

COMMUNITY
INVESTMENT
DIRECTORY

2015 - 2016



TOGETHER,
WE ARE POSSIBILITY

uwgv.ca

United Way's mission is to improve lives and build community by engaging individuals and mobilizing collective action and we do this through our dual role as a year-round fundraiser and impact funder. We aim to address the immediate needs of our most vulnerable citizens today through the funding of a network of services, while also focusing on the future, to address the root causes of social issues and create sustainable change.

Although many citizens flourish in Greater Victoria, others do not have access to the essentials needed for their overall health and well-being. The region has one of the highest cost of living averages in the nation, especially in terms of housing. The high cost of living, along with alarming child poverty rates, growing numbers of homeless people, rising numbers of working poor families and isolated seniors are just a few of the challenges we face.

Being an impact funder means we are working to improve social conditions, build stronger neighbourhoods and create better lives for individuals and families. Our goal is for our community to be measurably better off as a result of the work of United Way and our funded community partners.

People accessing United Way programs and services are among us everyday – they could be your co-workers, neighbours, friends or extended family members.

In our 2015/2016 fiscal year, United Way funds 111 programs within our three priority areas and through our Youth/Community in Action initiative:

All that kids can be – supporting children and youth with resources to grow up healthy and transition successfully into adulthood.

United Way funds 36 programs related to school readiness, school achievement and a successful transition to adulthood and the workforce.

From poverty to possibility – building individuals' financial stability and independence through access to healthy food, affordable housing and employment.

United Way funds 20 programs related to housing, food and employment – all strategies to find pathways out of poverty.

Strong communities – developing the capacity of people to care for themselves and families by creating opportunities for social interaction and places offering belonging and inclusiveness.

United Way funds 45 programs related to overcoming mental health and addictions, trauma from domestic violence, and social isolation among seniors, people with disabilities and newcomers to our community.

Youth/Community in Action – A partnership between United Way and Coast Capital Savings brought together 23 youth from the neighbourhoods of Hillside-Quadra and Esquimalt to create and develop community projects 'for youth and by youth.' As a result of their hard work, United Way is funding 10 new programs.

ALL THAT KIDS CAN BE

OUR
INVESTMENTS
36 Programs

United Way works to help infants grow into healthy children; children receive the support they need to start and succeed in school; and young people make successful transitions into the workforce or post secondary education.

Support individuals
to be strong parents
and to build
healthy families

LIVES CHANGED

We fund programs
and services that:

Assist children
to be ready
for school

Build positive
role models and
mentoring for
children and youth

Support youth to
stay in school
and transition to
a meaningful
work life



1UP The Victoria Single Parent Resource Centre

Healthy Happy Kids Parenting Program

This program supports vulnerable single parents through education on childhood development, access to resources, skill development, and mentorship. Through classroom and hands-on learning, parents will practice the skills needed to provide a secure and loving home for their children.

Artemis Place Society

Artemis Place

This program assists and encourages teenage girls to stay in school while offering individualized support with academics, counselling, and life skills. Girls are given practical skills to overcome barriers to success such as addictions, mental health issues, poverty, trauma and learning disabilities.

Beacon Community Services

Beacon Community Services Youth Job Fair

This job fair connects youth aged 14 to 25 to potential work, volunteer, training and educational opportunities. Businesses from Sidney and Central and North Saanich, along with post-secondary institutions, community, and service groups are invited to set up displays at the event. Prior to the job fair, workshops in résumé, cover letter writing, and interview skills are held in preparation for the application and hiring processes. On the day of the job fair youth have the opportunity to meet representatives face-to-face, educate themselves about employment, volunteering, and post-secondary education opportunities while applying their newly learned interview skills.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Victoria

Community Mentoring Program

This is a community mentoring program that matches children with screened adult mentors. Each mentor and mentee meet weekly and participate in a variety of activities geared towards increasing resiliency in the youth through fostering strong adult relationships.

In-School Mentoring Program

This is an in-school mentoring program that matches children at designated elementary schools with screened and trained adult mentors. The children who participate in this program are referred by the school and deemed most in need of building positive adult relationships. The focus of this program is the promotion of supportive adult role models, resiliency, social development and success in school.

Go Girls - Healthy Bodies Healthy Minds

This program provides support and preventative education to help girls aged 10 to 13 to increase their confidence, self-esteem, and resiliency, while introducing creative and critical thinking skills. By providing the tools, skills, resources, and opportunities needed, the girls are encouraged to explore and enhance their own potential.

Teen Mentoring Program

This is an in-school mentoring program that matches trained teen mentors with elementary school students. It offers a model in which teens can interact with younger students in an effort to create a healthier social environment. Through the mentoring relationship, children build confidence, resiliency, and self-esteem, while learning to succeed in school, at home and in their community.

Boys & Girls Club Services of Greater Victoria

Empowerment of Discovery-Assisting Children, Youth and Families Reach their Potential

This program provides support to both children and their parents. The parents are provided with support and skills to increase their parenting knowledge and effectiveness. At the same time the children engage in extra-curricular activities that promote emotional, physical, intellectual and social well-being.

Burnside Gorge Community Association

Youth Self-Sufficiency - Transitioning the Rocky Road from Youth to Adulthood

This program provides supports for youth who are in foster care and/or youth who have no other available supports as they transition to adulthood. The program provides up to three years of assistance in the areas of housing, employment, education, relationship and trust building, life skills, and identity and emotional healing.

Community Options for Children and Families Society

Family Support Program

This program provides vital information and services to low-income families who have family members with developmental disabilities.

