



**PATHWAY TO
POTENTIAL**

Social Investment Windsor-Essex

October 17th:
**The International Day for the
Eradication of Poverty**

Lunch & Learn Webinar

Presented by Stephen Lynn & Teresa Falsetta Aflak

Social Policy and Planning Department

Community Development & Health Services

October 16, 2020



Pathway to Potential & Social Investment in Windsor-Essex



- Since 2009, Pathway to Potential (P2P) has been the City of Windsor and County of Essex response to addressing the needs of children and families living in poverty.
- In 2017, P2P became a comprehensive 9-point social investment plan, focused on essential social investments in residents, neighbourhoods and the larger community.
- One element of the plan is focused on supporting vulnerable youth and families.

Webinar Agenda

P2P is hosting this webinar to support the *International Day for the Eradication of Poverty*.

Agenda:

1. Zoom Webinar Tips / UN Background information
2. Canada's Poverty Line
3. Windsor-Essex Low Income Context
4. Research on the impacts of COVID-19 on children & youth
5. Stories from P2P Community Partners on recalibrating programs to COVID-19
6. *Ways to Stay Connected and Get Involved*
7. Opportunity for Q&A

Zoom Webinar Tips

House Keeping

- We ask that you please mute yourself
 - For those joining by phone - use the mute/unmute button on your phone
 - For those joining by web- Use the buttons on the bottom of your screen
- The host may require to mute you if we experience continued background noise.

Posing Questions & Comments

- Questions can be posed throughout the presentation by using the **Chat Box**. Please direct your messages to **Stephen Lynn**.

Technical issues

- If you experience any issues use the chat to send a private message to **Teresa Falsetta Aflak**.

Background



**United
Nations**

The [United Nations](#) designated October 17th as the International Day for the Eradication of Poverty in 1992.

2020's Theme: *Acting together to achieve social and environmental justice for all*

Goal One of the UN's [Sustainable Development Goals](#) (SDGs) to be met in 2030 is to ***"End poverty in all its forms everywhere."***



Opportunity For All - Canada's Poverty Reduction Strategy

- [**Dimensions of Poverty Hub**](#) and Canada's Official Poverty Line was recently updated
- **11.0% of Canadians lived in poverty in 2018**, down from 14.5% in 2015



OPPORTUNITY FOR ALL **CANADA'S FIRST POVERTY REDUCTION STRATEGY**

 Employment and Social Development Canada  Emploi et Développement social Canada

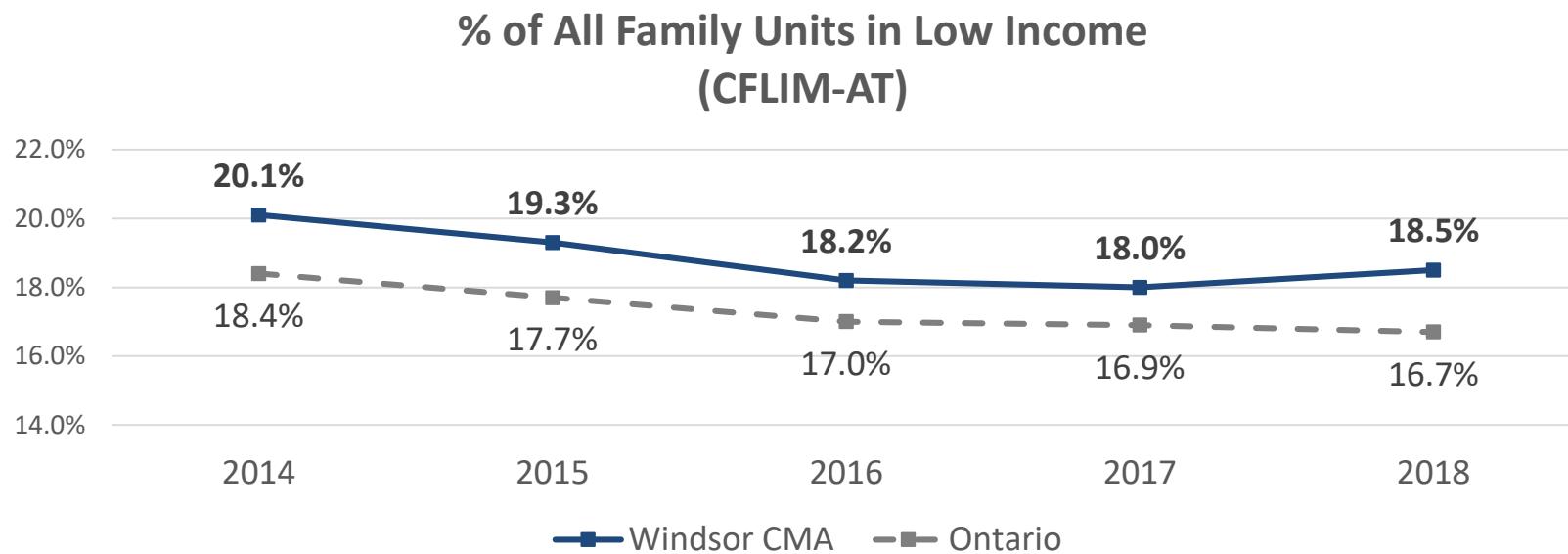
Canada 

Canada's Official Poverty Dashboard of Indicators: Trends, September 2020



"Canada's Poverty Reduction Strategy" introduces the Official Poverty Line for Canada along with the Dashboard of 12 Indicators to track progress on poverty reduction for Canadians and their households.

