

Clause 14 in Report No. 8 of Committee of the Whole was adopted, without amendment, by the Council of The Regional Municipality of York at its meeting held on May 17, 2018.

14

Community Investment Fund – 2017 Activity Update, Evaluation Findings and Program Improvements

Committee of the Whole recommends adoption of the following recommendations contained in the report dated April 19, 2018 from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services:

1. Council approve amending the Community Investment Fund program to:
 - a) Permit staggered, three-year funding terms with the option to renew for up to two one-year periods for projects delivered by community agencies, subject to annual Council approval of the Community Investment Fund budget and the completion of a successful annual review of each project.
 - b) Harmonize the Community Investment Fund's three funding streams into a single stream to ensure that all funded projects contain organizational development goals and actions and approach service delivery in a manner that encourages collective impact, innovation and collaboration.
 - c) Streamline the Community Investment Fund call for proposals process by moving from a two-stage application process to a one-stage process.
2. Council initiate the new three-year staggered funding model, with the option to renew for up to two one-year periods, for the Community Investment Fund by approving the extension of existing service agreements listed in Attachment 1 as follows:
 - a) Community agencies funded in 2018 under the Community Health result area to be extended for an additional year, with an increase equivalent to the cost of living adjustment capped at 2.5 per cent, subject to the completion of a successful review of each project before the end of 2018.
 - b) Community agencies funded in 2018 under the Economic Independence and Housing Stability result areas to be extended for an additional two years, with an increase for each additional year that is equivalent to the cost of living adjustment capped at 2.5 per cent, subject to the completion of a successful review of each project prior to the extension year.

Community Investment Fund – 2017 Activity Update, Evaluation Findings and Program Improvements

3. The Commissioner of Community and Health Services be authorized to commit and allocate up to approximately \$2 million in funding annually from 2019 to 2021 from the Community Investment Fund to successful agencies for projects that intend to achieve the community result of Social Inclusion, subject to:
 - a) Available funding through annual Council approval of the Community Investment Fund budget.
 - b) Completion of successful annual review of each project.

Report dated April 19, 2018 from the Commissioner of Community and Health Services now follows:

1. Recommendations

It is recommended that:

1. Council approve amending the Community Investment Fund program to:
 - a. Permit staggered, three-year funding terms with the option to renew for up to two one-year periods for projects delivered by community agencies, subject to annual Council approval of the Community Investment Fund budget and the completion of a successful annual review of each project.
 - b. Harmonize the Community Investment Fund's three funding streams into a single stream to ensure that all funded projects contain organizational development goals and actions and approach service delivery in a manner that encourages collective impact, innovation and collaboration.
 - c. Streamline the Community Investment Fund call for proposals process by moving from a two-stage application process to a one-stage process.
2. Council initiate the new three-year staggered funding model, with the option to renew for up to two one-year periods, for the Community Investment Fund by approving the extension of existing service agreements listed in Attachment 1 as follows:
 - a. Community agencies funded in 2018 under the Community Health result area to be extended for an additional year, with an increase equivalent to the cost of living adjustment capped at 2.5 per cent,

Community Investment Fund – 2017 Activity Update, Evaluation Findings and Program Improvements

subject to the completion of a successful review of each project before the end of 2018.

- b. Community agencies funded in 2018 under the Economic Independence and Housing Stability result areas to be extended for an additional two years, with an increase for each additional year that is equivalent to the cost of living adjustment capped at 2.5 per cent, subject to the completion of a successful review of each project prior to the extension year
3. The Commissioner of Community and Health Services be authorized to commit and allocate up to approximately \$2 million in funding annually from 2019 to 2021 from the Community Investment Fund to successful agencies for projects that intend to achieve the community result of Social Inclusion, subject to:
 - a. Available funding through annual Council approval of the Community Investment Fund budget.
 - b. Completion of successful annual review of each project.

2. Purpose

This report provides information on the results of the \$5.5 million investment made in 2017, for 51 projects.

It recommends program changes to the Community Investment Fund that would permit three year funding commitments, subject to annual Council budget approval and successful annual reviews of the projects. To initiate the change to staggered three-year funding terms, it is recommended that Council approve extensions to the allocations made in 2018 for either one-year or two-year terms, depending upon the community result area the project is intended to address.

Finally, as Council may be in recess this fall, this report seeks approval to authorize the Commissioner of Community and Health Services to approve funding to successful agencies for projects intended to address the Social Inclusion community result for three year terms beginning in 2019, subject to annual Council budget approval and successful annual review of the projects.