Esquimalt Neighbourhood House Society

Best Families - West Shore

This is a parenting program that provides education and support to young West Shore parents and their babies up to 12 months of age. Parenting support is provided in a group setting with the focus on effective parenting and building peer relationships.

Fairfield Gonzales Community Association

Jump 'N' Start Youth Outreach

Providing healthy social opportunities for youth after school with a small group of peers and supportive counsellors, this program offers trips to local attractions, recreational activities, arts and crafts, games and cooking. Weekly meetings help encourage kids to try new things, develop self-esteem, and become aware of community resources and essential supports.

Greater Victoria Family Services

Families in Transition

This program serves families going through divorce and separation. It consists of group sessions for children and their parents, and private one-on-one professional therapy for individuals, couples and families.

Island Sexual Health Society

Belmont Sexual Health Clinic

This program provides a full service clinical and educational program related to sexual health on the Belmont High School Campus in the West Shore. The program aims to ensure that all youth have access to affordable, confidential community based services that support health and wellness.

James Bay Community Project

Parent Child Mother Goose

Parents with babies up to 12 months old take part in this free, 10-week group experience which focuses on the pleasure and power of using rhymes, stories and songs together. Parents gain skills and confidence to help create positive family patterns during their child's crucial early years. Children also benefit as parents learn to 'tune in' to baby's communication cues. Informal discussions on parenting topics and local community resources further help and forge strong friendships for all.

Learning Disabilities Assoc. of BC SVI Chapter

Emotional Development Support Programs

Assisting families of children with complex learning and behavioural challenges, these programs provide a range of accessible services to address their concerns. Child counseling sessions, parent and family support groups and workshops to increase awareness and resiliency are offered. The focus is on increasing parent capacity, reducing family stress, and understanding the emotional needs of children with learning disabilities.

Child, Family and Community Support and Education Program

This program provides services to educate, support and advocate for children with learning disabilities and their families. Children and parents are provided with a continuum of services including referrals, support and educational resources and counselling services. In addition to working with children and their families, the program also provides community members, organizations and education professionals with resources to better support children with learning disabilities.

NEED2 Suicide Prevention Education and Support

Mental Awareness for Youth-Approaching Suicide Prevention in Middle School

NEED2's youth suicide prevention program strives to prevent suicide by supporting youth to stay safe and move forward with healthy coping skills. Key strategies involve support, education and awareness. The suicide awareness for youth presentations provide suicide education to youth Grade 8 to 12 in classrooms and community groups. Presentations focus on recognizing the warning signs and seeking help when a student or friend may be having suicidal thoughts.

Youth Suicide Prevention Program

NEED2 connects with youth and young adults in the classroom and online, providing suicide awareness education, emotional support and crisis intervention. The youth suicide prevention program mitigates risk by getting thousands of youth help in a timely manner and provides positive information and tools to enhance overall resilience and coping skills.

Pender Island Childcare Society

Dragonfly Drop-in Program

This program provides community-based services designed to strengthen parenting skills and provide stimulating environments for children through five core areas of service: family support, play-based learning, early learning and literacy, parent education, and information and referrals. It strengthens parenting skills, promotes social networking, reduces isolation and enhances community cohesion.

Quadra Village Community Centre

Launch Pad for Youth

This youth program works with marginalized youth in the Hillside-Quadra area. Key activities include youth outreach, project coordination, system navigation, mentoring, personal action plans, life/social/ employment skill building, work experience, helping community, group decision making, fundraising, team building and outdoor trips.

Saanich Neighbourhood Place

Nurturing Mums & Babes

One in a series of prenatal nutrition programs, this group reaches out to high risk, vulnerable, pregnant women who have completed the Island Health Best Babies program. In a collaborative team setting with a nutritionist, public health nurses, dental hygienists and an outreach worker, women learn about health, nutrition, child development and parenting. They also connect with other parents, make friends and learn about available community resources.

Anxiety Connection for Children and Youth

This program provides information and skills to cope with anxiety through a continuum of services ranging from early intervention to therapeutic management. Cost effective programs are delivered in a group setting which promote socialization, problem solving and peer support.

Salt Spring & Southern Gulf Islands Community Services Society

Mental Health Outreach

This program provides support and services to people with mental health issues. Participants are typically disconnected from a health support network. The program reaches out to youth as young as 14 who are living an unhealthy, unsafe lifestyle on their own and helps them improve their self care and stabilize their lifestyle and environment.

School District 63 and Tsawout First Nation

Gathering Strength Youth Alternative Program

Using education and cultural programming as an intervention for youth disengaged with school, family and community, this after-school program helps move young people from loss and tragedy to hope and healing after more than five years of youth suicides. Working with the School District 63 Learning Centre, the Council and teachers developed bridging techniques to help transition youth back to school and health using coping strategies and confidence-building physical activities.

Songhees First Nation

Kwum Kwum Lelum Tutoring & Youth Program

Created in 2010, this program offers a place for Songhees children and youth to access literacy support for greater success in school and in life. Consistently at full capacity with up to 35 students regularly attending, the program runs for four days a week after school. Support and resources include a safe, community-based centre for tutoring and study with culturally relevant literacy, positive learning and outreach activities.

Sooke Family Resource Society

Youth Outreach and Navigator Program

This program provides assessment, referral, outreach and counselling for youth experiencing significant life challenges, especially with mental health and/or addiction concerns. Navigators assist youth to link with appropriate treatment services, improve family and community connections, and increase life skills.

Sooke Transition House Society

Children Who Witness Abuse: From Roots to Wings

This program provides services to children with the objective of stopping the inter-generational cycle of abuse by teaching children non-violent ways of resolving conflict while promoting the process of healing. The program supports children whose emotional health and self-esteem have been affected by witnessing abuse, threats or violence in the home. The program also offers support to the parents who are survivors of abuse.

