

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 Maranda



This wasn't how Maranda imagined her life turning out. Her body bruised, her brain traumatized, her life shattered.

Maranda escaped physical and sexual violence, harassment, stalking, and intimidation and she was facing a long road back.

The **Huron Women's Shelter** saved her life by helping her escape and provided emergency shelter far from her violent partner. Staff worked tirelessly to advocate for her with the local police, victim witness, and healthcare team. They also helped connect Maranda with the resources she needed to start building a life away from her abusive partner and begin healing.

Now, Maranda is doing better. She has moved on from the **Huron Women's Shelter** but still calls for support and visits regularly to catch up with staff. For the first time in years, Maranda feels safe and hopeful for the future thanks to this United Way supported partner.

DONATIONS STAY IN HURON EAST



Donate Today!

519.271.7730 | 877.818.8867
perthhuron.unitedway.ca

Consider supporting us through your donor-advised funds or gift of securities

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

Huron East



Huron East 2023 Impact!

- 2** people supported by the Housing Stability Worker
- 3** youth received shelter supports
- 4** women and children escaping violence supported and sheltered
- 4** local food bank agencies supplied
- 19** youth supported with financial assistance for extracurricular activities
- 8** newcomers supported with service access navigation



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)



The effects of food insecurity go well beyond families worrying about not being able to afford healthy food.

Food insecurity is linked to learning difficulties, obesity, reduced productivity for kids at school, and poorer mental health. Numbers from Huron Perth Public Health indicate that **almost 15% of area residents** are food insecure (2020).

Planned for Seaforth, an equal access food market will help mitigate the effects of poverty. This type of market offers wholesale prices on nutritious, local fresh vegetables, fruits, and meat to residents facing food insecurity. People can buy what they need, whether that's a single item or larger quantities. Equal access markets provide a dignified and welcoming shopping experience for all members of the community.



Helping people like Hannah



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

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

"Even after I wasn't involved directly with **Safe Homes**, my caseworker continued to support 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**, but my journey was much easier because of this United Way supported partner. 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."

12 individuals & families in Huron East 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.

211 is a helpline and website to assist you in discovering programs and services that can help in your situation.



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