

Halton Region Community Investment Fund Impact Report 2017



HRCIF Committee

The HRCIF Committee makes funding recommendations to Regional Council.

The HRCIF Committee is comprised as follows:

- Up to three members of Regional Council from the Health & Social Services Committee
- Commissioner of Social & Community Services
- Director appointed by the Commissioner and Medical Officer of Health
- Director appointed by the Commissioner of Social & Community Services
- Director appointed by the Commissioner of Finance
- Representative from Halton Regional Police Service appointed by the Chief of Police

Applications for funding are reviewed by Regional staff teams. Information from the staff review is provided to the HRCIF Committee and used to develop funding recommendations which are approved by Regional Council.

In 2017, 41 new projects and 15 prior multi-year commitments were funded by the Halton Region Community Investment Fund (HRCIF). This report serves to profile four of these projects and HRCIF's impact in the community.

About HRCIF

The HRCIF provides funding to non-profit social service and community health programs that support the health, well-being and safety of Halton residents. The HRCIF encourages collaborative applications that work to improve coordination and achieve greater impact through partnerships between organizations.

Since 2012, the number of projects funded has more than doubled, from 25 to 56, and the amount of funding has increased from \$702,691 to \$2,027,691, a 190% increase.

In 2017, funding was provided through one, two or three year grants, supporting initiatives that address mental health, maintain housing, prevent homelessness, support older adults, children and youth, improve food security, enhance safety and well-being, and other social, economic and health vulnerabilities.

HRCIF Categories

Category One

Funding for short-term, small capital and/or innovative projects, for one year and up to \$30,000

Category Two

Program funding for up to three years

Funding Priorities for Category One and Two:

- Low Income / Vulnerable Residents
- Housing and Homelessness
- Children and Youth
- Older Adults
- Mental Health
- Safety and Well-Being

Category Three

Funding for up to three years to programs that enhance food security

Funding Priorities for Category Three:

- Client Experience
- Access
- Food Literacy
- Capacity to Acquire and Distribute Food
- Knowledge Mobilization and Systems Coordination

Friday Night Community Dinner – Wellington Square United Church

The Issue:

Limited by the size and age of their kitchen equipment, Wellington Square United Church was at capacity and unable to meet increasing demand. Of particular need was the ability to cook larger quantities of food to provide take-home packages for clients.

The Response:

With the help of a grant through the HRCIF, the church was able to purchase an 8-element range/grill/oven and a warming oven to hold food at a safe temperature. This has enabled them to serve 250 meals to children, older adults and adults who come through their doors each Friday night. With the increased cooking capacity, more options for those with various food sensitivities and diverse cultural requirements can be met. The increased cooking and warming capability allows the program to offer healthy food for 50 clients to take home for future meals. All of this translates to 13,000 meals served over the course of a year.

Wellington Square United Church paved the way as the first community meal program to run every week of the year in Burlington. Community members can help with food preparation, serving meals and clean up. This reduces stigma, decreases barriers for providing and receiving help, and allows opportunities for increased food and cooking knowledge. In addition to the food and friendship of the Friday Night program, many clients can also make connections to help with other issues they may be facing.

Food for now ... Food for later ... Help for tomorrow.

HRCIF Investment: \$14,450 – Category Three



Who is the Friday Night Community?

Families and individuals struggling with food insecurity depend on 52 Friday Nights, and any leftovers to take home for the weekend.

One family, in Canada for some time, has struggled with numerous issues. Experiencing food insecurity, they initially came through the doors to access free food and the children's snack bags that are given out to all school-aged children. Mom and dad are in their early 40's. They rent a house in Burlington. Their two girls aged 8 and 12 go to the local school. The family has struggled with financial challenges, job loss, and mental illness. They have been coming to the Friday Night Community for a number of years now, and have formed a community of friends, tapped into resources and made connections that have given them new hope and opportunity. And they just welcomed a new baby girl into their family!

Did you know?

Many funders do not support capital purchases like fridges, freezers and other equipment. In many cases, capital items provide significant long term benefits and enable programming that is otherwise impossible.

