

URGENT NEEDS FUND

Supports residents in a time of crisis with financial assistance for essentials including rent, groceries and car repairs. To access the fund, dial 2-1-1. A trained navigator will assess a caller's challenges and determine if the fund is the best option and help begin the application process.



193

people in Huron received financial support

TAX CLINICS

If people don't file their taxes, they can't claim the refunds and benefits they're entitled to. By dialing 2-1-1, seniors, newcomers, students, and those receiving social assistance can find the nearest volunteer-led free clinic and get help filing their taxes. United Way proudly supports the expansion of this important poverty reduction program.



\$1.8M+

in refunds, credits & benefits (2023)

LIVING WAGE

The Living Wage is calculated by gathering expenses of three types of households. The results are then aggregated and include any applicable government taxes, transfers and benefits. Paying a Living Wage not only benefits employees, but also employers and the community. Did you know the greatest indicator of physical health is income?



\$23.⁰⁵

2025 rate/hour

New rate calculated annually in November

211 PERTH-HURON

211 Navigators can refer anyone looking for assistance to local services that meet their needs. Did you know: There are over 1,500 Perth-Huron service records maintained locally!

472

people connected



Perth-Huron®



United Way
Perth-Huron

perthhuron.unitedway.ca

  @UnitedWayPH

BN 119278414RR0001

32 Erie St Stratford ON N5A 2M4

United Way Perth-Huron is a Living Wage employer

Scan to give:



Another way to help fundraise:

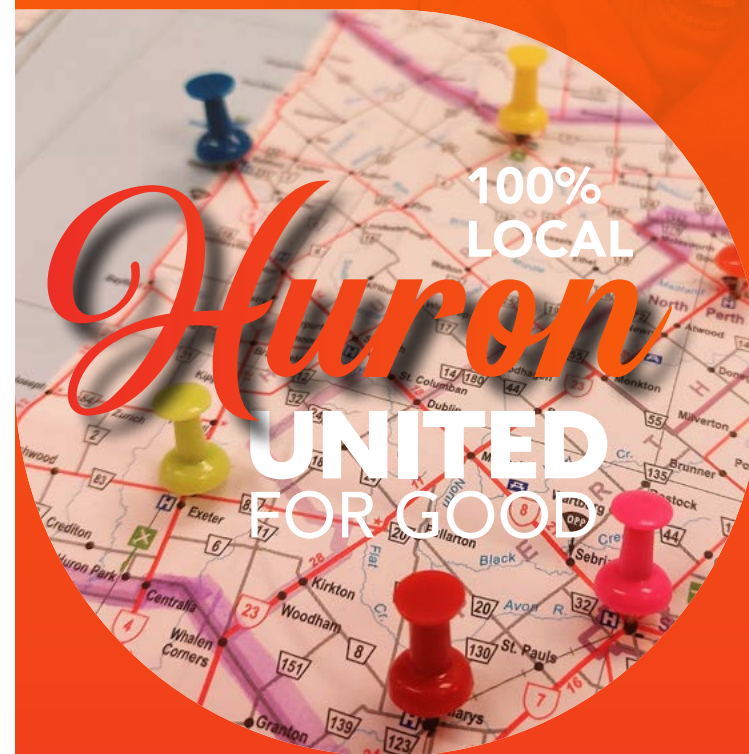
Annual winter peer-to-peer fundraising walk in support of programs that help those facing hurt, hunger & homelessness.



coldest
***night**
OF THE YEAR
february
28
2026



United Way
Perth-Huron



100% LOCAL

LOCAL CHALLENGES



HOUSING

139 households are experiencing homelessness in Huron.

Huron County Social Services, January 2025



POVERTY

1 in 3 Ontario children under 18 live in a food-insecure household.

U of Toronto PROOF Research 2024



MENTAL HEALTH

Use of emergency department for psychiatric reasons is **2 times higher** in rural vs. urban Ontario.