Young Women Of Spirit

This mentorship program helps young women develop their strengths and achieve their goals in life while staying safe in dating and peer relationships. The program focuses on building the women's resiliency, self-esteem and social connections to move beyond the violence and build better futures. Activities help build the capacity of women and their families to deal with the stress of traumatic events and help develop healthy relationship skills.

SWOVA Community Development & Research Society

Respectful Relationships

Youth aged 12 to 18 within School District 64 of the Southern Gulf Islands gain skills to build positive relationships based on equality, respect and mutual support. Each youth participates in 12 workshops exploring ways to resolve conflict peacefully and build social and emotional intelligence for media literacy, social justice and empathy. Bullying, cyber-bullying, racism, sexism, homophobia and violence prevention are also addressed in the program.

Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Centre Society

Enable Program for Newcomer Children and Youth

This program provides social, academic and emotional support to newcomer children, youth and their families. Through group social activities, one-on-one academic help, art therapy groups, and individualized action-planning, Enable helps newcomers feel empowered and included. The program also engages volunteers, community members and community partners to create a more inclusive community for everyone.

Victoria READ Society

Noisy Kids Reading Club

This program provides outreach education twice a week for 12 weeks at schools that have a high percentage of vulnerable individuals and families. Designed for children in Grades 2 and 3, who struggle with fundamental language arts skills. In a creative, active learning environment the Noisy Kids Reading Club blends a remediation program using familiar reading, new reading, educational games and learning/sharing opportunities for parents.

Victoria Sexual Assault Centre

Project Respect: Youth Gender-Based Violence Prevention Education and Social Action

This program works with youth to break the silence around sexualized violence by exploring its root causes, such as power and gender expectations, and drawing connections among the multiple forms this violence takes. The program supports youth to develop knowledge and skills to practice respectful relationships and to engage in social action to end sexualized violence and create inclusive communities.

Victoria Therapeutic Riding Association

Adaptive Riding Program

This therapeutic riding program for children and adults with disabilities promotes physical, psychological and social well-being. Lessons are designed to address challenges specific to each person. They include therapy riding for those with complex health issues, recreation riding for mainly adults with physical or cognitive issues who want an activity they can participate in, and sport riding.

Victoria Youth Clinic Society

Strengthening the Frontline

This program provides support for vulnerable youth age 19 to 25 with mental health, addiction, and challenges related to gender orientation. The program addresses an important service gap in that this population is no longer eligible for mental health and addiction services for children and youth, but many adult focused mental health and addiction programs are not appropriate for them because developmentally they have not made the transition to adulthood.

Young Parents Support Network

Becoming Family: Comprehensive Support Services for Young Parent Families

A family development program for young parents age 13 to 29 who are living with complex risks, with the intention of improving short and long-term outcomes for these families. Outreach services including support with parenting and developing life skills, parenting education classes, family drop-in support groups, and children's programs.

FROM POVERTY TO POSSIBILITY

OUR INVESTMENTS 20 Programs

United Way believes the pathway out of poverty starts with providing resources and opportunities for individuals to become more self-sufficient through access to healthy food, affordable housing and employment.

LIVES CHANGED

We fund programs and services that:

Offer safe and stable housing

Increase access to nutritious food

Provide financial literacy support

Offer employment training and skills development



Beacon Community Services

Out of the Rain Youth Shelter

This is a shelter program for homeless youth age 15 to 25. Out of the Rain provides homeless youth with shelter accommodation and food during the coldest months of the year, October to April. The program provides shelter seven nights a week and two hot meals each day. The space for the program is provided through local churches in partnership with other social service agencies.

Retail Training Certificate Program

This program is based on a unique collaboration between business and community that provides employment training for hard to employ people. The program provides an eight-week employment skills training session that supports individuals' mental health wellness and the development of employment skills in an existing retail thrift shop setting.

Burnside Gorge Community Association

Family Self-Sufficiency Program

An innovative, asset building and financial literacy skill development program for families with low incomes. The goals are to increase employability and financial capacity, build financial literacy skills and knowledge, improve self reliance and facilitate less dependence on government supports while providing links to community resources.

Coalition of Neighbourhood Houses

Neighbourhood Food Access and Distribution Program (FAD)

This program enables neighbourhood houses to meet the rising needs for food in their neighbourhoods. It supports collaborative food recovery and bulk purchasing programs for the neighbourhood houses in Greater Victoria. This program offers nutritious meals and snacks as well as community kitchen, food preparation and gardening programs to more than 7,000 children, low or no income individuals and families, youth and seniors each month.

Community Micro Lending

Training Loans

This program targets people who are unemployed or under-employed and who don't qualify for training dollars through one of the provincial government's training access programs or who do qualify but require supplemental training dollars to access a specific course to improve their lives. Loans that lead to employment can move people from poverty to possibility and enhance their ability to sustain themselves and their families.

Farmlands Trust Society

Agricultural Land Protection Program

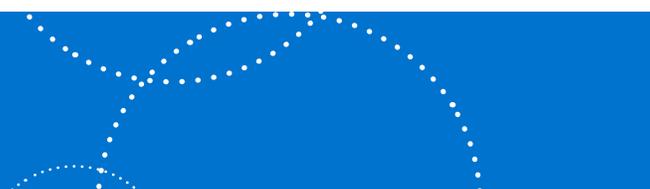
This program works to ensure that small farms in the Saanich Peninsula are able to access supports required to continue actively producing local food. This society holds that by protecting and preserving farmlands and agricultural, natural and cultural features of our region benefits current and future generations. Such efforts are intended to relieve poverty and promote awareness and interest in the importance of local sustainable agriculture and food security.

Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness Society

Social Inclusion Advisory Committee and Speakers Bureau

This committee provides those experiencing homelessness the opportunity to contribute their expertise to the work of the Coalition. This group offers feedback and guides existing and future Coalition initiatives. The Speakers Bureau allows those who have experienced homelessness to share their personal story with interested agencies, schools, the media and general public. It also provides training on how to speak and how to protect themselves while sharing their stories.

6. POVERTY



James Bay New Horizons

Food Security and Reducing Social Isolation for Low Income Seniors

The Sunday Dinner Program is one of several supports offered to isolated seniors in need of a break from cooking meals and also in need of new opportunities to meet people. A three course meal is served at an affordable cost by volunteers who welcome regulars and visitors alike.

LifeCycles Project Society

Growing Connections

This program works to build youth leadership and connections to community by participation in community food action projects. The food action projects in turn mobilizes and strengthens community networks, capacity and resources to increase food security of individuals, families and communities throughout Greater Victoria.

Our Place Society

Food Services Program

Food plays a vital role in physical and mental well-being. This food services program provides 1,600 nutritious meals a day to Victoria's homeless, working poor, seniors, and people with physical and mental health challenges. The program also provides an opportunity to engage with outreach staff, build relationships, and connect with community resources.

Pacifica Housing Advisory Association

The Greater Victoria Streets to Homes Program (S2H)

This program works to move people experiencing homelessness directly to private market housing obtained through a comprehensive landlord support system. S2H provides a rent subsidy, case planning and supports through direct service and referrals to community resources to ensure participants remain housed and progress towards self-sufficiency.

Ready to Rent BC

Expansion for Impact

The 12-hour certificate course focuses on tenancy rights and responsibilities, communication skills, and financial literacy. The Ready to Rent certificate is being recognized by a growing number of housing providers and landlords, increasing the opportunity for graduates to secure stable housing. 'Expansion for Impact' will focus on expanding and modifying the course by offering it to seniors, youth, and aboriginal people in Greater Victoria.

Salt Spring & Southern Gulf Islands Community Services Society

New Beginnings Vocational Development

This program provides vocational development program for adults with employment barriers through individual and group-based training, work experience placements, and supported employment searches. The program is tailored to those with disabilities, mental health issues, social isolation, poverty, and limited life skills. Additionally, the program works with employers to establish flexible and positive work experiences and entry level job placements.

Together Against Poverty Society

Established Legal Advocacy Programs

This program provides legal advocacy for people of no or low-income on Southern Vancouver Island and the Gulf Islands in the areas of income assistance, provincial persons with disabilities benefits and tenancy issues.

Employment Rights & Education Project

This project helps ensure employees receive fair compensation for their work and are not subjected to undignified working conditions. By increasing access to justice for those who have a legitimate claim against their employers, but who cannot afford the services of a lawyer, program staff uphold the rights of workers who may have been wrongly dismissed, are owed money from their employer, or need help communicating with employers about issues and standards.

Victoria Cool Aid Society

REES Employment and Support Program

This program provides accessible, responsive and barrier-free supports and services to adults facing mental health and/or substance use challenges, poverty, unemployment, homelessness, unstable housing, chronic health and disability conditions, isolation, and other personal and societal challenges. Through outreach services, peer support and employment opportunities participants are assisted to improve their health and social well-being.

Victoria Rainbow Kitchen

Rainbow Kitchen

More than 200 volunteers prepare and serve a nutritious, tasty hot lunch to about 140 people a day, five days a week each year at the Esquimalt United Church through this safe and supportive program for poor and marginalized people. The majority of food is donated by corporate partners who share the program's goal of establishing food security independence for those in need. Many volunteers start as guests who train and study to gain work experience in the kitchen and at local community gardens.

Victoria Women's Transition House Society

Safe: Self-Sufficiency and Assets through Financial Education

This financial literacy and asset-building project works with the residents of Harrison Place. Participants are single women, aged 45-65 who are abuse survivors with multiple health problems, chronic disease, and at high risk of homelessness. The project aims to achieve residential stability, sense of security, financial knowledge, and psychological orientation toward future civic and community involvement.

Victoria Youth Empowerment Society

Housing Support Program

This program provides youth and young adults aged 16 to 24 with education regarding tenant rights/responsibilities and life skills to help secure and maintain long-term housing. Youth also receive support to overcome barriers such as financial resources, mental health and addiction issues, and employment.

WSÁNEĆ School Board/ LifeCycles Project Society

Native Plants & Garden Education Program

Based at the LÁU,WELNEW Tribal School gardens and greenhouse in Brentwood Bay, the vision behind this program combines teachings on garden fruits and vegetables with native plants and foods. This project explores plant propagation, traditional food preparation such as pit cooks and salmon bakes, food processing, and food ecosystems. Students develop gardens and learn about ecological restoration and native ecosystems from elders who speak on traditional methods and our connection to nature.

STRONG COMMUNITIES

OUR INVESTMENTS
45 Programs

Healthy individuals and families are the backbone of strong communities. When people have the opportunity to connect with others and access services close to home, they are more likely to overcome life's challenges. United Way supports critical social programs that help people to lead healthier lives.

LIVES CHANGED

We fund programs and services that:

Support individuals to overcome mental health and addiction challenges

Address trauma from family violence

Provide isolated seniors and people with disabilities with community connections

Support people to become active in neighbourhoods



1UP The Victoria Single Parent Resource Centre

The Resiliency Stream: Building Healthy Single Parent Families

This is a life skills program for low-income and isolated single parents that provides them with support and training in a wide array of areas including parenting, interpersonal skills, financial management and practical skills for daily living.