Low-Income Statistics in Windsor-Essex

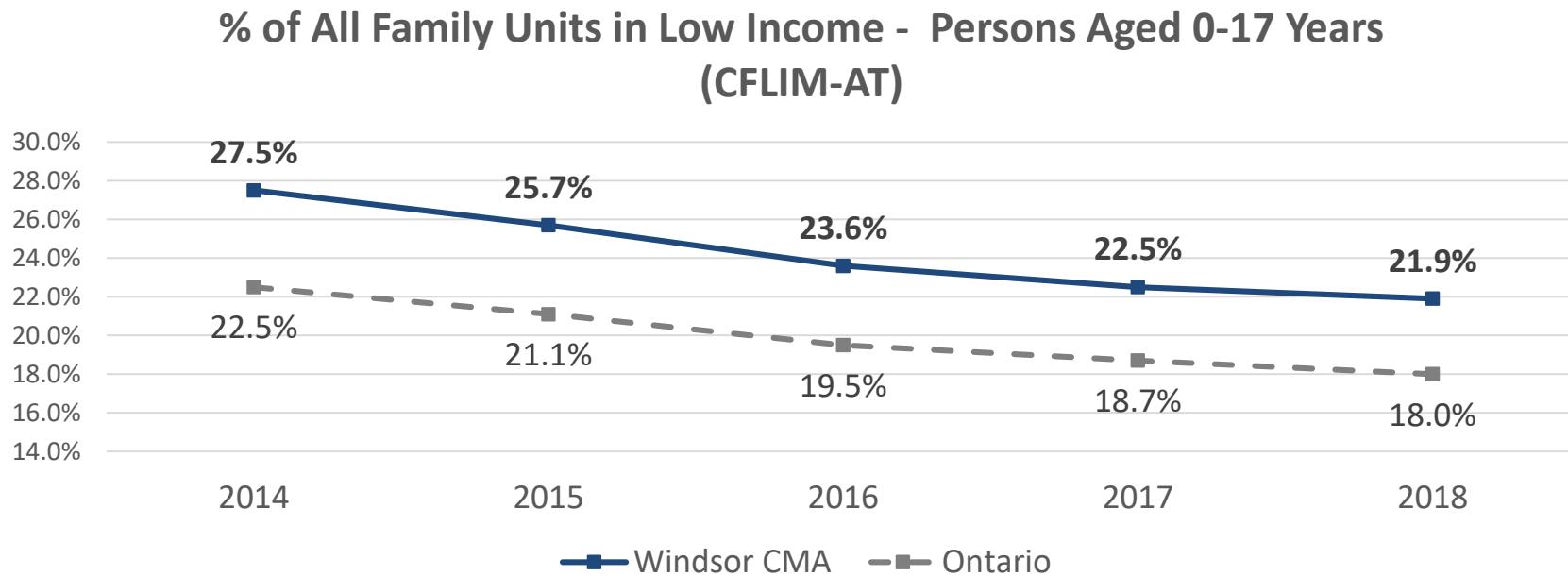


- In 2018, 18.5% of people (62,900) in Windsor CMA were living in low-income, as defined by the Low-Income Measure*
 - Percentage of low-income families is slightly higher in Windsor compared to the province

*Low Income Measure (LIM-AT): Individuals are defined as having low income if the after-tax income of their household falls below half of the median adjusted household after-tax income.

Note: Windsor Census Metropolitan Area (CMA) boundaries include: Amherstburg, Lakeshore, LaSalle, Tecumseh

Children Living in Low-Income



- In 2018, **21.0% of children aged 0-17 (15,700) were living in low-income households in Windsor CMA**
 - Trend indicates a decline in prevalence of low-income among children since 2014

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Impacts of COVID-19 on Children & Youth

- **COVID-19 has impacted the educational opportunities of children and youth in low-income families:**
 - Children and teens adapted to learning from home in Spring 2020 during the COVID-19 pandemic
 - **Learning from home may be a challenge for low-income families that may not have access to internet or technology**
 - School boards handed out hardware to support students (laptops and tablets)
 - 1,600 devices from the Greater Essex County District School Board (GECDSB)
 - 1,700 devices from the Windsor Essex Catholic District School Board (WECDSB)
 - P2P funded program Computers for Kids also distributed hardware
 - Program experienced increased demand and collaborates with local school boards
- **Remaining Challenge:** Low-income families may not have access to internet/WiFi from home