3. Background and Previous Council Direction

In [February 2013](#), the current Community Investment Fund program was approved by Council. The Community Investment Fund provides funding to community agencies to:

Community Investment Fund – 2017 Activity Update, Evaluation Findings and Program Improvements

- Deliver projects to York Region residents living with low and moderate income
- Strengthen the capacity of York Region's human services system
- Promote innovate and collaborative programs and service delivery models

Currently, community agencies submit projects to receive funding through one of three funding streams:

1. **Community-based Services:** invests in community-based social service programs/services that directly address human service gaps in York Region and align with Regional investment priorities
2. **Organizational Development:** invests in supports to strengthen the organizational capacity of emergency and existing social service agencies in the human services sector
3. **Innovation and Collaboration:** promotes innovation, multi-sectoral partnerships and collective actions to address increasingly complex and interrelated human service needs of communities

Projects funded address gaps in community services needed by York Region residents. The program targets four community result areas:

1. **Community Health:** residents are healthier and are able to make healthy choices
2. **Economic Independence:** residents have and keep jobs matching their skills and have financial stability
3. **Housing Stability:** residents can live in affordable, adequate and suitable housing
4. **Social Inclusion:** residents are connected and able to engage in their communities

The current funding model has an annual, two-stage call for proposal process

In stage one, community agencies are invited to submit Expressions of Interests to demonstrate how their project fits with one of the result areas. Agencies with successful expressions of interest move to stage two of the process and are invited to submit a full application that includes a detailed work plan and budget.

Community Investment Fund – 2017 Activity Update, Evaluation Findings and Program Improvements

Project proposals are assessed objectively based on published evaluation criteria by a Selection Committee comprised of Departmental staff that are subject matter experts in human services. The evaluation process is detailed in Attachment 2. Consultation also takes place with United Way Greater Toronto and the Ontario Trillium Foundation to ensure that funding recommendations complement and do not duplicate other funding activities in the Region. Projects that are successful in the call for proposals process are then presented to Council for approval. Projects that are approved by Council then receive funding to deliver services that target the four community result areas.

4. Analysis and Implications

2017 Community Investment Fund Allocations

In 2017, approximately \$5.5 million was invested in 51 projects that provided services to approximately 60,000 York Region residents

In [November 2016](#), Council approved 51 projects to received funding in 2017, as shown in Table 1. In 2017, approximately \$5.5 million was allocated from the Community Investment Fund to community agencies, and these projects served approximately 60,000 residents living with low and moderate income.

**Table 1
Summary of 2017 Funded Projects**

Funding Stream	Funding (\$)	No. of Projects	Residents Served	
			Target	Actual
Community-Based				
• Community Health	607,984	8	39,790	41,286
• Economic Independence	1,806,343	14	1,473	1,390
• Housing Stability	1,400,876	7	5,610	6,526
• Social Inclusion	1,387,043	14	5,664	10,321
Total Community-Based	5,202,246	43	52,537	59,523
Organizational Development	305,794	8	Not Applicable	
Innovation and Collaboration*	0	0	Not Applicable	
Total Investment	5,508,040	51	52,537	59,523
Per cent of 2017 Target Achieved				113%

*For 2017 no proposals were funded under the Innovation and Collaboration stream.

Community Investment Fund – 2017 Activity Update, Evaluation Findings and Program Improvements

Descriptions of the projects approved for 2017 and the funding amounts are provided in Attachment 3.

Over 100 community agency staff members attended four professional development sessions offered in 2017

In addition to directly allocating funding for community projects, the Region provides professional development opportunities for community agencies. These sessions are well received by community agencies, provide an opportunity for networking and knowledge-sharing, support organizational development and help to strengthen agency service delivery capacity. In 2017, four sessions were held focusing on three topics: proposal writing, program evaluation and managing organizational risk and in recent follow-up surveys over 85 per cent of attendees rated the quality of sessions as being good or excellent.

Community Investment Fund Program Changes

In 2017, the Community Investment Fund was evaluated to identify strengths and opportunities for improvement

A broad range of stakeholders including York Region funded and non-funded community agencies, Region staff, and other community funders, were engaged in the evaluation through interviews, focus groups and surveys. Stakeholders were asked about what processes worked, successes and challenges, and where there may be opportunities for improvement. Other research activities conducted in the evaluation included a jurisdictional scan of various community funding and grant programs and an assessment of how the Community Investment Fund aligns with Regional priorities.