AIDS Vancouver Island

Access Possibilities Program

This program provides coordinated individual and group support options for people living with, or at risk for, HIV and/or hepatitis C. Participants build a network of support unique to their individual needs through drop-in services, nutritional support, counselling, case management and group learning opportunities.

The Anawim Companions Society

Life Skills Training for a Resident and Non Resident Group in a Family Like Setting

This life skills program provides a residential setting for people who have addiction issues. The program works to assist people living in physical, emotional or social poverty who seek a better way of life free from dependency and addiction.

BC Schizophrenia Society, Victoria Branch

Peer Support Program

This program provides people living with schizophrenia recovery and re-lapse prevention support. The program works with mental health experts as well as peer leaders to support and build the skills of participants while empowering them to live successfully with schizophrenia.

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Victoria

Focus Mentoring Program

This program focuses on children and youth who have been referred to Big Brothers Big Sisters due to their need for additional and sustained support in order to manage and overcome significant disadvantages. It is intended to increase support to families who live with the negative stigma of mental illness and are challenged in parenting and family wellness.

Bridges for Women Society

Bridges Employment Program

This program works to break the cycle of abuse and trauma through education and employment training. It assists women to identify interests and skills, develop long-term career goals, end isolation, support each other in a classroom setting, and discover how to build their own personal and community supports. The curriculum includes addressing histories of abuse, individual study, counselling and coaching, career exploration, and workplace and academic skills.

Island Community Mental Health

Gateway to Resources & Options for Wellness (GROW) Young Adult Engagement Project

This pilot program is designed for individuals aged 19 to 30 who are recovering from mental illness. The project will begin with a focus group of young adults to determine the types and timing of activities that will attract and engage the desired demographic. The next stage will involve developing and implementing programming based upon this information. All GROW program development considers eight dimensions of wellness, and offers a menu of groups and activities to address and promote well-being.

Children's Health Foundation of Vancouver Island

Her Way Home

Helping women and their families who face multiple barriers to good health, this program encourages skills for raising healthy babies and living safer lives. Supportive learning is designed for pregnant and early parenting women impacted by drug or alcohol use, or who have experienced violence, abuse or face mental health challenges. Outcomes show an increased number of mothers now able to experience healthy pregnancies, keep their babies and establish successful families.

The Cridge Centre for the Family

The Cridge Respite Service

This is a respite program for parents who have special needs children. This service has partnered with hotels and businesses to meet the need for caregiver respite. The program builds family, resiliency and enables them to better deal with the chronic stress associated with raising a child with special needs.

The Cridge Young Parent Outreach Program

This is a parenting program that focuses on providing support to young parents aged 16 to 24. The program offers tools to create stable, safe, healthy lives for themselves and their children.

Esquimalt Military Family Resource Centre

Deployment Support for Military Families - Deployment Respite Care

This is a respite program for military families. Military children and their parents often experience isolation and stress when Canadian Forces members are deployed. This program offers parenting workshops, informal networking sessions, and children's workshops to enhance parents ability to cope while their loved ones are away. By providing respite/deployment child care to military families, additional stress is alleviated allowing families to engage more successfully with their support networks.

Esquimalt Neighbourhood House Society

Are You Okay? Prevention, Support and Advocacy through Volunteer Counselling

This community-based, volunteer-based program helps people with a complex range of mental health and addiction issues, as well as people facing difficulties such as poverty and family breakdown that are impacting their mental health and substance use, gain control of their lives and improve their well-being.

Fairfield Gonzales Community Association

Leadership Continuity During Periods of Transition

This capacity building program, developed and piloted in one organization with the intention of sharing the process and results with the non-profit sector, provides an opportunity for the organization to take stock of their role and contribution to our community. This initiative's approach is to work with a single organization as they manage the transition of their long-term, successful executive into retirement. Understanding how to support a successful transition requires a focus on the reputation of the organization, their relationships with the community at large, and the stability of their funding base.

Family Caregivers' Network Society

Family Caregiver Education and Support Program

This program provides family caregivers with tools to deal with the many challenges of caring, such as stress reduction, improving confidence and communicating effectively. It encourages the development of strong personal networks with an emphasis on self-care. As well, community education is offered to health care professionals, organizations and volunteers to increase understanding of the incredible role that family caregivers play in our society.

Galiano Club

From The Ground Up - Growing Galiano Community and Food Security

This food production and skill building program works across generations with a focus on building skills and self-sufficiency for vulnerable people through growing food, community kitchens, community potlucks and workshops on food security.

Garth Homer Society

Geriatric Day Services Program

This program provides professional training and management leadership in geriatrics to staff in order to better enhance their capacity to support an aging population, and deliver coordinated health and social services to seniors with developmental disabilities.

Greater Victoria Citizens' Counselling Centre

Adult Counselling Services

This counselling program provides short-term, accessible and affordable individual, couples and group counselling to low-income adults. All direct service is provided by volunteer counsellors who are trained and supervised at the Centre.

Habitat for Humanity

Habitat for Humanity (core)

This is a community and volunteer based program that strives to offer safe, decent, and affordable housing to low-income families. Habitat believes that everyone deserves a place to live and that homeownership promotes a sense of pride and connection to one's community and neighbourhood while breaking the cycle of poverty. Through mobilizing the skills of volunteers and community partners as well as the home-owner families themselves, Habitat continues to build and provide safe homes for our community.