\$373,607

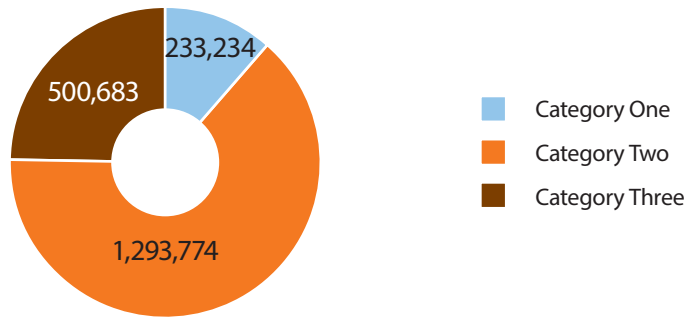
in capital funding

\$1,654,084

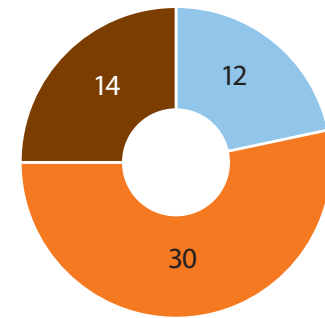
in non-capital funding

2017 by the numbers

Funding by Category (\$)

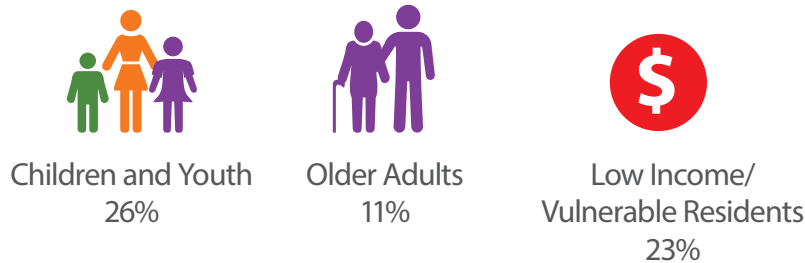


Number of Grants by Category



Organizations and Programs by Funding Priorities*

Category One and Two



Category Three



*Organization can select more than one funding priority

Mental Health Collaboration – Halton Women’s Place and ROCK

The Issue:

Children and youth exposed to domestic violence, either indirectly by witnessing assaults or directly as the target of abuse themselves can develop emotional and behavioral issues which can manifest in symptoms such as anxiety, depression, aggression and self-harm. Timely mental health support for these children and youth is crucial. For children staying in the shelter system, the barriers to access mental health services in the community are substantial. This could include transportation, fear, shame and feelings of being overwhelmed by the many changes taking place in their lives.

The Response:

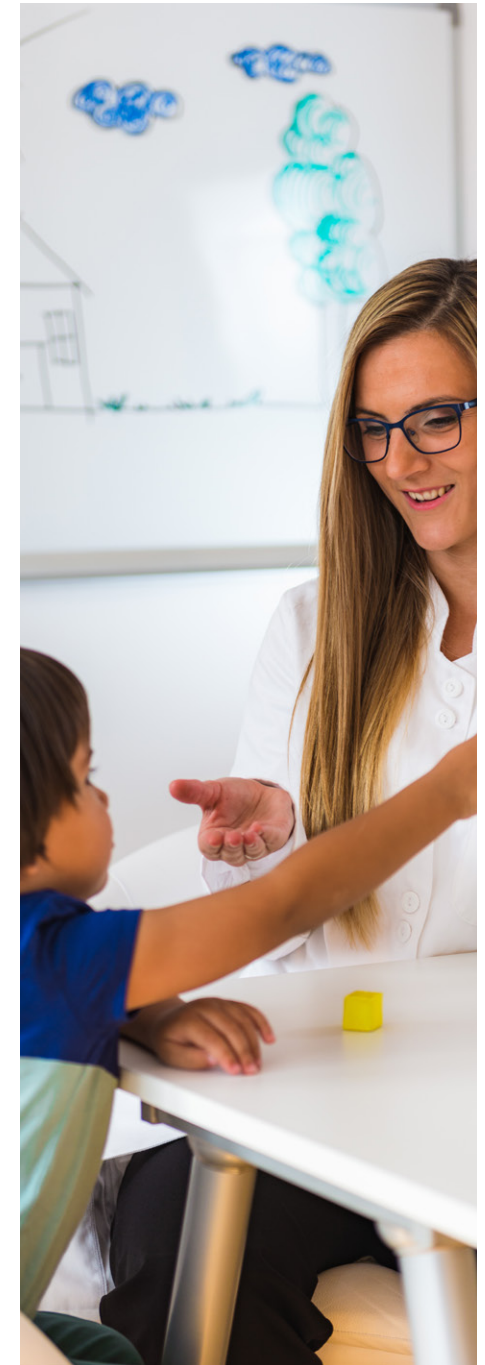
Halton Women’s Place (HWP) – provides shelter and support for women and children fleeing abusive homes. ROCK (Reach Out Centre for Kids) – are experts in children’s mental health services.

As a logical partnership to deal with this issue, a three year collaborative project to support children and youth living at HWP with direct access to an in-house skilled children’s mental health professional was approved. HWP crisis intervention counsellors refer women and children to the ROCK worker, who is available to consult and provide appropriate therapeutic services for the child and guidance for the parent. Through this interaction, the family develops a relationship with ROCK so that they can continue to access services once they leave the shelter. In the first year and a half of this grant, 124 women and children have received ROCK counselling at the shelter.