The evaluation identified a number of strengths in the existing program, including:

- Strong alignment with Regional priorities
- Services that are funded meet a range of community needs that would not otherwise be met
- Positive working relationships between Region staff and community agencies, particularly in the areas of communication and compliance monitoring
- The availability of professional development sessions for community agencies

Community Investment Fund – 2017 Activity Update, Evaluation Findings and Program Improvements

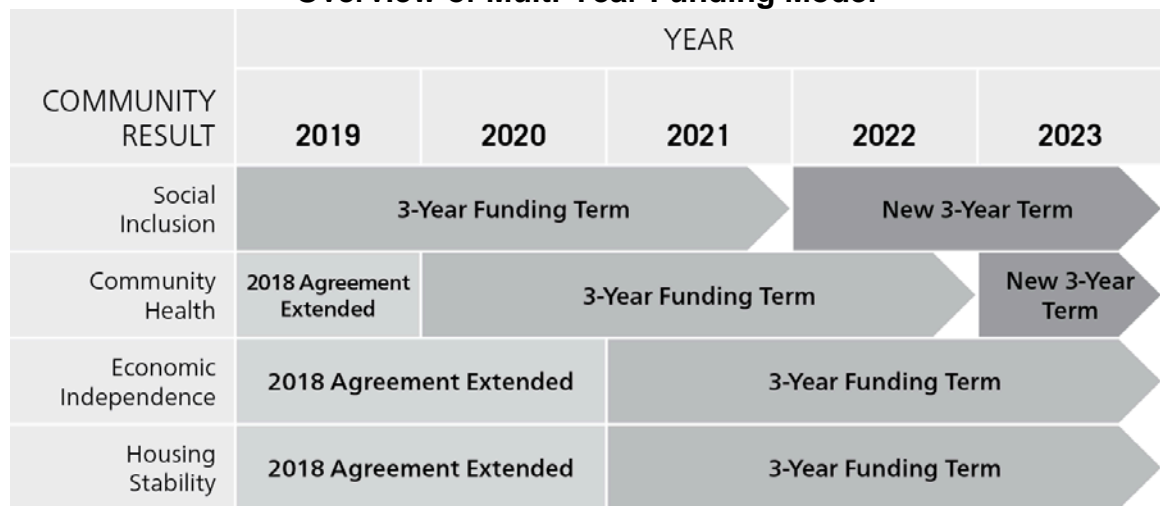
The evaluation also identified key opportunities to improve the program, including:

- Implementation of a multi-year funding model to provide agencies with more stable funding allowing them to focus on quality service delivery
- Harmonization of the funding streams to ensure that all funded projects contain organizational development goals and actions and approach service delivery in a manner that encourages collective impact, innovation and collaboration
- Creation of a more focused call for proposal process to facilitate greater attention by community agencies to specific service gaps and community needs when developing project proposals

Community Investment Fund allocation terms are proposed to be lengthened to three years, with staggered start dates beginning in 2019

In response to the program evaluation findings, staff propose that funding allocations be standardized to three-year funding terms, with the option to renew for up to two one-year periods. Figure 1 illustrates how the staggered three year funding model would be phased in.

**Figure 1
Overview of Multi-Year Funding Model**



To phase in the staggered three-year terms, current 2018 agreements approved by Council in [November 2017](#) would need to be extended for projects under the Community Health (one-year), Economic Independence (two-years) and Housing Stability (two-years) result areas. Each year the amount of funding allocated would increase equivalent to the cost of living adjustment capped at 2.5 per cent.

Community Investment Fund – 2017 Activity Update, Evaluation Findings and Program Improvements

Allocations would be dependent on budget approvals for the Community Investment Fund program and successful completion of an annual review by Region staff.

Competitive processes will be used to determine 2019 to 2021 Social Inclusion projects, 2020 to 2022 Community Health projects, and for 2021 to 2023 Economic Independence and Housing Stability projects.

Three-year funding terms allow more focus on service delivery

In the current Community Investment Fund model, community agencies may choose to submit project applications for multi-year or single-year funding terms. The evaluation identified that multi-year funding terms are favoured by community agencies as the annual call for proposal process for single-year funding is administratively challenging and makes program planning, and hiring and maintaining staff difficult. Changing to a standard three-year funding model will help to alleviate these concerns and allows agencies to focus more on service delivery and less on administrative tasks. For example, all funded agencies will have greater funding stability to hire, train, and retain staff to maintain a high quality of service delivery to the benefit of the residents who access the services.

New model is consistent with leading practices

Two other jurisdictions in the Greater Toronto Area – Toronto and Peel – deliver programs similar to York Region's Community Investment Fund. Both communities have transitioned to multi-year funding terms, indicating a best practice in the delivery of community-based services.