Headway Victoria Epilepsy and Parkinson's Centre

Epilepsy Program Strong Communities/ Personal Well-being and Safety

This program assists children, parents and community members to meet the practical and personal needs of handling the challenge of recurrent seizures through counselling sessions, workshops, support groups, and educational awareness presentations.

Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria

Community Partnership Network: Education to Build Welcoming and Inclusive Communities

This program works to build the capacity of businesses, community groups and agencies to better serve immigrants. The program offers education seminars, tools, information and strategies on becoming more culturally inclusive.

Island Sexual Health Society

Education Support for High Risk Community Members

This program provides education opportunities for individuals who experience barriers to health care access (and specifically sexual health information) including individuals with social, geographical, literacy and accessibility issues.

Peninsula First Nations: Tsawout Clinic and Community Support

Working with the Tsawout health team, Island Sexual Health provides an on-site clinic at the Tsawout reserve working to provide client care around sexual health, preventative care, and on-site clinical services for improved access.

John Howard Society of Victoria

Feeding Ourselves and Others Community Garden

This is a therapeutic community garden program for people with mental illnesses and/or addictions issues. The garden provides a place for people to come and engage in therapeutic practices as well as building an income generating garden for people who all come from low-income backgrounds.

Oak Bay Volunteer Services Society

Oak Bay Direct Volunteer Services Program

This volunteer program provides one-to-one services to individuals of all ages including seniors, persons with disabilities, low-income persons and others in need. The support helps people maintain independence and improve their quality of life. Services include drives for appointments, shopping, visits, walks, reading, writing, daily reassurance phone calls, income tax returns, and minor repairs.

Oasis Society for Spiritual Health

First Nation Wellness: Through Grief and Loss to Human Flourishing

This program provides a wide array of supports to street entrenched Aboriginal men and women considered most at risk for morbidity and mortality due to chronic homelessness and alcohol use. Oasis develops the capacity and empowers this population to care for themselves and others through facilitating regular engagement and support for addiction treatment.

Our Place Society

Sunday Drop In Program

This program supports marginalized people, in particular Aboriginal people and seniors with an opportunity to come together and connect with others. Participants are able to access healthy food, health care services, and participate in activities designed to support their well-being and build connections.

Pacific Centre Family Services Association

Safer Families

This program provides a comprehensive and integrated model of service for families experiencing domestic violence. The program offers professional individual and group counselling for men, women and children to enable them to develop safe and healthy relationships and recover from the trauma of family violence.

PEERS Victoria Resources Society

Drop-in Community Centre for Marginalized Adults in the Sex Industry

This drop-in centre provides a welcoming community space where sex workers can seek informal peer support while gaining access to a wider range of associated programs to assist with housing, food, income, security, and wellness education.

PEERS Core Funding

This funding provides administrative support and agency stability for the Prostitute Empowerment Education Resource Society. This group's primary goal is to enable and support sex workers who want to transition toward mainstream employment, complete or improve their education, improve their and their children's health, as well as seek legal supports and advocacy services.

Saanich Volunteer Services Society

One on One Direct Volunteer Service

This is a volunteer service program that works to reduce isolation, enhance independence and improves the health and well-being of vulnerable senior citizens in Saanich. Trained volunteers provide a wide array of support to isolated seniors including access to community activities and services with supported transportation, companionship, form completion, help with minor home repair, and gardening.

Silver Threads Service

Identifying & Engaging Isolated Seniors

This program works to reconnect isolated seniors with the wider community through the building of social networks. Seniors who have withdrawn from society are gently re-introduced to small social groups where they enjoy each other's company and learn about programs and services available to them in the larger community.

Sooke Family Resource Society

Caring for Community Counselling Program

This program provides affordable counselling to individuals, couples and families living in the Sooke area. Counselling services offered include family, couples, trauma and emotional health, child and youth, developmentally disabled adults, life stress and transition planning. The program welcomes people of all ages, socio-economic levels, and cultural backgrounds.

Prenatal Program - Pregnancy Education and Outreach

This program provides both group and individual prenatal and postnatal education, support and outreach to pregnant women and their families in Sooke and the surrounding areas at low to no-cost.

Sooke Family Resource Society & Pacheedaht First Nation

Pacheedaht Families

Enhancing individual, family, and community wellness, this weekly program is open to everyone in the community. Participants work together to teach and care for children by engaging in activities, new learning and informal discussion. Pacheedaht and local teachers, elders, artists and experts also take part. Key stakeholders include Pacheedaht band staff, Sooke Family Resource Society, South Island Wellness Society, Island Health and the BC Ministry of Children and Families.

Sooke Transition House Society

Stopping the Violence Restoring Hope

This women's counselling program was established in 2005 with the BC Ministry of Justice's Victim Services and Crime Prevention Division. Both individual and group supports offer additional services including assessment and referrals for women who have experienced sexual assault, violence or abuse. With a vision of helping women return to a place of self-empowerment, supports include housing, financial advocacy, education, and counselling.

South Island Centre for Counselling & Training

Affordable Clinical Counselling Program

This program provides professional, counselling options for people unable to access services on an affordable and timely basis either through employment assistance plans or doctor referral. Clients include people who are unemployed, seniors, people with disabilities and low-income families. Counselling options include private individual, couples or family groupings as well as group therapy options.

Spinal Cord Injury BC

Peer Support Program - Life Changer Activities

This program provide opportunities for people living with a spinal cord injury to form lasting social connections that reduce isolation and result in improved emotional well-being. Participants build supportive relationships and discover that they are not alone in dealing with the challenges that their spinal cord injury brings.

