



**United Way**  
Greater Toronto

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES IN  
**PEEL, TORONTO  
& YORK REGION**

# **ECSF & Successful Collaborations**

October 16, 2020



**United Way**  
Greater Toronto

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES IN  
**PEEL, TORONTO  
& YORK REGION**

# Emergency Community Support Fund: Round 2

- Part of \$350 million announced by the Government of Canada in April
- Allocated through United Way Centraide Canada, Community Foundations of Canada and Canadian Red Cross
- \$5m for United Way Greater Toronto to disburse in Peel, Toronto and York Region (<https://www.unitedwaygt.org/ecsf>)
- Grants up to \$50,000 to incorporated, charitable nonprofit organizations
- To strengthen the capacity of community services to meet the urgent needs of vulnerable individuals and families affected by COVID-19



**United Way**  
Greater Toronto

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES IN  
**PEEL, TORONTO  
& YORK REGION**

# Effective Collaboration

Referring to resources:

Participating Effectively as a Collaborative Partner – A United Way Toronto Toolkit (2011) &

Heather Graham Consulting <http://www.collaborationcoach.ca/>



**United Way**  
Greater Toronto

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES IN  
**PEEL, TORONTO  
& YORK REGION**

# Collaboration – Definition

- A well-defined relationship between two or more different partners (e.g., individuals, organizations, networks) coming together from various sectors, population groups and/or neighbourhoods to work toward common goals. Collaborations are about people and organizations building, resourcing, nurturing and maintaining mutually beneficial relationships in order to achieve shared goals that will benefit all partners and community.



# Collaborative Partners VS Community Stakeholders

- **Collaborative Partners** are a *formal* collective that can speak to:
  - The group formation, purpose and nature of co-operation among members.
  - Agreement on collective purpose, guiding principles/values, processes (e.g. – policies & procedures to be followed), and roles/responsibilities.
  - Group mandate re: communication, participation and consensus.
- **Community Stakeholders** are people or affiliate organizations who are engaged with and have a vested interest in the success of a process or outcome.



**United Way**  
Greater Toronto

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES IN  
**PEEL, TORONTO  
& YORK REGION**

# Collaborative grant applications

- Collaboratives reflect a group of applicants and should include a collaborative agreement, which details the working agreements of the collaborative members.
- Collaborations can include smaller grassroots groups, resident groups, faith-based groups &/or groups who may have subject matter expertise although not qualify to lead the project due to eligibility requirements, and those who would otherwise require a trusteeship to lead
- If you are a smaller organization with limited infrastructure capacity, explore joining a collaborative with others.



**United Way**  
Greater Toronto

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES IN  
**PEEL, TORONTO  
& YORK REGION**

# Enabling effective collaborations

- Commit to core values/principles in an overarching agreement which speaks to:
  - How the group will work together including mutual responsibilities, sharing of risk and project delivery.
  - Establish open and transparent communication channels that allow for regular check ins
  - Create clear and responsible conflict management and dispute resolution processes





# Selecting the right collaborative partners

- Collaborations achieve outcomes when all partners have a role in framing the goals and high stake in the results.
- Seek out partners who are closely aligned with the vision of the collaboration, share the same values and have the skills necessary to accomplish the goals.
- Create an environment that promotes candid conversations about expectations and allows for full participation in setting and renewing the directions.



**United Way**  
Greater Toronto

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES IN  
**PEEL, TORONTO  
& YORK REGION**

# Principles for collaborative accountability

- Ensure there is clarity & specificity in roles and delivering on planned work/promised outcomes
- Success incentives and clear consequences for not fulfilling commitments should be engrained in collaborative agreement
- A process for closure at the end of the project should be clear for members



# Advice for collaboratives

- Don't lose sight of the vision and outcomes
- Find mutuality and the interdependence between partners, recognizing that combining the respective expertise and strengths of the participating individuals and organizations produces better outcomes
- Facilitate fruitful and frank communication focused on trust



# Advice for collaboratives

- Pay attention to power and dynamics, naming their impact, and facilitating an environment where everyone can contribute their best and have a voice
- Move the leadership around the table
- Remember – collaboratives are collectively working together and should be inclusive of multiple ideas & perspectives; as well as supportive of smaller groups/agencies to meet project goals



**United Way**  
Greater Toronto

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES IN  
**PEEL, TORONTO  
& YORK REGION**

# Applying to ECSF as a collaborative

- List collaborative initiative members
- Why is it felt that a collaborative is needed to lead the initiative being proposed?
- What are the roles of each organization in the collaboration with respect to implementing proposed project?



**United Way**  
Greater Toronto

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES IN  
**PEEL, TORONTO  
& YORK REGION**

# Collaborative Tips for ECSF

- Be as clear re: who the collaborative partners are, roles each group is taking and why. Ensure these members are aware you are listing them in your application and have agreed to participate in delivery.
- Honesty and authenticity is important
- Collaborative projects allow for new opportunities to be had by leveraging shared learnings, approaches and collective outcomes to benefit community.



**United Way**  
Greater Toronto

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES IN  
**PEEL, TORONTO  
& YORK REGION**

# Collaborative Tips for ECSF

- Be clear on what is attainable for the group given the timeframe of the grant
- Ensure that project roles for collaborative members (and associated dollars) reflect the deliverables indicated in the application
- Be willing to ask for help from collaborative members and other groups you participate in collectively (clusters, networks, etc) if necessary to ensure project success.



**United Way**  
Greater Toronto

WORKING WITH COMMUNITIES IN  
**PEEL, TORONTO  
& YORK REGION**

# ECSF Application for Collaboratives



# Application Sections

- Section 1 – Eligibility: **Lead organization**
- Section 2 – Your organization: **Lead organization**
- Section 3 – Project information: **All partners/entire project**
- Section 4 – Grant request, budget and financial information: **Entire project**
- Section 5 – Authorization and confirmation: **Lead organization**

Access to the application form is linked from United Way's web site and at <https://uwgt.smapply.io/prog/ECSF/>

<b>Key Activity</b>	<b>Timeframe</b>
Launch of Application	October 5, 2020
Collaborative Workshop	October 16, 10-12
Application Deadline	October 30, 2020
Application Review & Assessment	Throughout November 2020
Funding Notifications	By end December 2020
Disbursement of Funds	January 2021
Latest Project End Date	March 31, 2021

## Questions?

- Email [communitysupportfund@uwgt.org](mailto:communitysupportfund@uwgt.org)
- Staff will respond within 2 business days

**Canada** 

The Emergency Community Support Fund is funded by the Government of Canada through Employment and Social Development Canada (ESDC).