The new multi-year funding model will also allow for greater opportunity for York Region to coordinate and align with other major community funders including United Way Greater Toronto and Ontario Trillium Foundation. For example, working together we hope to avoid situations where the same community agencies need to prepare multiple proposals for different funders each year.

A potential risk is that standard three-year funding terms may limit flexibility to respond more quickly to community needs. The risk is minimal because the staggered model ensures a continuous investment in the community and most community result areas have enough flexibility to support some level of response.

Community Investment Fund – 2017 Activity Update, Evaluation Findings and Program Improvements

Other program improvements recommended are to harmonize funding streams and move to a one-stage call for proposal process

In response to the program evaluation findings, staff propose that the Community Investment Fund's three funding streams be harmonized into a single stream. This will ensure that all funded projects will include organizational development goals and actions, and will approach service delivery in a manner that encourages collective impact, innovation and collaboration.

The call for proposal process will also be improved by moving from a two-stage application process to a one-stage process. This will reduce administrative work for community agencies, and will give Region staff more time to focus on community development and agency capacity building. While the two-stage process allowed for more time for project proposals to be evaluated for funding suitability, it created a lot of work for community agencies, taking away from front-line service delivery, and the value it had in guiding decision making was minimal.

The call for proposals for Community Investment Funded projects in the new model will maintain the rigorous assessment of applications that is consistent with current practice. The program will continue to fund services that focus on the four community results and proposals will be subject to an evaluative process with successful projects presented to Council for approval.

Council delegation of authority to allocate funding for 2019 to 2021 Social Inclusion projects is requested

The Community Investment Fund proposal call process runs through the summer and early fall, with recommendations to Council in late fall. With 2018, being a municipal election year, Council will not be available to approve allocations in October or November as is the usual practice. During the period when regular Council meetings are suspended either over the summer months or for any reason, including during any period where acts of Council are restricted under the *Municipal Act, 2001*, authorization may be required to allocate Community Investment Fund program funding.

Given that the results of the 2019 staggered multi-year funding call for proposals process for Social Inclusion projects, will not be known until late 2018, it is recommended that the Commissioner, Community and Health Services be authorized to allocate Community Investment Fund program funding for 2019 and commit funding for 2020 and 2021. Funding in 2020 and 2021, is subject to successful completion of an annual project review and availability of funding in the approved Community Investment Fund budget.

Community Investment Fund – 2017 Activity Update, Evaluation Findings and Program Improvements

This delegation of authority will help prevent any delay in the allocation of Community Investment Funding to agencies, which is important in ensuring continuity in service delivery. Beginning a three-year term for the Social Inclusion results area in 2019, will support moving more quickly to the staggered three year funding model, reducing administrative work for community agencies and improving service quality.

Staff to hold three community outreach sessions in late May 2018

Region staff will host three information sessions in May; one each in the Town of Newmarket, Town of Richmond Hill and City of Vaughan to update and educate community agencies on the new multi-year funding model and related processes.

If approved, the new model will also be promoted to the community via media promotion, including newspaper advertisements, letter mail, web, social media and through distributing print material as illustrated in Attachment 4.

5. Financial Considerations

The total available funding under the Community Investment Fund for 2018 was approximately \$5.675 million and is 100 per cent tax levy funded.

Funding allocated to agencies will be managed within the annual approved budgets, with actual allocations dependent upon available funding and project performance.

The Community Investment Fund continues to experience pressure as a result of annual cost of living increases and demand for funding from the community agency sector due to growing community need. Staff are currently reviewing the program's financial pressures. Any request for that may be made for budget increases will occur through the corporate budget process.

6. Local Municipal Impact

The Community Investment Fund supports community agencies that operate in all nine local municipalities and helps to make a difference in the lives of residents living with low and moderate income.

7. Conclusion

The Community Investment Fund is an integral part of York Region’s ongoing commitment to invest in the community. In 2017, service levels exceeded projected targets with over 60,000 residents served through community initiatives funded by the Region. Community agencies were also supported to deliver services to residents through participation in professional development activities. Through the proposed change to a staggered multi-year funding model and other program improvements the Community Investment Fund will be further strengthened to support agencies’ ability to deliver services to residents living with low and moderate income.

For more information on this report, please contact Lisa Gonsalves, Director, Strategies and Partnerships, at 1-877-464-9675 ext. 72090.

The Senior Management Group has reviewed this report.

