness in Huron (County of Huron, Social Services)
The local average rent for a one bedroom unit is **\$1,420/month** (Municipal Service Manager, Rental Scan)

Low Income



About Half of residents in Huron earn less than a living wage, \$41,405/yr. (STATScan, 2021)

Food Insecurity



1 in 4 Ontario children lives in a household struggling to put food on the table. (U of T, PROOF Research, 2022)

Access to Services



Navigating and accessing local social services can be challenging, especially for the most vulnerable.

Intimate Partner Violence



1,729 intimate partner violence crisis calls from across Huron were received by shelter services in Goderich in one year. (Huron County Women's Shelter, 2023)

Mental Health



Use of an emergency department for psychiatric reasons in rural vs urban Ontario is **two times higher**. (ROMA Report, 2024)

Discrimination



69% of immigrants and visible minorities and 80% of Indigenous people in Perth-Huron reported experiencing discrimination. Compared to 50% of white non-immigrants. (Huron County Immigration Partnership, 2021)



Social Research & Planning Council

The Social Research & Planning Council is dedicated to collecting, analyzing and distributing information that inspires social progress.

Helping people like Hannah



"Living with my mom meant dealing with constant conflict and abuse. I never felt safe.

"When I turned 17, I left home after contacting **Huron Safe Homes For Youth**. My caseworker found me a family to stay with and we all worked together to plan my future.

"Even after I wasn't involved directly with **Safe Homes**, my caseworker supported me.

"Thanks to the solid foundation Safe Homes helped me build, I graduated with honours from a Registered Nursing program and I am working at a career I love.

"It's possible I could have achieved what I did without **Safe Homes**, and the support United Way provides them, but my journey was much easier because of their support. While I don't fondly remember why I ended up at **Safe Homes**, I appreciate my time there. It has helped me get where I am today, and I will always be grateful."

DONATIONS STAY IN NORTHERN HURON



Donate Today!

519.271.7730 | 877.818.8867
perthhuron.unitedway.ca

CONSIDER GIVING AT A LEADER LEVEL:
\$1,200+ Bronze Leader | \$100/month
\$2,400+ Silver Leader | \$200/month
\$6,000+ Gold Leader | \$500/month

*Donors giving at the **Bronze** or **Silver** level will be matched by generous **Gold** donors.



United Way
Perth-Huron

Helping here in Northern Huron



UNITED
WAY
GOOD

2023 Impact in Northern Huron!

- 2** local food bank agencies supplied
- 12** participants in Destination Prosperity
- 15** women and children escaping violence supported
- 2** youth received shelter supports
- 3** men were supported in transitional housing
- 13** people received financial support in a time of crisis
- 5** youth partnered with a mentor to increase mental well-being
- 53** people accessed support at Connection Centre



Perth-Huron's first full-service, non-profit housing organization dedicated to creating and sustaining mixed rental units. United Housing aims to develop and operate housing locally, creating living spaces through renovations and new builds, as well as operating existing and newly-built housing.

Supported directly by United Way, United Housing tackles the housing crisis across Perth-Huron, working toward our vision of ensuring everyone lives in housing suitable and affordable to their needs by 2050.

Learn more here:

perthhuron.unitedway.ca/unitedhousing



FREE TAX CLINICS

\$1,814,200 was returned to lower income households in Huron last year thanks to local volunteers.*

If people don't file taxes, they can't claim critical refunds and benefits. Volunteer-led free tax clinics are helping. By dialing 2-1-1, seniors, newcomers, students, and those receiving social assistance can find the nearest clinic and get help filing their returns. United Way is pleased to support an expansion of this poverty reduction program. *(CVITP reporting, 2023)



Operated by CMHA Huron Perth, the **Northern Huron Connection Centre** is a housing-based poverty reduction service helping those experiencing homelessness or who are otherwise vulnerable.

Staff collaborate with community service partners to provide wrap-around supports such as trauma-informed care, addiction and mental health counselling, along with basic needs including food, clothing, showers, laundry facilities and warming/cooling space.

Building trust between participants, service providers and staff can lead to engaging with more formal supports such as application completion, legal aid, and Ontario Works, creating a pathway out of poverty.

53 people have accessed the centre

Located in St. Paul's-Trinity Anglican Church in Wingham

Helping people like **Walter**



Walter was desperate for help. Along with a lack of long-term housing, he dealt with chronic health issues which made finding a place to live more difficult.

Fortunately, Walter heard about the local United Way Connection Centre and started going.

Slowly, Walter built a bond with staff. He felt heard and came to realize the Centre was more than a place to go, it was a place you knew you didn't have to face life's challenges alone, a place where hope begins to take shape even under the most difficult circumstances.

Now, Walter is doing better. Thanks to the support he received he found a home that meets his needs, and he is happier and more optimistic about the future.



13 individuals & families received financial assistance last year

Recent environmental shifts including rising inflation put added stress on society and dramatically increased the need for support.



The **Urgent Needs Fund** supports Perth-Huron residents in a time of crisis with an infusion of funds for essentials. It is part of a broader strategy to prevent homelessness and unemployment and reduce the effects of poverty on individuals and families.

2-1-1 is a helpline and website to help you discover what programs and services can help in your situation.

211® Free, confidential, and available 24/7/365 in 150+ languages!