Umbrella Society for Addictions and Mental Health

Peer Outreach Program

This program works with anyone for whom substance use has become a problem, assisting clients and members of their families as they identify their own needs. Emotional and tangible supports include counselling and connections to related community resources.

Victoria Brain Injury Society

Community Connections

This program provides brain injury survivors with support, training and volunteering opportunities that help them build the skills required to be emotionally, economically and socially self-supporting. The program provides a safe environment for survivors to rebuild positive living skills and regain work experience while learning to deal with the challenging impacts of their injury.

Victoria Cool Aid Society

Downtown Community Centre

The Downtown Community Centre provides people who are either homeless or at-risk of becoming homeless with a variety of healthy recreation and life skills programs to build a social network at no cost.

The Community Volunteer Training Program

This program delivers core mental health and addictions training to volunteers of community social service agencies. In collaboration and partnership with a range of non-profit organizations, the program enhances the knowledge and skills of caring community volunteers and the capacities of those associated organizations to support the needs of vulnerable adults living in our community.

Victoria Women's Transition House Society

Spousal Assault Victim Support Inclusion Program

This community-based program focuses on violence against women in intimate relationships. The program supports women through the criminal justice system and provides emotional, financial, and social supports needed to recover from trauma. Program workers provide information and assistance to victims of assault, threats, or criminal harassment by an intimate partner or ex-partner regardless of whether or not the incident was reported to police.

Victoria Youth Empowerment Society

Alliance Club

A youth drop-in in downtown Victoria that acts as a safe connecting point for at-risk and street involved youth to explore a more positive lifestyle. Services include basic needs such as meals, shower and laundry facilities and focused educational sessions. It acts as a linking point between youth, their families and community resources. Youth are assisted with housing, alcohol/drug misuse, mental health, employment, school, family issues and life skills.

Mental Health Liaison

This program works to improve access and coordination of mental health/addiction services for vulnerable youth and families. Direct counselling, drop-in and outreach support assists youth and families to meet their often complex needs that may be indicative of a mental health concern.

Volunteer Victoria

Volunteer Referral and Resource Centre Program

This is a volunteer recruitment and referral program for non-profit agencies in Greater Victoria. Volunteers are recruited, trained and placed at local non-profits across the community.

YOUTH/COMMUNITY IN ACTION

In 2012, United Way and Coast Capital Savings partnered to create a multi-year youth engagement initiative that resulted in positive changes for two neighbourhoods in Greater Victoria. The Youth in Action initiative empowered 23 youth aged 15 to 24 who live, learn, work or play in Hillside-Quadra and Esquimalt to create and develop neighbourhood-enhancing projects that are 'for youth and by youth'.

Their vision forged 10 initiative partnerships with Esquimalt Recreation Centre, Quadra Village Community Centre, City of Victoria including Crystal Pool, Greater Victoria Public Library, École Quadra School, Community Social Planning Council, Esquimalt Neighbourhood House and Reel Youth to execute the program deliverables over the next several years.



City of Victoria, Crystal Pool

School-to-Swim

This program will support kids aged 6 to 13 from George Jay, Quadra & Central School who cannot access transportation or afford pool fees.

City of Victoria, Engineering & Public Works

Create Community Colour, The United Way Mural Art Program

This project will create eight murals throughout Greater Victoria. In addition to beautifying various neighbourhoods, this initiative will also build a positive place where citizens, in particular youth, can find a sense of belonging in our community while working together on a large scale art project.

Community Social Planning Council

Esquimalt Resilient Neighbourhoods Initiative

This project will focus on mini neighbourhood improvement projects, initiated by Esquimalt citizens and overseen by Community Social Planning Council based on an existing resilient communities program.

École Quadra School

Interactive Music Arts

This initiative will create interactive musical equipment that will remain as permanent fixtures within the school playground. This will be a part of the final stage of the seismic upgrading and environmentally friendly outdoor space renewal.

Joining Hands: This project includes a community breakfast program, a farm to school community program, and transportation for parents who do not have access to vehicles to transport their children.

Esquimalt Neighbourhood House

My Financial House is in Order

This program offers one-on-one financial education based on the Federal Government literacy initiative for priority groups including low income families, Aboriginal peoples, and single parents.

Esquimalt Recreation Centre

Inspiring Creative Youth

This program will encompass the launch of three youth driven, creative arts pilot projects which engage local school districts, offer gallery space for art exhibits, create two indoor art spaces within the recreation centre, and two community events focused on youth and art.

Greater Victoria Public Library

Digi-Lab (Community Digital Arts Lab)

The Digi-Lab will be a community pop-up space for youth-centered art and digital exploration. It will involve various community populations, beginning in Esquimalt.

Quadra Village Community Centre

Teen Centre Engagement & Enhancement Project

This project will focus on enhancing a teen centre with equipment for food access and storage including mobile equipment (i.e. food carts). As well, it will offer training for youth in healthy and sanitary food preparation while opening the door to future employment in the food industry.

Reel Youth

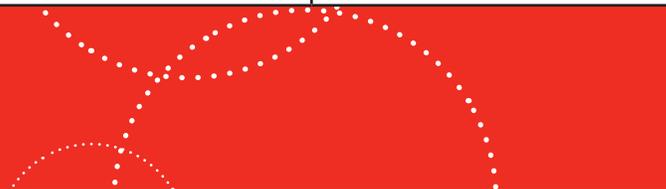
Youth in Action Video

This video captures the scope of the Youth in Action initiative through the voices of the participants. It provides insights on how to engage youth, build leadership, and manage expectations with the 15 to 24 age demographic.