April 19, 2018

Attachments (4)

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Accessible formats or communication supports are available upon request

2019 Community Investment Fund – Recommended Project Extensions

No.	Agency Name	Project and Description	2018 Funding (\$)
Community Health projects – one year extensions			
1	Canadian Mental Health Association	Connecting Social Housing Tenants to Mental Health Supports	97,585
2	Georgina Community Food Pantry	Nourishing Possibilities	44,000
3	Hong Fook Mental Health Association	Wrap Around Mental Health Supports and Services for Youth in Ethno-Specific Communities	57,784
4	LifeCorps International	LifeCorps Food Share	114,150
5	LOFT Community Services	Community-Based Tobacco Management for People with Serious Mental Illness (SMI)	60,050
6	York Region Food for Learning	York Region Food for Learning	135,500
7	York Region Food Network	Community Cooks	59,950
8	York Region Food Network	Good Food Hub	67,080
		Total Community Health	636,099
Economic Independence and Housing Stability projects – two year extensions			
1	Centre for Immigrant and Community Services	S.O.A.R. Employment Training for Immigrant Women	47,900
2	Community and Home Assistance for Seniors	Tenancy Risk Reduction Services for Seniors	110,000
3	Community Legal Clinic of York Region	Eviction Prevention Project	267,224
4	COSTI Immigrant Services	Life Success Strategies	107,197
5	Georgina Trades Training Inc.	S.E.T. for Employment	156,000
6	Inn from the Cold	Emergency Shelter and Supports	210,012
7	Jewish Russian Community Centre Ontario	JRCC Furniture Depot	107,690
8	JVS Toronto	Youth Reach II	182,532
9	Job Skills Employment and Business Programs and Supports	Job Find Club - Enhanced	156,850
10	Job Skills Employment and Business Programs and Supports	Smart Start	193,508
11	Lance Krasman Memorial Centre for Community Mental Health	Application Support Worker	82,920

2019 Community Investment Fund – Recommended Project Extensions

No.	Agency Name	Project and Description	2018 Funding (\$)
12	Literacy Council of York-Simcoe	Essential Skills Development Program	91,105
13	LOFT Community Services	LOFT Crosslinks Street Outreach	318,559
14	March of Dimes Canada	Customer Service and Retail	179,888
15	Mosaic Interfaith Out of the Cold	Out of the Cold Program	301,952
16	NPower Canada	York Region Campus	100,000
17	Steps to Recovery	Steps Training Employment and Preparation Services	175,059
18	The Housing Help Centre	Information and Case Management	134,234
19	Women's Centre of York Region	Enterprising Careers	210,000
20	Youth Unlimited	The Shop Employment Initiatives	101,000
		Total Economic Independence and Housing Stability	3,233,630
	Total Community Health, Economic Independence and Housing Stability		3,869,729

COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND APPLICATION EVALUATION PROCESS

STEP IN PROCESS	ACTIONS
Step 1: Call for Proposals	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Regional Procurement Office manages the release of the Call for Proposals which includes posting on York Region's Bid Opportunities Website and disqualifying applications that do not meet submission requirements
Step 2: Completion and Submission of Applications	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Applicants are required to indicate how the proposed project meets the Region's funding priorities and requirements. Applicants must indicate how the services provided support or contribute to meeting the results of the Fund and which community result area will be addressed by the project • Applicants are required to provide an estimated project budget, work plan, and audited financial statements or review engagement report
Step 3: Evaluation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A Selection Committee comprised of Regional staff with expertise in the delivery of human services reviews each application against the following criteria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Target Population (project serves residents living with low to moderate income) ○ Addresses a Community Result ○ Human service gap identified and explained ○ Alignment with Regional priorities ○ Agency Capacity and Effectiveness ○ Agency Financial Management ○ Project benefits to residents ○ Project methodology, activities, and results ○ Project cost and budget • Consultation with external community funders occurs to ensure that funding recommendations complement and do not duplicate other funding activities in the Region
Step 4: Council Approval of Projects Recommended for Funding	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects that are successful in the evaluation are presented to Council for approval
THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS	
Promotion	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Promotion of the Community Investment Fund program occurs through direct emails to agencies, various media outlets, the Region's website and social media
Applicant Support	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information meetings are provided to outline the details about the Community Investment Fund's priorities and provide guidance to agencies on how to complete the application • Submission guidelines provide detailed information on the funding requirements, set out the steps to apply for funding, and provide information on the evaluation process and criteria • A dedicated telephone line and a Community Investment email is established to give applicants opportunity to ask additional questions and receive individual feedback

