

Your **#LOCALLOVE** helps
23,122 people in
Central Island

LOCALLOVE



United Way
Central and Northern
Vancouver Island

CENTRAL ISLAND
2018-19 IMPACT REPORT



SOCIAL SERVICE PROGRAM FUNDING

STRONG COMMUNITIES

Grief & crisis counselling – For those in crisis or grieving the loss of a loved one

Therapeutic horseback riding – Empowering children and adults with physical/mental disabilities

Healthy cooking & meal programs – Socialization/nutrition for adults with low incomes or mental health challenges

Mentoring survivors – Peer-to-peer activities for brain/spinal cord injury survivors

Adult literacy program – Helping previously incarcerated men improve literacy skills

BC 2-1-1 referral service – Hundreds of resources via phone, text or online

SUCCESSFUL KIDS

Mentoring children – Activities with adult mentors or peer-to-peer support

Summer camps – Supporting children who otherwise couldn't afford summer camp

Family centre – Building healthy relationships through activities, meals & resources

Teen & youth centres – Activities that develop friendship/leadership

Bullying prevention – Coping/intervention techniques for children/youth including LGBTQ+ focused programs

Counselling – Supporting high school students, grieving children, and children who have witnessed abuse

Dads' drop-in – A safe, supervised place for marginalized families to spend time together

Literacy programs – School readiness literacy skills and social/emotional development for families with young children

Food support programs – Community breakfast club and school meal program for vulnerable children/youth

Grandparent support – Peer guidance/resources for grandparents raising grandchildren

Developmental disabilities support – Extra occupational therapy to support school readiness

Multicultural programs – Helping youth learn English, find jobs and make friends

Suicide prevention – Giving students the tools needed for prevention and intervention

OVERCOMING POVERTY

Supportive housing programs – Housing placements, housing loss prevention, referral services, short-term housing, and life skills development for those at risk

Cold weather shelter – Clean, dry, safe accommodation March through November

Indigenous housing support – Housing placement, advocacy, case management and referral services for people experiencing poverty/homelessness

Homelessness advocacy & outreach – Helping people at risk of losing housing or those on the streets find solutions and improve quality of life

Restorative justice – Healing and closure for crime victims/youth offenders

Emergency dental services – For adults/youth living in poverty or experiencing homelessness

Mental illness support – Skill building/social outings for adults with mental illness

23,122 people helped through
47 programs



COMMUNITY-BUILDING EFFORTS

OCEANSIDE TASK FORCE ON HOMELESSNESS

With local service providers we are creating a BC Housing-funded supportive housing project in Parksville.

OCEANSIDE HEALTH AND WELLNESS NETWORK

As a network member, we collaborate with other stakeholders to address issues through collective action. In 2018, our initiatives include a school breakfast program and mental health and wellness forum.

NANAIMO HOMELESSNESS COALITION

In 2018, with federal Homelessness Partnering Strategy funding, we are collaborating on a Point-in-Time homeless count, Community Plan to End Homelessness report, Indigenous navigator program, young Indigenous mothers' program, cold weather shelter, tenancy support program for women, supported housing program, and a Housing First program.

NEIGHBOURHOOD COMMUNITY-BUILDING EVENTS

We are working with local agencies and the City of Nanaimo to test whether hosting free block party-style meals and neighbourhood improvement projects will strengthen connections between residents in two neighbourhoods at high risk of social isolation.

CHILDREN'S HEALTH FAIRS

This year with the Greater Nanaimo Early Years Partnership and Vancouver Island Children's Health Foundation we will help support six fairs where several agencies provide resources, social connections, and free health screening for young children.

2018 STATE OF THE CHILD REPORTS

In 2018 we will assist in funding and conducting research on the most pressing issues affecting children in Port Alberni and Ladysmith. These reports will be used to inform United Way grants and other community service providers.

LADYSMITH EARLY YEARS PARTNERSHIP

We're supporting the Ladysmith Early Years Partnership to create videos, events, and a resource directory to connect parents of young children with local services.

Local challenges

MENTAL HEALTH: In Nanaimo, mental health issues (such as depression, mood and anxiety disorders) outweigh issues typically associated with aging (heart failure, Alzheimer's, COPD, osteoarthritis) by approximately 300%. (2015 Nanaimo Local Health Area Profile, Island Health)

AFFORDABLE HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS: 335 people in Nanaimo are experiencing absolute homelessness in 2018; nearly double from 174 people in 2016. Unaffordable rent is the #1 challenge in finding housing. (2018 Nanaimo Point-in-Time Homeless Count)

OPIOID OVERDOSE CRISIS: 1,424 people in Nanaimo are injection drug users; fatality rates are 50% higher than rates for BC or Vancouver Island. (2018 Nanaimo's Opioid Overdose Crisis Report, Island Health & Dr. Paul Hasselback)

What your donation looks like...



Travis went from experiencing homelessness to studying at university. Now, he works part time at a shelter, helping others get their lives on track. It's all thanks to donors like you and a United Way-supported transitional housing program for men.

support



WHY I SUPPORT UNITED WAY

"I'm aware of the problems in my community and can feel overwhelmed because I don't know what to do to fix them. The good news is that I don't have to know everything. United Way pulls together the people who have the information, who have been in the field on the front lines, to affect change. It gives you a sense of confidence about your donation."

- Laura, a United Way donor

Your donation stays 100% local

Make change happen in your community today!

100%

give



PAY IT FORWARD

Your donation helps meet the needs of the most vulnerable people in your community. You give them a better future. You build a stronger, healthier place to live.

- \$5** provides a meal to someone who is homeless, giving refuge in a safe environment
- \$70** funds nutritious snacks for 100 kids at an after-school program
- \$100** provides an isolated senior with a weekly visit for three months
- \$365** supports a woman who has experienced violence with 16 weeks of group therapy
- \$1,200** prevents 2 families from becoming homeless through short-term rent subsidies



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Vancouver Island

DONATE. VOLUNTEER. ADVOCATE.

MAKE A DIFFERENCE TODAY!

- Central Island 250-591-8731
- Cowichan 250-748-1312
- Comox Valley 250-338-1151
- Campbell River 250-287-3213

www.uwcnvi.ca



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