Community Partner	Page(s)	Priority Area	Geographic Location
1UP The Victoria Single Parent Resource Centre	1, 9	Kids, Community	Victoria
AIDS Vancouver Island	9	Community	Victoria
Anawim Companions Society	9	Community	Victoria
Artemis Place Society	1	Kids	Saanich
Beacon Community Services	1, 6	Kids, Poverty	Victoria
BC Schizophrenia Society, Victoria Branch	9	Community	Victoria
Big Brothers Big Sisters of Victoria	1, 9	Kids, Community	Greater Victoria
Bridges for Women Society	9	Community	Victoria
Boys and Girls Club Services of Greater Victoria	1	Kids	Greater Victoria
Burnside Gorge Community Association	2, 6	Kids, Poverty	Sidney
Children's Health Foundation of Vancouver Island	10	Community	Victoria
City of Victoria, Crystal Pool	15	Youth in Action	Greater Victoria
City of Victoria, Engineering and Public Works	15	Youth in Action	Greater Victoria
Community Options for Children and Families Society	2	Kids	Victoria
Community Micro Lending	6	Poverty	Victoria
Community Social Planning Council	15	Youth in Action	Esquimalt
Cridge Centre for the Family	10	Community	Esquimalt
Esquimalt Neighborhood House Society	2, 10, 15	Kids, Community, Youth in Action	Esquimalt
Esquimalt Military Family Resource Centre	10	Community	Esquimalt
Esquimalt Recreation Centre	15	Youth in Action	Esquimalt
Fairfield Gonzales Community Association	2, 10	Kids, Community	Victoria
Family Caregivers' Network Society	10	Community	Victoria
Farmlands Trust	6	Poverty	North Saanich
Galiano Club	11	Community	Gulf Islands
Garth Homer Society	11	Community	Saanich

Community Partner	Page(s)	Priority Area	Geographic Location
Greater Victoria Citizens' Counselling Centre	11	Community	Greater Victoria
Greater Victoria Family Services	2	Kids	Greater Victoria
Greater Victoria Coalition to End Homelessness Society	6	Poverty	Greater Victoria
Greater Victoria Public Library	15	Youth in Action	Esquimalt/Greater Victoria
Habitat for Humanity	11	Community	Saanich
Inter-Cultural Association of Greater Victoria	11	Community	Victoria
Island Community Mental Health	9	Community	Victoria
Island Sexual Health Society	2, 11	Kids, Community	Victoria, West Shore
James Bay Community Project	2	Kids	Victoria
James Bay New Horizons	7	Poverty	Victoria
John Howard Society of Victoria	12	Community	North Saanich
Learning Disabilities Assoc. of BC SVI Chapter	2	Kids	Victoria
LifeCycles Project Society	7	Poverty	Victoria
NEED2 Suicide Prevention Education and Support	3	Kids	Saanich
Oak Bay Volunteer Services Society	12	Community	Victoria
Oasis Society for Spiritual Health	12	Community	Victoria
Our Place Society	7, 12	Poverty, Community	Greater Victoria
Pacific Centre Family Services Association	12	Community	West Shore
Pacifica Housing Advisory Association	7	Poverty	Victoria
PEERS Victoria Resources Society	12	Community	Esquimalt
Pender Island Childcare Society	3	Kids	Gulf Islands
Quadra School	15	Youth in Action	Victoria (Hillside-Quadra)
Quadra Village Community Centre	3, 15	Kids, Youth in Action	Victoria (Hillside-Quadra)

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Community Partner	Page(s)	Priority Area	Geographic Location
Ready to Rent BC	7	Poverty	Victoria
Reel Youth	15	Youth in Action	Online
Saanich Neighbourhood Place	3	Kids	West Shore
Saanich Volunteer Services Society	12	Community	Saanich
Salt Spring and Southern Gulf Islands Community Services Society	3, 7	Kids, Poverty	Gulf Islands
SD 63 and Tsawout First Nation	3	Kids	Saanich
Silver Threads Service	13	Community	Victoria
Songhees First Nation	4	Kids	Esquimalt
Sooke Family Resource Society	4, 13	Kids, Community	Sooke
Sooke Family Resource Society and Pacheedaht First Nation	13	Community	Sooke
Sooke Transition House Society	4, 13	Kids, Community	Sooke
South Island Centre for Counselling and Training	13	Community	Saanich
Spinal Cord Injury BC	13	Community	Victoria
SWOVA Community Development and Research Society	4	Kids	Gulf Islands
Together Against Poverty Society	7	Poverty	Victoria
Umbrella Society for Addictions and Mental Health	13	Community	Victoria
Victoria Brain Injury Society	14	Community	Victoria
Victoria Cool Aid Society	8, 14	Poverty, Community	Victoria
Victoria Epilepsy and Parkinson's Centre, Headway	11	Community	Victoria
Victoria Immigrant and Refugee Centre Society	4	Kids	Victoria
Victoria Rainbow Kitchen	8	Poverty	Esquimalt
Victoria READ Society	4	Kids	Saanich

Community Partner	Page(s)	Priority Area	Geographic Location
Victoria Sexual Assault Centre	5	Kids	Victoria
Victoria Therapeutic Riding Association	5	Kids	North Saanich
Victoria Women's Transition House Society	8, 14	Poverty, Community	Victoria
Victoria Youth Empowerment Society	8, 14	Poverty, Community	Victoria
Victoria Youth Clinic Society	5	Kids	Victoria
Volunteer Victoria	14	Community	Victoria
WSÁNEĆ School Board /LifeCycles Project Society	8	Poverty	North Saanich
Young Parents Support Network	5	Kids	Victoria