**2017 COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND
Activity Report**

No.	Agency Name	Project Name and Description	Funded (\$)	Service Area
Community Health – Low and moderate income residents are healthy and able to make healthy choices.				
1	Alzheimer Society of York Region	A Brand New D.A.Y: 126 seniors were provided subsidized supports to maintain their intellectual, physical and social functioning, and primary caregivers were provided respite to obtain employment, and participate in their own hobbies and activities; and 86 percent of caregivers surveyed reported feeling supported.	57,784	Aurora, Vaughan, Whitchurch-Stouffville
2	Georgina Community Food Pantry	Nourishing Possibilities: 896 residents increased their healthy meal planning and eating, and gardening skills; 3,075 lbs of food were gleaned; and 490 residents benefited from the project.	44,000	Georgina
3	Hong Fook Mental Health Association	Wrap Around Mental Health Support and Services for Youth in Ethno-Specific Communities: 61 youth aged 12-18 participated in mental health programming; 35 parents participated in developmental mental health programming to support their youth; and majority of youth reported that their needs were met by the program.	56,375	Markham
4	Lance Krasman Memorial Centre for Community Mental Health	Peer Support Outreach Worker Program: 796 residents at-risk of homelessness accessed mental health supports that included a drop-in and peer support services to increase their health and mental well-being.	74,880	York Region
5	LifeCorps International	LifeCorps Food Share: 14,007 residents received food, totaling \$2,067,644 worth of food distributed across York Region.	111,366	York Region
6	Loft Community Services	Community-Based Tobacco Management Intervention for People with Serious Mental Illness: 46 residents participated in a 12-week tobacco management program; and 27 graduates reported quitting smoking.	65,108	York Region
7	York Region Food for Learning (Flow Through: York Region Food Network)	York Region Food for Learning: 24,250 York Region students accessed a nutritionally balanced breakfast and snack; 197 schools participated in the program across York Region; and 31 new schools joined in 2017.	132,221	York Region
8	York Region Food Network	Good Food Hub: 1,069 residents increased their knowledge of cooking techniques, learned how to prepare healthy food on a limited budget, and procure produce at wholesale prices to make vegetables and fruits more accessible; and 574 residents participated in purchasing a food box of fresh produce.	66,250	York Region

**2017 COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND
Activity Report**

No.	Agency Name	Project Name and Description	Funded (\$)	Service Area
Economic Independence – Low and moderate income residents have and keep jobs that match their skills and have financial stability.				
9	COSTI Immigrant Services	Life Success Strategies: 91 residents participated in employment workshops, and one-to-one counselling; 19 participants gained employment; and 71 continued with training or entered into post-secondary education.	104,852	York Region
10	Elsbeth Heyworth Centre for Women	iWURK Vaughan: 114 residents were provided pre-employment training and counselling, and participated in finance workshops; 47 participants gained employment; and 19 continued with training or entered into post-secondary education.	53,297	York Region
11	Georgina Trades Training Inc.	Construction Trades Mentorship: 15 residents were provided industry-specific and hands-on construction training; six participants gained employment; two continued with training or entered into post-secondary education.	99,850	East Gwillimbury, Georgina, Newmarket
12	Georgina Trades Training Inc.	SET for Employment: 32 residents participated in individualized employment plans, and technical training programs; 14 participants gained employment; and seven continued with training or entered into post-secondary education.	80,584	East Gwillimbury, Georgina, Newmarket
13	Job Skills	Job Find Club for Internationally Trained Individuals: 103 residents participated in employment soft skills development, and job development; 49 participants gained employment; and 41 continued with training or entered into post-secondary education.	153,025	York Region
14	Job Skills	Smart Start Program: 65 residents participated in financial literacy and training in the food and beverage industry; 33 participants gained employment; and 15 continued with training or entered into post-secondary education.	188,788	York Region
15	JVS Toronto	YouthReach II: 135 youth participated in one-on-one employment counselling and job development services; 36 participants gained employment; and 12 continued with training or entered into post-secondary education.	178,080	York Region
16	Literacy Council York-Simcoe	Essential Skills Development Program: 254 residents participated in self-paced computer training to increase labour market opportunities; and 36 participants reported an increase in income as a result of participation.	88,883	York Region

