



**United Way**  
Saint John, Kings  
& Charlotte

CHANGE LIVES. [DONATE](#)



**Stories that Unite us.**



## **Kindness and compassion come alive**

They say that home is where the heart is.

I was raised in Charlotte County, lived in Montreal for 20 years, then settled in Quispamsis with my husband and children.

I have loved every community I've lived in and I found a home, and a heart, in them all.

Every community has its own rhythm, its own heartbeat. And every person living in that community helps to keep it alive, vibrant and healthy.

At United Way, we believe in strong, healthy communities for all. Sometimes people in our community need a little support. Life can get hard and not everyone has family and friends they can reach out to.

[Read more](#)

**Mary's story: a life of**



## deep poverty

It was an innocent question from staff at the Saint John YMCA as they welcomed four-year-old Mary on the first day of the Y's pre-Kindergarten program.

"Do you colour at home with your mom?"

Mary's answer is something the staff member with her will never forget.

"No," Mary replied, "we don't have crayons at home."

The little girl came from a neighbourhood with a 90 per cent

poverty rate.

[Read more](#)

## Aaron's story: support amid childhood grief



Last summer, young Aaron experienced something none of us would want a child to suffer: the sudden and traumatic loss of the father figure in his life.

In the wake of this horrible loss, Aaron longed to get back to his friends and classmates at the United Way Summer Slide program offered through Blacks Harbour School.

Once he was back, Aaron opened up to share how he was feeling with some of the students and the coordinators. He shared heart-warming stories and forged a connection with another student in the room his own age who had also recently experienced loss.



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## Creating safe housing for youth

It's not a day that Christina Fowler is likely to ever forget.

Christina, the CEO of the [Saint John Learning Exchange](#), spotted a group of young people gathered in the hallway – not unusual. What caught her notice was the huge backpacks a couple of them had on their backs.

“They looked like they would tip over,” she says. So she walked up to them and asked.

It turned out that they were staying at a rooming house where theft and distrust were rampant so these teens had taken to carrying all of their belongings with them wherever they went.

“I don't take a lot home with me. But this bothered me,” she would share later. “I remember thinking, ‘Saint John, this is not the best we can do.’”

[Read more](#)



Support life-changing  
programs in your  
community

SHOW YOUR  
**LOCAL  
LOVE**



Soutenez des  
programmes qui  
changent des vies dans  
votre communauté



United Ways  
Centraides  
of New Brunswick  
du Nouveau-Brunswick

AGISSONS  
ICI,  
**AVEC  
CŒUR**

## **We've launched a new monthly 50/50 to support our communities**

United Ways across New Brunswick have launched an online 50/50 fundraiser we're offering every month.

Get in on the fun while helping your local community at the same time!

United Ways across the province invest more than \$2.8 million annually to provide safe shelter, fresh food, crucial connection, mental health and educational support, and employment opportunities to those in our communities who depend on more than 80 programs we help fund.

[Grab your tickets and more information online.](#) Hurry – December's draw closes Dec. 20!

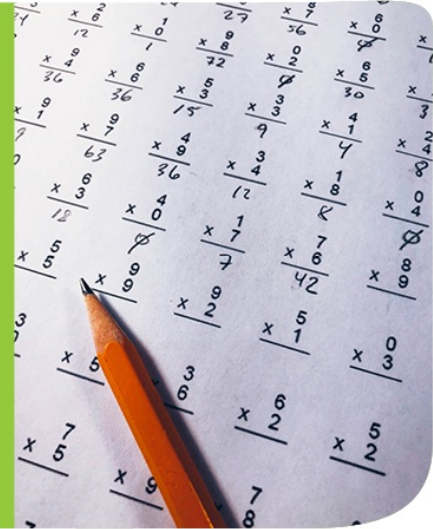


## #UNIGNORABLE FACT

There are about 1,100 people in Saint John between 20 and 24 years old at risk for long-term economic and social hardship. Classed as NEET – Not in Employment, Education or Training – they are perpetuating the cycle of poverty.

## #LOCALLOVE FACT

81% of the children participating in the Blacks Harbour Summer Slide and After School programs maintained or improved their numeracy targets.



211 is the front door to government and community-based programs and social services. It's free, confidential and available in 150+ languages, seven days a week.

Your support changes lives. If you haven't had a chance to give, it is as simple as clicking below. Thank you for sharing your love.

CHANGE LIVES.

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