

MEDIA RELEASE For immediate release.

United Way raises over \$1.7 million to build better communities in Saint John, Kings & Charlotte Counties

March 20, 2023

SAINT JOHN, N.B. – United Way Saint John, Kings & Charlotte is thrilled to announce that through the generosity of thousands of donors and the work of hundreds of volunteers, their 2022 campaign successfully raised \$1.71 million for their local community.

This amazing support means that United Way Saint John, Kings & Charlotte can provide strong investments in twenty-one local agencies delivering programs that help people move out of poverty, give children and youth the educational and social programs to build great futures, offer help to those impacted by intimate partner violence, and help people access quality mental health supports.

United Way 2022 Campaign Chair, Cathy Lahey, is very thankful for the giving spirit shown throughout the Community Campaign, stating, "It's truly inspiring to see how our community rallied in support of the United Way and raised the funds needed for programs and services that will offer life-changing support to people right here in Saint John, Kings and Charlotte Counties. Please know what a difference you have made with your donation and that your generosity will have a direct and transformative impact on the lives of thousands of people in our own community. Thank you!"

Last year, over 4,400 people accessed the services and programs funded by United Way Saint John, Kings & Charlotte and they expect to help even more in 2023.

One of United Way's new funded partners in Charlotte County for 2023 is <u>Neighbourhood</u> <u>Works</u>, who will receive \$40,000 in funding towards their new Youth Transitional Housing program. The program will help at-risk youth aged 16-22 years to acquire the skills and supports they need to stabilize and change the trajectory of their lives.

Jim Stuart, Executive Director for Neighbourhood Works was thrilled to acquire United Way's support for the program, stating, "This United Way funding is amazing news! It validates what we are doing, even when we sometimes have hurdles. A good friend once told me to turn hurdles into steppingstones, United Way has certainly helped in this area."

Along with their <u>twenty-one funded partners</u>, United Way Saint John, Kings & Charlotte will continue funding <u>211 New Brunswick</u>, the information and referral service that connects people to critical human, social, community and government support. It helps New Brunswickers navigate the complex network of government and community programs and services quickly to find what they need for their unique situation.

As always, United Way Saint John, Kings & Charlotte remains committed to <u>strengthening the</u> <u>local non-profit sector</u>. The 2022 campaign achievement will allow them to continue these ongoing efforts.

"We know the importance of having a strong non-profit sector to meet the needs of people in our local communities. United Way will continue to provide leadership in this area through our community impact work of sector education, mentoring, collaborative action, and solution-based initiatives involving multiple stakeholders; non-profit, government, and the business community. We are committed to building the very best social supports for the people who live in our region.", shared Alexya Heelis, Executive Director of United Way Saint John, Kings & Charlotte.

For a full list of the twenty-two United Way funded agencies, please visit https://bit.ly/3sgSyT7

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ABOUT UNITED WAY SAINT JOHN, KINGS & CHARLOTTE

United Way Saint John, Kings & Charlotte is creating systemic change for poverty reduction and creating strong local communities for all in their region. They collaborate, advocate, and invest in pro-active solutions to lift people out of poverty and prevent people from entering poverty by focusing on education, children's futures, mental health supports, and a strong network of community supports. Through measurable and sustainable solutions, United Way Saint John, Kings & Charlotte know they are making a difference for thousands of futures. For more information, visit www.unitedwaysaintjohn.com.

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