Impacts of COVID-19 on Children & Youth

- Recent research has found:
 - **COVID-19 and isolation have impacted mental health:**
 - Youth are more likely to report symptoms of **anxiety, depression, and hopelessness** compared to other age groups
 - Strong reliance on technology, but **parents concerned with increase in screen time (associated with difficulty concentrating, sadness and irritability)**
 - **Increased stress and worry in the home:** Families may be struggling with supporting the educational needs of their children and work or financial troubles
 - **An increase in food insecurity during COVID-19**
 - **14.7% of Canadians have experienced food insecurity during the pandemic**
 - **Higher rate of food insecurity among Canadians living in a household with children (19.2%)** compared to those living with no children (12.2%)
 - Breakfast and lunch programs were impacted with school closures and COVID precautions with return to school

Sharing Stories From P2P Funded Partners

Kate Gibb from Drouillard Place

- Drouillard Place is a multi-service provider dedicated to improving the quality of Life of the residents of the Drouillard and Grandview communities.



Sharing Stories From P2P Funded Partners

- **Paulina Gillett & Elise Bosson from CommUnity Partnership (CUP)**
 - First developed in 2005, CUP formed to revitalize neighbourhoods and support community growth and development.





CommUnity Partnership: COVID Impacts on Children and Youth Programming

Elise Bosson & Paulina Gillett, Co-Directors

CommUnity Partnership: CUP

- Mission: To revitalize neighbourhoods, build resilience, and create a healthy, supportive community for all through effective community partnerships.
- Services & Resources:
 - Health & Wellbeing: counselling, case management, eviction prevention support, referrals, crisis intervention, music therapy
 - Food Security: vegetable distribution, food pantries, community garden
 - Advocacy: counselling, referrals, form assistance, technology access
 - Education: after-school programs, community guest speakers
- 4 neighbourhoods: Glengarry, Ouellette Manor, 255 Riverside, Reginald



Community Partnership
...creating opportunities

Reginald: After-school programs

STARS & READY

Program Changes:

- March – August
 - Remote programming through social media for READY youth
 - Package / info drop-off for STARS children
 - 2 food security community events in summer months:
90 meals provided and surveys completed
- September – October
 - Planning / prep for on-site STARS and READY programming
 - Tues – Thurs
 - Focus on socialization, physical activity, and positive mentorship
 - Snacks provided as attendees leave

COVID Community Impacts:

School Participation

- Most students attending school in-person; some remote-learners
- Some students expressed wanting to attend remotely however parents have them attending in-person

Technology Access

- Technology seems to be school-provided and no challenges reported from students
- Indications of increased need for other school supplies

COVID Community Impacts:

Mental Health

- Physical activities highly successful; sitting in place is challenging
- READY youth indicate needing the program for socialization and change in environment
- Some reports of increased feelings of isolation, especially from remote-learning youth
- Inquiries from residents re: gov't subsidies and mental health supports

Food Security

- Increased need for food security: resident survey and access numbers
- Average 45 participants / week in community food security events
- Increased request for snacks / food items from children/youth, including those not in CUP programs

Glengarry: After-school program

United Way funded Homework Club

Program Changes:

- March – August
 - Remote programming through social media: Instagram & Facebook
 - Literacy & Math contests
 - Information sharing: food, programs, etc.
 - Phone tutoring appointments
 - Grocery gift card deliveries
 - Educational activity package drop-offs
- September – October
 - Combination of in-person and virtual services; creating choice for families
 - In-person social/emotional activity
 - Academic component offered virtually, students have access to technology and CUP space to accommodate for lack of internet and/or access to device
 - Phone tutoring appointments

COVID Community Impacts:

School Participation

- All students currently enrolled are attending in-person classes
- Parents have expressed that even if COVID-19 is a concern, school attendance is necessary for childcare

Technology Access

- Students often have one device per family, complicating the ability to provide student-specialized curriculum
- Unreliable or nonexistent internet access, forcing children to access free WiFi services in the parking lots of businesses

COVID Community Impacts:

Mental Health

- Lack of engagement with school with reduction of sports and social activities
- Lack of engagement with afterschool programming resulting from cohorting

Food Security

- Families not often willing to access Food Pantries
- Gift cards distributed to offset costs associated with supplementing food lost through meal programs

Contact

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Questions



**PATHWAY TO
POTENTIAL**

Social Investment Windsor-Essex



How to get involved or stay connected?

- Awareness - [Sign up](#) for the Pathway to Potential newsletter, share it with friends and family.
- Go to the [Chew On This](#) website by Dignity For All for more ways to get connected
- Join the Dignity for All E-Rally: On Saturday, October 17, 1pm-2:30pm ET (10am-11:30am PT), a mass e-rally will be held, featuring a guest panel and inviting questions from government representatives. [Register for the rally](#).
- Join the #EndPoverty global campaign on Social Media

Chew on This! 2020

Each year on October 17th, Dignity For All holds its annual ***Chew on This!*** Campaign to mobilize people from across Canada to call for an end to poverty.

Dignity for All is a multi-partner, non-partisan campaign co-organized by *Citizens for Public Justice* and *Canada Without Poverty* with a **vision to create a poverty-free and more socially secure and cohesive Canada**.



Thank You!

Connect: p2p@citywindsor.ca