**2017 COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND
Activity Report**

No.	Agency Name	Project Name and Description	Funded (\$)	Service Area
17	March Of Dimes Canada	Customer Service and Retail Training Program: 126 residents were trained in customer service, financial literacy, and job development; 70 participants gained employment; and two continued with training or entered into post-secondary education.	180,614	York Region
18	Npower Canada	Npower Canada - YR Campus: 85 youth, aged 18 – 29, participated in a 14 week, IT related, technical and soft skills training; 37 participants gained employment; and one continued with training or entered into post-secondary education.	125,000	York Region
19	STEPS to Recovery	STEPS Training Employment and Preparation Services: 82 residents who are recovering from addictions participated in pre-employment training and job development skills; 26 participants gained employment; and 24 continued with training or entered into post-secondary education.	170,789	York Region
20	Women's Centre of York Region	Enterprising Careers: 125 women participated in life skills and career exploration support programs to help them build networks and achieve financial independence; 97 completed the career programming, and were received follow up support for up to one year.	125,373	York Region
21	Women's Centre of York Region	Stepping Stone: 104 women participated in individual supports and financial empowerment programming to overcome financial barriers; and 73 participants completed financial programming.	158,617	York Region
22	Youth Unlimited (Toronto YFC)	The Shop Employment Initiative: 59 youth participated in mentorship, life skills, and job training for employment in auto mechanics, small engines and carpentry, and were provided the opportunity for a paid job experience; 15 participants gained employed; and four continued with training or entered into post-secondary education.	98,591	York Region
Housing Stability – Low and moderate income residents can live in affordable, adequate and suitable housing.				
23	Community Legal Clinic of York Region	Eviction Prevention Project: 293 tenants threatened with eviction, were provided with immediate legal supports; 10 residents secured new housing; and 127 tenants maintained their housing.	260,706	York Region
24	Inn from the Cold Inc.	Shelter Program: 170 residents were provided shelter, basic needs supports, and services during the winter months; a total of 108 people received housing support referrals; and 12,296 meals were served.	204,890	York Region

**2017 COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND
Activity Report**

No.	Agency Name	Project Name and Description	Funded (\$)	Service Area
25	Jewish Russian Community Centre	JRCC Furniture Depot: 1,806 residents representing 120 households received gently used furniture at no cost; 79 percent of participants surveyed, reported that their life and health improved after receiving the furniture.	128,738	York Region
26	Lance Krasman Centre for Community Mental Health	Application Support Worker: 120 residents received case management and practical supports to assist the Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP) application process; and 26 participants reported a positive change in mood and empowerment.	80,898	York Region
27	LOFT Community Services	LOFT Crosslinks Street Outreach and Services Network: 1,677 residents were provided multi-disciplinary service support from a mobile outreach van representing 6,960 contacts.	300,058	York Region
28	Mosaic Interfaith Out of the Cold	Out of the Cold Program: 447 residents were provided emergency winter shelter, meals, and support services; a total of 311 clients reported improving basic life skills while being a guest at the seasonal shelter.	294,626	York Region
29	The Housing Help Centre	Information and Case Management: 2,013 residents were provided services to match tenants with potential landlords to stabilize tenancy; and 459 people secured new housing.	130,960	York Region
Social Inclusion – Low and Moderate income residents are connected and can engage in communities.				
30	360°Kids Support Services	Home Base Vaughan: 390 youth accessed a drop-in centre that provided a range of support services such as basic needs, counselling, and employment supports; 77 youth completed a resume; and 35 youth were employed.	95,647	Vaughan
31	Big Brothers Big Sisters of York Region	Valuing Diversity: York Region Inclusive Mentoring Project: 202 children were matched with volunteer mentors providing a positive role model. 194 mentees reported an increase in confidence; and 193 reported making a new friend.	78,797	York Region
32	Catholic Community Services of York Region	Specialized Family Support Program: 1,327 residents received family-centered counselling and participated in group programs; 204 participants in the counselling program reported an improvement in their life; and 187 parents reported learning a new parenting skill in group programming.	147,618	York Region

**2017 COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND
Activity Report**

No.	Agency Name	Project Name and Description	Funded (\$)	Service Area
33	Dr Roz's Healing Place	The Vital Intervention Breakthrough & Empowerment Youth Program (V.I.B.E.): 546 school aged youth participated in an after-school program and summer camps; 229 reported feeling more confidence as a result of the program; and 229 reported forming a social and community connection.	59,229	Markham
34	Family Services of York Region	Outreach Counselling and Support Services for Low and Moderate Income Families: 444 residents were provided culturally sensitive counselling support, outreach and group services, along with volunteer training; 106 reported better coping with stressors in their lives as a result of the program; and 107 reported forming social and community connections.	87,725	York Region
35	Family Services York Region	Families and Schools Together: 861 residents from low income and newcomer families participated in family programming designed to increase parent involvement in their children's academic performance and behavior; 77 families participated in the program; and 74 parents reported increased confidence in supporting their child.	94,496	York Region
36	Future Possibilities for Kids	Connecting Kids and Communities: 365 children learned about their communities and local issues while developing social, leadership and life skills; 151 children reported forming social and community connections; and 153 reported a positive life change.	119,900	Markham, Richmond Hill, Vaughan
37	Human Endeavour Incorporated	Multi Community Building Project: 1,585 residents from the South Asian and Tamil community were provided a variety of services; and 411 participants reported forming social or community connections.	98,240	Markham and Vaughan
38	Jericho Youth Services	Bethany and Jackson's Point After School Programs: 102 children and youth from co-operative housing participated in an after-school program; and 45 participants reported learning a new skill as a result of the program.	81,913	Georgina
39	Jewish Family and Child	The Family Resource Centre: 3,205 residents participated in a range pre-school parenting after-school Homework Club, a Conversation Café for newcomers, child care, and volunteer opportunities; and 225 participants surveyed reported feeling more connected to their community.	99,505	King, Markham, Richmond Hill, Vaughan

