

UNITED WAY

WOMEN UNITED™

Last year, 296 Women United members came together and raised an unprecedented \$1,400,000. Their collective giving will make a real impact on the lives of women facing multiple barriers by providing access to the opportunities they need to succeed. On behalf of all members, the Women United Investment Committee members in partnership with United Way were able to select the following best-in-class programs to invest in this year:

Pre-Employment Supports for women facing multiple barriers

Help women overcome the barriers to further education and gainful employment

COSTI Immigrant Services' Women's Life Skills Program helps newcomer and refugee women develop their life skills and communication and language abilities through various learning opportunities, such as English classes, business etiquette training and career preparation.

Current Funding: \$99,930

Years Allocated: 2013-2017

Opportunity for Advancement's Women's Youth Leadership Development is an employment and education program that provides a full range of supports, such as individual and group mentoring, to women ages 16 to 24 for one year as they move from social assistance to self-sufficiency. By the end of the program, women either continue with their education or gain employment.

Current Funding: \$60,000

Years Allocated: 2015-2017

York Region Centre for Community Safety a one-stop hub that offers comprehensive services and programming all under one roof for victims and survivors of domestic violence. YRCCS works collaboratively with other community agencies to help individuals access personalized, comprehensive supports when they need them most. YRCCS is a critical safe haven for victims and survivors living in rural and remote areas of York Region.

Current funding: \$30,000

Years funded: 2014-2017

Employment and Education supports for women

Provide women with focused job search skills, job placements and employment related certification to enable them to enter the labour market

NEW! Agincourt Community Services Association's Economic and Skills Opportunities for Stronger Women helps newcomer and refugee women enter the Hospitality and Food Industry. In addition to professional training, women are provided with job search assistance and child minding services. Most successful participants are offered one-on-one mentoring and a small grant to cover the cost of starting their own business.

Current Funding: \$85,000

Years Allocated: 2017

NEW! Community Living Toronto's Women Moving their Career Forward through Professional Cleaning is a janitorial services training program for women with intellectual disabilities. Participants

are provided with hands-on training including WHIMS certification, fire extinguishing, and handling cleaners and equipment. They also receive \$14/hour plus benefits during on-site training.

Current Funding: \$99,423
Years Allocated: 2017

Native Child and Family Services of Toronto's Aboriginal Women's Empowerment Through Education is an employment program for Aboriginal women, helping them obtain a college certificate in office administration, while providing them with supports crucial to their success, including meals, transportation, child-care and job-search training.

Current Funding: \$85,000
Years Allocated: 2015-2017

NEW! International Development and Relief Foundation: Coding for Young Muslim Women Women's Life Skills Program helps young Muslim women enter the technology sector through job-ready training in web design and coding. Women will be provided with resume and job interview supports as well as assistance in preparing portfolio.

Current Funding: \$91,473
Years Allocated: 2017

NEW! The Redwood's Women in Trades and Tech on Move is shelter-based pre-apprenticeship program for women who has experienced domestic violence. Participants are provided with wrap around supports and professional training in the areas that are in-demand on the labour market: digital technology, mobile applications, commercial painting and drywall/plaster finishing.

Current Funding: \$96,000
Years Allocated: 2017

Thornccliffe Neighborhood Office's Career Education and Training for Women Program supports women living in inner-suburban neighbourhoods identify and achieve their career goals. They'll gain in-demand skills that they can either use in the workplace or to start their own small enterprise.

Current Funding: \$90,000
Years Allocated: 2015-2017

Times Change Women's Career Advancement & Mentorship Program is a career and mentorship program for women who are not eligible for Ontario Works. This successful program offers participants the opportunity to assess their skills, develop an action plan and connect to a mentor who offers short-term support—all vital as they search for work.

Current Funding: \$70,000
Year Allocated: 2016-2017

Elizabeth Fry Society's Next Step to Employment Program offers educational training and job-search supports to women who are in conflict with the law, helping them secure employment and become economically self-sufficient.

Current Funding: \$52,000
Years Allocated: 2014–2017

WoodGreen Community Services' Homeward Bound Program supports single mothers to transition from living in a shelter to achieving economic self-sufficiency by providing various supports, including affordable housing, child care, counselling, job training, the opportunity to earn a diploma and a connection to paid employment.

Current Funding: \$85,000
Years Allocated: 2010–2017

Self-Employment and Entrepreneurship

Leverage women's talents and skills to help them become financially independent

Toronto Centre for Community Learning & Development's Newcomer Women's Catering

Collective is an exciting social enterprise providing employment opportunities to newcomer women. Participants receive training, relevant work experience and food-handling certification—all required for securing sustainable employment in the food and hospitality industry.

Current Funding: \$90,000

Year Allocated: 2016-2017

Fred Victor The Women's Bakery is a social enterprise, providing women facing multiple barriers—such as mental-health challenges, underdeveloped language skills and poverty—with culinary training and paid employment for six months.

Current Funding: \$95,000

Years Allocated: 2015-2017

Somali Women and Children's Support Network's Haween Enterprises is a community-based sewing social enterprise that provides training and employment opportunities for newcomer women living on a low income, fostering their leadership and entrepreneurial skills.

Current Funding: \$50,000

Years Allocated: 2013–2017