Rural Ontario Municipal Assoc Report, 2024



ACCESS TO SERVICES

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



INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

1,666 IPV crisis calls received by shelter services in Huron.

Huron Women's Shelter, 2024



DISCRIMINATION

69% of immigrants and visible minorities and **81%** of Indigenous people in Perth-Huron reported experiencing discrimination.

Huron County, Immigration Partnership, 2021



COLLABORATION IN ACTION

SOCIAL CHALLENGES RARELY HAVE ONE SOLUTION. UNITED WAY PERTH-HURON HAS MANY PARTNERS AND SUPPORTS A VARIETY OF SERVICES. THROUGH STRATEGIC INVESTMENTS IN LOCAL AGENCIES AND PROGRAMS, WE HELP MAXIMIZE THE SUPPORT BEING PROVIDED TO THE MOST VULNERABLE.

THE NEED IN THE COMMUNITY



INCREASING DEMAND

In four years, housing prices have gone up 88% while income has only gone up 19%.



EVOLVING CHALLENGES

The needs of people facing homelessness are becoming more urgent and complex, revealing the growing difficulties facing organizations in Huron.

139

Households experiencing homelessness in Huron. (County of Huron, Jan 2025)

IMPACT IN ACTION

2024 data from United Way funded programs in Huron.

SHELTERING PEOPLE & TRANSITION SUPPORT

Bridge Housing & Stability Program

Transitions vulnerable individuals out of homelessness and into stable and supportive environments: offering safety to those in need of rest, food and connection to services.

177 people facing homelessness served

Huron Turning Point

Provided transitional housing for men in Huron County.

13 men helped

FAMILIES ESCAPING INTIMATE PARTNER VIOLENCE

Huron Women's Shelter

Provides emergency shelter and support services to women and children who experienced gender-based violence.

59 families provided with emergency shelter

1,666 crisis calls answered

YOUTH

Huron Safe Homes for Youth

Provided intensive longer-term support services to young people who have limited or absent parental/natural supports.

42 young people benefited from the Extended Care program's supports and services



MATT'S STORY

"I was brought up to believe that if I worked hard, there was nothing I couldn't accomplish. And that's exactly what I did. I excelled at school, sports, and the arts, earning two degrees along the way and launching

a career I was passionate about: reaching out to youth experiencing homelessness through the arts.

"But life has a way of surprising you sometimes. Things happen that send you down different paths with unexpected challenges.

"My life took a turn when my wife fell ill after our daughter's birth. Unable to sustain a career and care for my family, I took a sabbatical to be a caregiver, which turned into a 19-year journey filled with challenges. After my wife's death and my daughter's move to a group home, I faced complete emotional collapse and ended up losing my home.

"With the help of several community services, including one supported by United Way, I began rebuilding my life. I am blessed to have found some of the most creative, intelligent and sensitive friends who support me as I continue on my healing journey."

Access Centres

Rural communities face challenges accessing social services. United Way Access Centres increase the availability, anonymity, and effectiveness of agencies, reducing transportation barriers by housing multiple services in one convenient location. There are currently centres in Vanastra and Exeter.



KASWENTHA/ TWO ROW NOW

Develops and hosts cultural programs promoting social connectedness and belonging for Indigenous students and families. Awareness events and teaching circles are open to all who have an interest in learning about Indigenous cultural ways.

This collaborative organization is guided by Indigenous teachers, speakers and knowledge holders who follow the values of the *Kaswentha/ Two Row Now* wampum.



Southern Huron

1,289 visits
126 unique visitors

Northern Huron

834 visits
51 unique visitors

CONNECTION CENTRES

Connection Centres empower individuals to move toward a brighter future by connecting them with allies and supports. They are safe places for vulnerable people to access basic needs including shower and laundry facilities, food and clothing. The forging of social ties and trust between participants, volunteers and staff leads to client referrals to services with the goal of creating pathways out of poverty.