**2017 COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND
Activity Report**

No.	Agency Name	Project Name and Description	Funded (\$)	Service Area
40	Learning Disabilities Association of York Region	SOAR: Mindful Transitions: 154 students with learning disabilities and/or Attention Deficit Hyperactivity Disorder were provided academic and vocational support; and 57 parents and 61 educators participated in a learning session about the program.	45,703	York Region
41	York Region Rose of Sharon Services for Young Mothers	Parenting and Personal Development Program: 290 young mothers participated in drop-in programs, workshops, and individual counselling; and 259 participants reported using more positive methods to guide their children's behavior, and increasing their personal coping skills.	222,733	York Region
42	York Region Centre for Community Safety (Flow Through: Sandgate Women's Centre)	Integrated and Coordinated Intake: 679 residents experiencing domestic violence were provided an integrated service to support their individual needs; and majority of clients surveyed reported that they were connected to the right services at the right time.	98,751	York Region
43	Youth Assisting Youth	The Peer Project One-to-One and Group Mentoring Program: 53 youth and newcomer youth received one-to-one and group mentoring services; and 107 youth volunteers were trained in mentorship.	56,786	York Region
Organizational Development – Supports to develop and strengthen organizational capacity.				
44	AIDS Committee of York Region	Pathways for Sustaining Inclusive and Accessible Organizational Practices: This project strengthened the agency's organizational capacity by extending the Sustainable Livelihood Framework to volunteers. The project developed new orientation and professional development tools, and also helped the agency to recruit and train volunteers and board members.	39,000	York Region
45	Canadian Mental Health Association of York Region	Cultural Competency Training: 126 volunteers and staff completed cultural competency training to improve connections with clients of diverse cultures.	16,000	York Region
46	Canadian Mental Health Association of York Region	Bounce Back Translation: This project provided translated program materials of mental health supports that will impact an estimated 2275 Syrian refugees and Farsi speaking newcomers.	61,000	York Region

**2017 COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND
Activity Report**

No.	Agency Name	Project Name and Description	Funded (\$)	Service Area
47	Community Living Newmarket/ Aurora District	Transitional Employment Supports: This project assisted the agency's transition to a new service delivery model that will increase the number of clients served in its Day Supports Program.	74,738	Aurora, Newmarket
48	Georgina Trades Training Inc.	GTTI in 2020 - Planning our Second Decade: This project assisted the agency to develop a new strategic plan to better respond to the demands for locally available and affordable access to skills development and training.	26,670	Georgina
49	Inn from the Cold Inc.	Three Year Strategic Plan: The project developed a strategic plan that helped set goals, and enhance the services provided to residents.	23,386	York Region
50	Lance Krasman Memorial Centre for Community Mental Health	Organizational Review and Design: This project addressed key organizational goals to improve community programs and provide supports to increase leadership and volunteer opportunities.	35,000	York Region
51	Newmarket Food Pantry	Board Development and Strategic Planning: This project helped update the governance structure and policies of the organization to improve operations and service to the community.	30,000	Newmarket
Total of 51 projects			5,508,040	

WHAT IS THE COMMUNITY INVESTMENT FUND?



The Community Investment Fund (CIF) is helping York Region build inclusive, healthy and resilient communities.

The Community Investment Fund supports non-profit community agencies that improve the well-being of residents living with low and moderate income through four Community Results:

- **Community Health:** residents are healthy and able to make healthy choices.
- **Economic Independence:** residents have and keep jobs that match their skills and have financial stability.
- **Housing Stability:** residents can live in affordable, adequate and suitable housing.
- **Social Inclusion:** residents are connected and able to engage in their communities.

Investments are targeted to fund community-based programs and services that complement and enhance the Community and Health Services Department's core services.

These Community Results have action areas that correspond to local service gaps and needs. CIF funding supports community based programs and services that align with York Region's priorities, especially those intended for residents who face multiple barriers like newcomers, refugees, youth and seniors.



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