



2025-2026 KEY MESSAGES GUIDE







What is United in ACTION?



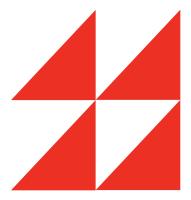
We are living in uncertain times. Economic instability, global conflict, and rising costs are putting intense pressure on families, seniors, and individuals across Halton and Hamilton. That's why this year's message, United in ACTION, is rooted in the need for stability.

Stability is what keeps our community strong. It means ensuring the programs people rely on continue running, without interruption. It's knowing that when someone needs food, shelter, mental health support, or safety, they can get help quickly, without waiting. Stability means that our community identity is grounded in compassion and care, where local people rally together to make Halton and Hamilton a place where everyone has the opportunity to live with dignity and security.

This is when a united community matters most. And this is exactly what United in ACTION means.

It means standing together to protect our community. It means making sure social service programs that thousands of people rely on every single day don't just survive, but continue to show up when help is needed most.

Being United in ACTION means doing more than caring. It means stepping up. Whether by giving, volunteering, or advocating for what's right, it means being part of a movement that believes in hope, in possibility, and in each other.



What's Happening in Our Community?

Across Halton and Hamilton, more and more individuals and families are experiencing hardship. Rising inflation, global trade tensions, and economic uncertainty are weighing heavily on local households and businesses. Ongoing trade pressures are creating ripple effects across our local economy, affecting supply chains, business operations and job stability in a variety of sectors.

In Hamilton, where steel and manufacturing play a central role, families are concerned about layoffs and slowdowns. In Halton, small businesses are facing higher costs, reduced demand, and longer delivery times. These pressures are leaving people feeling anxious, overextended, and unsure of what comes next. It's not just about dollars and cents. it's about local people, livelihoods, and community stability.

For the nonprofit sector, the pressure is mounting too. According to our 2024-2025 Agency Partner Survey, 70% of our agencies have seen increased demand, while 50% are managing growing waitlists. Many people are reaching out for help for the first time, and agencies are doing everything they can to respond—despite limited budgets, staffing pressures, and rising costs of service delivery.

Why stability matters

In uncertain times like these, stability becomes a lifeline.

For families, stability means knowing they can access mental health support, housing services, or food programs when they need them most. For seniors, it means having consistent community connections that reduce isolation.

For parents, it means safe and reliable programs that support their children's development. And for

frontline agencies, it means predictable, reliable funding that allows them to continue delivering critical services—day in and day out.

United Way Halton & Hamilton is here to provide that stability. Community support helps make sure essential programs can continue running, so that people have somewhere to turn when life gets hard. This year, more than ever, we're calling on our community to help protect that social service stability. Because when our neighbours face tough times, we show up.

A local response to global challenges

It's easy to feel powerless in the face of global issues like trade wars, economic downturns, and geopolitical instability. But here's the truth. Our collective response, right here at home, matters.

Supporting United Way Halton & Hamilton is taking meaningful action. It's ensuring that frontline agencies don't have to close their doors, that youth programs can continue to support kids and teens, and that local seniors, families, and newcomers can access the services they need to survive and thrive.

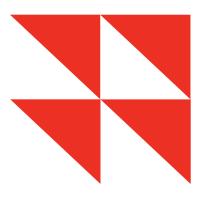
Our response to global disruption must include local investment. Supporting United Way not only helps people weather the storm. It builds long-term resilience right here at home.

United in ACTION, we respond

United in ACTION means standing together to protect what matters. The programs, services, and connections that help people live with dignity and hope. It's about acting boldly, even in difficult times, and leading with compassion and courage.

Your United Way is working closely with local agency experts, residents who know their communities best, and generous donors like you. With your support, we drive action and build a network of support that embraces our community's most vulnerable individuals and families. Together, we are addressing immediate needs and shaping a stronger, more resilient future.

We know challenges lie ahead. But with your support, we're ready. Now is the time to protect what we've built and continue pushing forward. That's what being United in ACTION is all about.





What are the numbers telling us?



70% of the 124 United Way programs supported reported an increase in demand.



