

From Poverty To Possibility

There's an issue

For too many Canadians across the country, poverty is a daily—and difficult—struggle. It forces people and families to make impossible choices like whether to put food on the table or to pay the rent. It touches every aspect of a person's life, making it difficult to get ahead and realize a future full of possibility.

1 in 10 Canadians live in poverty.

35,000 Canadians are homeless on any given night.

1 in 6 children live in a household that struggles to put food on the table.

There's a way forward

With your support, United Way is helping to meet the basic needs of our community's most vulnerable people and families, giving every Canadian the opportunity to build a better future. This includes providing the essential building blocks of a good life such as food, shelter and employment, while also helping to ensure fewer people are vulnerable in the first place.

\$5 provides one meal to someone who is homeless, giving them refuge in a safe environment.

\$50 provides a frost prevention kit for two homeless people, including a scarf, toque, gloves and pocket warmers.

\$250 provides a healthy lunch for a parent and child for five weeks.

\$600 covers a resumé writing workshop for women living in poverty.

\$1,200 provides important household items to six families, helping them make a life-changing move to secure housing.

But, there are barriers

Poverty isn't just about a paycheque. In fact, it touches almost every aspect of a person's life from food, shelter and employment to mental and physical well-being. It's a social and economic issue that also impacts entire communities—and the people who live there.

\$7 billion: the cost of homelessness to the Canadian economy each year.

12.4%: the unemployment rate for Indigenous peoples across Canada, compared to just 6.9% for the non-Indigenous population.

14.7% of Canadians under 18 were living in a low-income household in 2014.

That's why your help matters

Your gift to United Way helps give every Canadian the opportunity to build a better future by providing the foundational building blocks of a good life.

\$63M+ is invested in supporting people living in poverty by providing opportunities they need to build a better life.

1,000+ programs and services are funded, including access to food, emergency shelters and employment counselling.

1.3M+ people are served across Canada, helping increase their economic security and overall well-being.