HWP has also realized gains in building capacity of their own staff, by having them participate in ongoing knowledge transfer and training opportunities with ROCK and by participating in joint case conferencing. This has helped them to better respond to the unique needs of the children in the shelter.

Supporting children’s mental health ... at the right place, and at the right time.

**HRCIF Investment: \$56,000 over three years
– Category Two**



Better Health Through Teamwork

Mrs. R. has had a long history of complicated mental health issues, and recently developed other chronic health issues. In the past she has refused medication and treatment. She was facing eviction and was recommended to the Gatekeepers program.

After months of frequent visits to gain trust and build a relationship, Mrs. R. finally agreed to allow the first cleaning session to take place.

The Gatekeepers Case Manager worked with the Fire department and property management to coordinate a plan, using the extreme cleaning team. At the same time, Mrs. R. participated in cognitive behavior therapy to learn how to control compulsive hoarding and break the emotional attachment, helping to ensure that the cleanliness could be maintained.

The Case Manager continues to visit with Mrs. R. bi-weekly, and has connected her to mental health services, a new family physician, and subsidized cleaning.

Halton Gatekeepers & Extreme Cleaning Team – Catholic Family Services

The Issue:

Excessive hoarding and extreme domestic neglect are two characteristics of Diogenes Syndrome, a mental health disorder. Typically resistant to formal intervention and living in social isolation, these individuals often face eviction and fire safety issues unless their home is de-cluttered and cleaned. There are a growing number of older adults in Halton living in this situation.

The Response:

The Halton Gatekeepers program is an outreach program that supports older adults with Diogenes Syndrome. In 2016, a three year HRCIF grant was approved to further expand the program in Halton. Focusing on a harm-reduction model, the Gatekeepers multi-disciplinary community approach supports 107 clients each year.

Based on the need and success of the 2016 program, a second two year proposal added a dedicated cleaning team and has allowed for quicker, customized response for 30 clients

each year. Many clients struggle with physical and cognitive disabilities as well as mental health and addiction issues. A significant factor for success is the ability to provide consistent staff who build rapport and can utilize intensive case management, counselling and extreme cleaning intervention, which can total 50 hours of cleaning per home.

Both programs are on track to ensure 381 clients are housed with no eviction notices, and have eliminated fire hazards and reduced falls/accident hazards. The result – these older adults are housed in safe and clean environments, and linked with appropriate support services to prevent future crises, including hospital visits.

Wrap-around support . . . to stay safe at home.

HRCIF Investments: \$319,200 over three years + \$91,182 over two years – Category Two



Free Walk-In Counselling – Canadian Mental Health Association Halton Region Branch

The Issue:

Counselling is the most commonly reported mental health care need, and the least likely to be met.¹ An additional challenge exists in Halton Hills and Milton where there are limited local mental health and addiction services available.²

The Response:

The Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) promotes mental health, supports resilience and recovery from mental illness, and makes referrals to community services.

¹ Perceived need for mental health care in Canada: Results from the 2012 Canadian Community Health Survey - Mental Health.

² Information provided by one-Link, Mississauga Halton Local Health Integration Network.

With experience in running a successful Free Walk-In Counselling program in Oakville, CMHA applied to the HRCIF to expand this service to Milton, Burlington and Halton Hills to provide 600 counselling sessions in these communities. Counsellors talk one-on-one about a wide range of concerns and vulnerabilities, including relationships, family violence, depression, anxiety, anger, sexuality and sexual orientation, childhood abuse, grief and loss, self-esteem, alcohol and drug use, etc.

Get help within one week ... No appointment required.

HRCIF Investment: \$29,764 – Category One



A Program for Everyone

Mr. J. attended free walk-in counselling looking for a new perspective.

“I was stressed out at work,” he says. “I was having trouble sleeping. I felt worried all the time and didn’t know what to do.”

When a friend told him about the free walk-in counselling, he went in the next day and talked to a counsellor right away.

“I just needed to talk,” he says. “The counsellor listened and we worked on how I could cope with the stress and think more positively.”

“I’m definitely doing better. Not so edgy and anxious all the time. Thanks for being there for me.”