50% of supported programs have a waitlist

Top 5 needs identified in Halton & Hamilton: Housing, Health, Mental Health/ Substance Use Disorders, Legal/Public Safety, Information Services (Source: 211 Business Intelligence Dashboard, 2024)

Stats and facts on charitable giving

- Lowest Donor Participation in Decades: The proportion of Canadian tax filers reporting charitable donations fell to 17.1% in 2022, the lowest in 20 years, down from 25.4% in 2004. (Wealth Professional)
- Concentration of Donations: In 2022, 71% of all charitable donations came from the top 9% of donors, each contributing \$5,000 or more, highlighting a growing reliance on a small group of major donors. (Canadian Affairs)
- Aging Donor Base: The proportion of donations from individuals aged 60 and over rose from 42% in 1997 to 60% in 2022, raising

- concerns about the sustainability of future giving as this demographic ages. (Canadian Affairs)
- Widespread Financial Instability: In 2025, 88% of Canadian charities cited financial instability as a major concern, up from 82% in 2024, reflecting growing apprehension about funding sustainability. (Carleton University)
- Erosion of Trust: The 2024 Giving Report by CanadaHelps notes a decline in public trust towards charities, with Canadians feeling increasingly disconnected and uncertain about the impact of their donations. (Canada Helps)

The need in our community

All That Kids Can Be

- Only 48% of parents feel their community is supportive, connected, and safe for children to grow.
- In Hamilton, 1 in 6 residents over age 12 live with mood or anxiety disorders, and 39% of local high school students want to talk to someone about a mental health concern but don't know where to turn. While in Halton, 46% of high schoolers report their mental health as poor or fair.

Healthy People Strong Communities

- Every six days in Canada, a woman is killed by her intimate partner. Rural women face Intimate Partner Violence rates of 75% higher than those living in urban settings.
- 30% of Canadian seniors face the risk of isolation, highlighting social connection as a major challenge identified by the International Federation on Ageing.

Poverty To Possibility

- In Ontario, 1 in 8 single-parent families is led by a woman, a number that continues to rise in Halton and Hamilton.
- Since 2020, food bank usage in Hamilton has risen 42%, with over 900 daily users, 37% of them children.
- Affording basic necessities requires earning \$26 per hour, due to rising housing, food, transportation, and childcare costs.
- \$26 per hour is the minimum needed in the region to afford basic necessities like housing, food, transportation, and childcare.



Network of support in ACTION

When people in our community reach out for help, their needs are rarely simple. A family struggling with housing may also need mental health supports. A senior facing isolation may also be living in poverty. That's why United Way Halton & Hamilton doesn't just support one solution. We build a network of support that wraps around individuals and families, connecting them to the right help, at the right time.

This past year alone, thanks to our generous donors and dedicated organizations, United Way Halton & Hamilton supported over 226,500+people through 124 programs. These aren't just numbers. They're moments of care, stability, and connection. They represent real people in our community who are now on a better path because help was available when they needed it.

Our network of support stretches across municipal boundaries because we know that hardship doesn't stop at city lines. People often live in one community, work in another, and seek services across the region. Our role is to ensure that wherever help is needed—in Halton or Hamilton—it's there. We bring together agency partners, local leaders, and donors to make sure support is coordinated, seamless, and effective.

By investing in capacity-building, leadership, and innovation in the non-profit sector, United Way helps ensure that critical programs can grow and adapt to meet evolving needs. Together with government and community partners, we are the second largest funder of social services in the country, and a trusted force for local change.

United Way also conducts research into our community's lived experiences that informs evidence-based action responding to real needs

This is what it means to be United in ACTION. It means coming together to meet people where they are, addressing challenges from every angle, and working toward lasting change for everyone who calls our communities home.

Advocacy in ACTION

United Way Halton & Hamilton is more than a funder. We are an advocate for lasting, systemic change. We work alongside all levels of government, as well as national and provincial United Way partners, to influence public policy and ensure that decisions made at the top reflect the needs of the communities we serve. Whether it's affordable housing, mental health, poverty reduction, or equity-focused investments, we are helping ensure that local voices are heard at every table.

Our advocacy is grounded in collaboration. We bring together community groups, frontline agencies, and policy-makers to push for solutions that are informed by lived experience and designed for real-world impact. Through this work, we are building stronger systems, shaping better outcomes, and driving meaningful change for Halton and Hamilton.

Elbows up for Local Love

We're seeing a growing call across the country to rally around what's local. To support Canadian made, Canadian led, and Canadian built. It's a mindset that says we protect our community, we stand together, and we don't back down when our neighbours are in need. This is an elbows up moment. It is a time to roll up our sleeves and show what it means to care for your neighbour.

In the face of rising needs, economic pressures, and a sense of unease about what comes next, people in our community are looking for stability. They are looking for someone to lean on. That is where United Way Halton & Hamilton comes in. Together with our donors, agency partners, and volunteers, we are helping provide that critical sense of stability, ensuring people can access the programs and supports they need, when they need them most.

