

# your community your impact



Spring 2020



## United Way Funded Agencies Responding To COVID-19 Crisis

United action. United impact. This is United Way, and this is how our funded agencies have responded to the COVID-19 crisis. Through our newly established COVID-19 Response Fund, Local Love in a Global Crisis, we have been able to allocate additional funds and help to mobilize our 10 front-line agency partners so that they can assist those most vulnerable in our communities of Haldimand and Norfolk.

This is a trying time for all, but it is especially difficult for seniors. They continue to be vulnerable to the impact COVID-19 has on their health and their ability to stay connected with others. Ensuring that basic needs are taken care of, we have funded meal preparation, plus grocery and meal delivery service to our seniors' population across Haldimand and Norfolk.

Mentoring relationships in the lives of vulnerable young people

translates into positive outcomes in social, emotional competence and provides improved mental health and well-being. But when these connections are no longer permitted due to social distancing, the lives of young people in our community are deeply impacted. With an adaptable approach, we have ensured that our partners have the infrastructure and virtual platforms to continue youth mentoring programs to help reduce the harm and trauma that COVID-19 has caused.

Isolation is not a positive experience for most people, but is especially difficult for those who struggle with mental illness. Without the face-to-face personal contact of established relationships between our agency clients and their counsellors, their mental well-being is threatened. We have provided additional support to our local agencies in this new social distancing environment

and have established virtual wellness visits. Those once isolated are now feeling connected to their community.

COVID-19 has caused an increase in unemployment across both counties. Many are struggling more than ever to put food on their table. Food banks are seeing an increase in clients and our United Way has stepped up to assist. We have provided funds to food banks across both counties in Haldimand and Norfolk so they can rise to the challenge and ensure that every family that requires their help receives it.

United action. United impact. This is United Way. We are better when we work together, and with your support, we will continue to keep our community strong.

Change starts here. | L'heure est au changement.

To remove your name from our mailing list, email us at [info@unitedwayhn.on.ca](mailto:info@unitedwayhn.on.ca) or call 519-426-5660



# Improving Lives Across Haldimand and Norfolk



## LOCAL LOVE IN A GLOBAL CRISIS

Help the most vulnerable as our community responds to COVID-19.

Your donation stays 100% local.

#WhatWeRaiseHereStaysHere

The best thing we can do in a crisis is to look after each other. United Way has one goal in mind – to improve lives across Haldimand and Norfolk. With your support, our local United Way works to tackle the tough problems. In a crisis, we work rapidly with front-line agencies and our local governments to uncover the greatest needs and organize to achieve the greatest impact.

Our communities of Haldimand and Norfolk are made up of resilient and caring people. But we know that many people in our communities do not have the support system around them to prepare for COVID-19. Those who already face barriers, like poverty, homelessness and mental-illness, need even more help during this crisis. And the need continues to evolve.

As you work to protect your family and those closest to you, we urge you to think of those who may need the help of their neighbours. Please visit [www.unitedwayhn.on.ca](http://www.unitedwayhn.on.ca) and click on the **link** to our COVID-19 Response Fund. When you give to United Way of Haldimand and Norfolk, you ensure that our agency partners can continue to do their vital, local work.

## Celebrating a Community Champion **Susan Roach** - An Advocate for Mental Well-Being

Susan Roach was a force of nature. For more than 17 years, she served as the Program Manager for Community Addiction and Mental Health Services in Haldimand and Norfolk counties. She strongly advocated for the rights of all those living and struggling with mental illness.

Working tirelessly to break down stigma, she ensured that those coping with mental illness felt a sense of belonging. She transformed and enhanced the lives of countless individuals in Haldimand and Norfolk. Susan never stopped advocating for the rights of others and empowered those around her on a path to mental well-being.

**Our United Way family will miss her dearly.**



SUSAN ROACH  
(1959 - March 19, 2020)

click on the above photo for a short video.

## Did You Know?

United Way of Haldimand and Norfolk partners with local municipal government and our network of agencies as together, we can identify shared priorities and meet emerging and urgent needs in real time.

Together, we make our community stronger.

#WhatWeRaise  
HereStaysHere!