2017 HRCIF Funded Organizations and Programs

Organization	Program	Location(s)			
		Burlington	Halton Hills	Milton	Oakville
Acclaim Health	Increasing Support for Dementia Caregivers	•	•	•	•
Burlington Food Bank (Partnership West)	Refrigerated Cargo Van	•	•	•	•
Canadian Mental Health Association - Halton Region Branch	Safe Place Community Outreach Program	•	•	•	•
Catholic Family Services of Hamilton	Gatekeepers Halton	•	•	•	•
Catholic Family Services of Hamilton	Halton Gatekeepers/Extreme Cleaning Team	•	•	•	•
Central West Specialized Developmental Services	Halton Sex-Esteem: Developing Sexual Confidence	•	•	•	•
Elizabeth Fry Society of Peel-Halton	Empowering Against Exploitation	•	•	•	•
Elizabeth Fry Society of Peel-Halton	Halton Drug Treatment Court	•	•	•	•
ErinoakKids	Recreational Therapy Program - Drama	•	•	•	•
Food for Life	Food for Life Operations and Programs	•	•	•	•
Food for Life	Building Distribution Capacity	•	•	•	•
Girls Incorporated of Halton	Girls Inc. Program Expansion	•	•	•	•
Halton Down Syndrome Association	Early Foundations Reading Program	•	•	•	•
Halton Food Council	Growing Community Gardens Collaborative	•	•	•	•
Halton Food for Thought	Peas Please	•	•	•	•
Halton Poverty Roundtable	Smart Start Halton	•	•	•	•
Halton Women's Place	Mental Health Collaboration	•	•	•	•
Heartache2Hope	Heartache2Hope Program	•	•	•	•
John Howard Society of Peel Halton Dufferin	Community Mobilization and Engagement Strategy (COMMANDE)	•	•	•	•
MADD Canada	Brain Power	•	•	•	•
Nelson Youth Centres	Half Day Intensive Program	•	•	•	•
Peel Halton Dufferin Acquired Brain Injury Services	Faceless, not Voiceless	•	•	•	•
Radius Child and Youth Services	A Chance for Every Child	•	•	•	•
Reach Out Centre for Kids (ROCK)	ROCK/OEYC Breastfeeding Clinic	•	•	•	•
Reach out Centre for Kids (ROCK)	Camp Unity - Leaders in Training	•	•	•	•
Sexual Assault and Violence Intervention Services of Halton (SAVIS)	Relationship Skills and Violence Prevention Project	•	•	•	•
Shifra Homes Inc.	Shifra Homes' Residential & Seeds of Hope Programs	•	•	•	•
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St. Christopher's Open Doors	Farm Fresh Market Expansion & Sustainability	•	•	•	•
Summit Housing and Outreach Programs	Nourish & Flourish	•	•	•	•
Tetra Society of North America	Halton Assistive Device Program	•	•	•	•
YMCA of Oakville	Halton Sport Leadership Program	•	•	•	•

2017 HRCIF Funded Organizations and Programs - Continued

Organization	Program	Location(s)			
		Burlington	Halton Hills	Milton	Oakville
Canadian Mental Health Association - Halton Region Branch	Free Walk-In Counselling	•	•	•	
Home Suite Hope	Re-Start Halton	•	•		•
ArtHouse	ArtHouse Front of the Line Programs	•		•	•
Halton Aphasia Centre	Burlington, Milton and Oakville Aphasia Programs	•		•	•
HIPPY Oakville	HIPPY Oakville	•		•	•
Wellington Square United Church	Kitchen Upgrades for Friday Night Community Dinner	•		•	•
Community Living Burlington	Sheltered Workshop to Inclusion	•			
St. Luke's Anglican Church (Burlington)	Expansion of Food Outreach	•			
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Halton	GLOW (Girls Linking Our Worlds)		•	•	•
Darling Home for Kids	Youth Summer Volunteer Initiative		•	•	•
Community Living North Halton	Horizon Value Centre - Retail Training Centre		•	•	
Community Living North Halton	Saturday Centre		•	•	
The Women's Centre of Halton	North Halton Women's Support Services Initiative		•	•	
Acton FoodShare	Keep It Fresh, Keep It Nutritious - Phase II		•		
Georgetown Bread Basket	Nutritional Needs		•		
Links2Care	Capital Enhancement to Increase Safety and Ease of Access		•		
Milton Community Resource Centre	Infant Food Bank			•	
Milton Transitional Housing Corporation	Milton Transitional Housing Core Program			•	
Kerr Street Mission	Produce First				•
Kerr Street Mission	Refurbish and Enhancement of Community Youth Centre				•
Oak Park Neighbourhood Centre	Seniors Program				•
Oakville Kiwanis Meals on Wheels	Meal Delivery Support and Enhancement				•
Oakville Parent-Child Centre	Kids & Me Programs				•
Peel Halton Dufferin Acquired Brain Injury Services	Home is Where the Heart Is				•

Smallest and Largest Grants by Category

\$5,000
\$30,000

Category One

\$4,400
\$191,851

Category Two

\$5,000
\$145,700

Category Three

For more information about the Halton Region Community Investment Fund, visit:
halton.ca/investmentfund