Supporting United Way is one of the most powerful ways to show your local love. Every gift helps protect and strengthen the very fabric of our community, through programs that offer hope, guidance, food, mental health care, safety, and dignity.

This is about looking out for each other. It is about defending what matters. Compassion, care, and community. Let's double down on our local roots and show what's possible when we stand United in ACTION!

Local strength. Collective action. Let's get to work.



How does United Way Halton & Hamilton ensure that programs are culturally relevant and accessible to all communities?

United Way Halton & Hamilton is committed to building a community where everyone feels seen, heard, and supported—inclusive of their background, culture, identity, or where they live.

We ensure that the programs we fund are both culturally responsive and geographically inclusive. This means we prioritize partnerships with local agencies that reflect the diversity of the people they serve and understand the unique needs of their communities. Agencies are evaluated not only on their impact but also on how effectively they incorporate equity principles into their service delivery, staffing, outreach, and governance.

Our funding application and review processes include clear criteria related to diversity, equity, and inclusion. We ask agencies how they tailor programs to different populations, how they remove barriers to access, and how they are reaching underserved or historically excluded groups. We also examine geographic reach to ensure programs are not concentrated in just one area but distributed across Halton and Hamilton to reflect population needs and access gaps.

Through this lens, we strive to ensure that no matter where someone lives or what their lived experience may be, they can access the help they need, when and where they need it most.

Is my personal information kept safe and confidential when I donate?

Yes. United Way Halton & Hamilton is committed to protecting your privacy. We do not sell, trade, or rent your personal information. Your contact and financial data is handled securely and confidentially, and used only to process donations, issue tax receipts, and communicate with you about your impact, unless you tell us otherwise. Protecting and securing your personal information is one of our top priorities.

How do you measure success beyond numbers?

While data like the number of people served is important for tracking reach and scale, at United Way Halton & Hamilton, we believe real success goes far deeper. We work with our funded agency partners to evaluate not just how many individuals access services, but how those services are making a meaningful, lasting difference in people's lives.

Our success metrics focus on improved quality of life, such as increased stability, stronger mental health, greater independence, and deeper connection to community. We ask agencies to report on outcome-based indicators that show real change, like reduced isolation for seniors, improved school engagement for youth, or financial security for families.

We also listen closely to the voices of those most impacted. Community members with lived experience. Through direct feedback, testimonials, and personal stories, we gain a clearer picture of how lives are changed and where more support is still needed. These insights help us guide future funding decisions and ensure that our support is grounded in lived experience, not just numbers.

A well-connected community wouldn't be possible without the hundreds of dedicated volunteers and community champions who fuel our work every year. From campaign Cabinet members and workplace ambassadors to event organizers and board leaders, these individuals bring heart, energy, and a deep belief in what's possible. They help us raise vital funds, advocate

for local issues, and inspire others to get involved. Their commitment creates a powerful ripple effect—mobilizing networks, strengthening partnerships, and turning compassion into action.

We also support our agency partners in strengthening their own evaluation capacity so they can better demonstrate impact and adapt their programs as community needs evolve. Ultimately, success means seeing people thrive—not just survive—and building communities that are more inclusive, resilient, and hopeful.

Can I leave a legacy gift or include United Way in my will?

Absolutely. Leaving a legacy gift is a powerful way to create lasting impact. You can include United Way Halton & Hamilton in your will, or explore other planned giving options like gifts of securities. These types of donations allow you to support the causes you care about for generations to come, and our team would be happy to work with you and/or your financial advisor to make it meaningful, simple and customized to meet your wishes.

Can I donate in memory or in honour of someone?

Yes. Making a gift in memory or in honour of someone is a meaningful way to celebrate their life or legacy. United Way Halton & Hamilton can send a card to the individual or family you're honouring, and your gift will help support vital programs across Halton and Hamilton. You can do this easily through our website or by contacting our office directly.

How does United Way monitor the effectiveness of funded programs?

Every agency and program that receives funding from United Way Halton & Hamilton is required to report regularly on their progress. We use

a results-based accountability framework that tracks both outputs and outcomes, ensuring that programs are delivering real value to the community. Our team also maintains close relationships with funded agencies, conducts periodic reviews, and gathers community feedback to continuously monitor performance and impact.

How does United Way support longterm solutions vs. short-term relief?

At United Way Halton & Hamilton, we recognize that meaningful community change requires more than just responding to immediate needs. It requires a long-term vision rooted in equity, sustainability, and systems-level thinking to address root causes.

While we proudly support frontline programs that provide urgent relief, such as food security, mental health supports, and emergency housing, we also invest in long-term strategies that address the root causes of social challenges. Through our multi-year funding model, we give agencies the stability to plan ahead, scale impact, and explore innovative solutions that support the community. This approach allows agency partners to go beyond crisis response and also focus on prevention, education, and empowerment.

United Way also plays a critical role in advancing social change. We convene local partners, community leaders, and agency experts to identify patterns and gaps across the social services landscape. We lead research projects to better understand the lived realities of our community members, and we use that data to inform funding, programming, and strategic planning. We also advocate for policies at the municipal, provincial, and federal levels that promote equity and improve access to services for all.

By combining immediate support with forward-

thinking initiatives, United Way Halton & Hamilton helps individuals and families access what they need today, while working toward a future where fewer people need help tomorrow. Our goal is to create a community where everyone has the opportunity to thrive.

How can I donate to United Way Halton & Hamilton?

You can give online—become a monthly donor or make a one time gift. Your donation will help so many people in Halton and Hamilton, every single day!

You can give through your annual workplace fundraising campaign.

You can also give through a gift of securities, or leave a planned giving gift as a part of your overall financial and/or estate planning.

Call us and leave a message at 905-635-3138 if you'd like to give over the phone. One of our United Way Halton & Hamilton staff members will give you a call.

Cheques can be made out and mailed to:

United Way Halton & Hamilton

101 - 4210 South Service Road, Burlington, ON L7L 4X5

Does the money I give to United Way Halton & Hamilton stay in Halton & Hamilton?

Yes. Your donation is invested in a network of local charitable agencies helping our community when they need it most. What's raised local, stays local. Our agencies support thousands of people in need each year. That means every minute of every day, someone you may know is helped by your donation to United Way Halton & Hamilton.

Why should I give to United Way Halton & Hamilton?

United Way Halton & Hamilton is the best way to care for your whole community. How?

Reach. With a single donation to United Way Halton & Hamilton, you're supporting 76+ agency partners and 124 programs delivering hundreds of services that help thousands of Halton & Hamilton families and individuals every day.

Stability. Besides the government, United Way is the largest funder giving stable, multi-year funding to social service agencies. That lets them plan ahead and focus less on fundraising and more on finding long-term solutions to Halton and Hamilton's most challenging social issues.

Value. Your gift to United Way Halton & Hamilton's annual campaign is invested directly to support a network of programs that address the community's most critical issues.

Volunteer oversight. Hundreds of people in Halton & Hamilton volunteer with United Way Halton & Hamilton, guiding everything from fundraising to how we invest your donations.

What does United Way Halton & Hamilton do?

Together, we tackle tough challenges in Halton and Hamilton. How do we do it? By creating stability through fundraising for the community, researching to better understand the most challenging issues, relying on the skills and insights of volunteers, and by funding and partnering with the most effective local organizations that create real opportunities, and measuring the results.

Is there a matching program happening this year?

Yes. United Way Halton & Hamilton is offering a powerful matching opportunity for major donors.

A visionary donor has pledged to contribute an additional \$500,000 when we secure \$2 million in commitments of \$25,000 or more per year for three years. This means your donation will have 25% more impact, directly supporting vital programs in our community.

This match continues over the next three years, unlocking up to \$1.5 million in total matching funds. Your commitment brings us closer to meeting this year's match and making a greater difference in the lives of those who need it most.

What causes does United Way Halton & Hamilton support?

We focus on improvements in poverty to possibility, helping children and youth be all that kids can be, and supporting healthy people and strong communities. That might mean causes that work to end poverty and homelessness, money management skills for people who don't have much money to work with, healthy snacks and a safe environment to make sure kids are making it to school, helping seniors overcome isolation or local family resource centres where stressed parents can find help right in their neighbourhoods.

Why not just give to a charity of my choice?

At United Way Halton & Hamilton, we understand the importance of choice when it comes to charitable giving. While giving directly to a specific charity is commendable, it's essential to recognize that no single agency alone can solve the complex social service issues facing our community. It truly takes a network of

support, collaboration, and strategic investment to create meaningful, lasting change.

By donating to United Way Halton & Hamilton, you're not only supporting a single agency but contributing to a network of support that addresses multiple interconnected issues. We work with a diverse network of partner agencies, each specializing in different areas of need. Through strategic investments in these agencies and programs, we help maximize the impact of your donation and address the root causes of social challenges.

We take great care in vetting and selecting our partner agencies to ensure that your donor dollars are being allocated effectively and responsibly. Our rigorous vetting process evaluates the stability, effectiveness, and financial accountability of each agency to ensure that they have the necessary infrastructure and capacity to deliver impactful services to those in need. This ensures that your donation is directed to agencies with strong foundations and the ability to make a meaningful difference in our community.

How is United Way Halton & Hamilton led by volunteers?

From strategy to governance, fundraising to investing donations: United Way Halton & Hamilton is led by volunteers.

Among our hundreds of volunteers, we have a volunteer Board of Directors that guides our decisions; fundraising volunteers who allow us to raise millions of dollars cost effectively every year; finance volunteers who audit our spending and approve our budgets; community impact volunteers who steward and invest the millions raised; and with the agencies to make sure your donation is making the biggest difference possible.

With all that community input, you can trust United Way Halton & Hamilton is working hard to make our community stronger every day!

How can I volunteer with United Way Halton & Hamilton?

We love and appreciate all of our volunteers. We know that when employees and donors go out in the community to see, hear and feel the work we do, it can make huge impact on their perspective and their giving.

We have developed engagements and volunteering opportunities; that can be completed virtually or in person. Our campaign toolkit, available on our website, contains many engagement and volunteer opportunities, such as, panel discussions, Seeing is Believing Tours,

Impact Story videos, kit packing suggestions and more. We are also offering enhanced training sessions for Employee Campaign Chairs in workplaces to help them learn some best practices for running a campaign in a virtual, inperson, or hybrid workplace.

In addition, United Way hosts Show Your Local Love Day each Spring, where community comes together to participate in volunteer projects in support of local United Way-supported agencies. We also host a Holiday Helping Hand program each December that includes several volunteering and gift drive programs to share with community during the holiday season.

What is a United Way Halton & Hamilton campaign?

When you give to United Way Halton & Hamilton, you're giving to an annual campaign that includes gifts made through individual and corporate donations, workplace campaigns and monthly giving.

Every year United Way Halton & Hamilton sets an ambitious fundraising goal, where all the donations we receive are pooled together. Every donation made to the fundraising campaign goes right into our local Halton & Hamilton community to help deliver critical programs through our agency partners.

Giving together helps your donation go further. We provide multiyear funding to our agency partners, so they can plan ahead and focus on delivering the programs and services our community needs.

This smooths the ups and downs of annual giving decisions made by individuals and corporations, providing stability to the network of programs and services.

What programs does United Way Halton & Hamilton run itself?

At United Way Halton & Hamilton, we work closely with our supported agency partners to drive community impact. In addition to these collaborations, we're proud to facilitate several impactful, community wide initiatives directly.

Our **Community Donation Warehouse** fosters relationships with corporate and logistics partners, offering a community-based solution to repurpose unused inventory, further supporting agencies and amplifying our impact. Learn more about this program here.

We also operate **ConnectED**, a program designed to empower non-profit staff with the knowledge and skills needed to make a meaningful community impact. In partnership with subject matter experts, we provide quality, relevant, and affordable capacity-building opportunities to strengthen the sector. Explore more about ConnectED here.

Our Labour Community Advocacy Program is designed to give union members tools to

understand what supports are available in their community and connect with the appropriate resources to aid their sisters, brothers, and comrades in the workplace, and union. Participants receive training on interviewing, referrals, communication and so much more. Click here to learn how you can get involved.

Committed to menstrual equity, our **Period Promise** campaign mobilizes local citizens to address period poverty in our community. Discover how you can get involved in this advocacy campaign here.

Every spring, we host **Show Your Local Love Day**, a 1-day event supporting local agencies through various volunteer projects, both online and in-person. From mock interviews to tidying gardens, there are many ways to make a difference. Find out more about Show Your Local Love Day here.

During the holiday season, our **Holiday Helping Hand** program supports hundreds of individuals through local agencies. From adopting a family to contributing to gift and food drives, there are numerous ways to spread joy and support. Program details and registration launch in November each year.

Lastly, our **Natural Supports** simulation guides participants through interactive scenarios, emphasizing the importance of existing community connections in providing support to those in need. Learn more about this impactful simulation here.

How do you decide on what programs are funded?

United Way Halton & Hamilton's Investment Framework consists of three funding streams designed to balance agency stability, maintenance, innovation, and systems—level transformation. **SEED** fosters the planting of new ideas and growth in the social sector through short-term, flexible, project-based funding focused on social innovation and capacity building.

FEED is three-year, program-based funding for established programs that align with UWHH investment priorities. Feed recipients report annually and are evaluated through results-based accountability.

ROOT is five-year agency-based funding for organizations meeting additional criteria and seeking to strengthen their agency at the core. Root funding supports programming, as well as foundational operating needs.

United Way strives to make our investment process fair, transparent and accountable. As part of this, we facilitate a community decision-making process about the investment of donor dollars, where a diverse group of community volunteers review applications using United Way's overall investment strategy and established criteria. Together, volunteers evaluate the alignment and impact of the grant applications, then make recommendations to United Way which is in turn brainstormed by the team of united way Staff and put forth to the Board of Directors for final investment decisions.

The community volunteers make up United Way's Community Impact Cabinet. They are a dedicated group of volunteers who play a pivotal role in shaping the trajectory of our community impact initiatives. They bring together their diverse skills, unique perspectives, and unwavering commitment to drive social change. The Community Impact Cabinet members are engaged with the Community Impact team of United Way Halton & Hamilton on various fronts. Particularly for evaluating grant applications. The Community Impact Cabinet

plays a very important role, supporting United Way's investment decisions and capacity building supports to non-profit agencies.

To learn more, or to apply to be a part of our Community Impact Cabinet, please click <u>here</u>.

How can local organizations apply to UWHH for funding?

To apply for funding from United Way Halton & Hamilton as an agency, you can start by visiting our website or contacting our local office for information on the application process. We provide detailed guidelines and instructions outlining eligibility criteria, funding priorities, and application deadlines for our funding streams.

Throughout the application process, our team is available to provide support and guidance, including answering any questions you may have and offering resources to help strengthen your proposal.

Is the economy continuing to impact the social services sector?

Yes. The economy, and increasing inflation continues to stretch the social services sector to its limits.

We have seen an increase in operational costs for funded agencies, including wages, rent, supplies, and food costs, which need to be absorbed by the charity or non-profit. This impacts staff on the front-line's ability to support clients.

Many charities and non-profits deliver their services for free and are unable to pass rising costs along to clients in the form of higher prices. At the same time, the charitable and non-profit sector must find ways to meet the growing demand despite rapidly increasing operational costs.

What are the priority investment areas for United Way Halton & Hamilton?

United Way Halton & Hamilton focuses investments in three priority areas:

- All that Kids Can Be: Helping children and youth reach their full potential
- Healthy People, Strong Communities: Improving neighbourhood health and well-being
- Poverty to Possibility: Promoting financial security and independence

When will I receive a tax receipt for my donation?

United Way Halton & Hamilton issues tax receipts for donations over \$25. Tax receipts are mailed or emailed in the weeks after December 31 of every year.

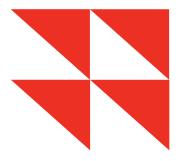
For donations made through payroll deduction, your charitable giving will be included on your T4 slip.

Someone I know needs help. How can they access United Way to help them?

If you, or someone you know, needs social services support, please dial 2-1-1.

211 is Canada's primary source of information for government and community-based, nonclinical health and social services. The free and confidential service can be accessed in more than 150 languages, by phone, chat, text, and web. 211 helps connect people to the right information and services, making their pathway to care and resources a guided and trusted one.

By dialing 2-1-1, you will reach a knowledgeable, compassionate community navigator trained to listen and support you to find services for your acute needs and any underlying United Way Halton & Hamilton concerns. The navigator will connect you to local community services and programs and inform you of important government benefits and services you can access.



About United Way Halton & Hamilton

United Way Halton & Hamilton (UWHH) is committed to leading measurable, impactful change by identifying the most challenging issues in our community, and bringing together people and resources to address those issues. We connect volunteers with local needs, and offer training and operational support to local charities. Along with our network of partners and experts, UWHH conducts research and works with key stakeholders to generate support for the not-for-profit sector. Each dollar raised is invested right back into the community. Today, 226,520 residents across Halton and Hamilton rely on 124 United Way supported programs for life changing services.

MISSION: To improve lives, build community and ignite action

VISION: Strong, empowered communities without barriers, in which everyone can thrive

These Core Values will drive everything we do:

COURAGE

Through innovation, resilience and collective action to change the odds.

COMPASSION

Through empathy, understanding, caring for others and a pledge to serve.

CONVICTION

Through visionary leadership, persistence, passion and a commitment to excellence.

CREDIBILITY

Through integrity, transparency, inclusion, diversity and respect.