Niagara Prosperity Initiative

Public Health Social Services Committee February 19, 2019



Niagara Prosperity Initiative

Established 2008

Annual investment of \$1.5 million to support poverty reduction, help build capacity, improve quality of life for residents living in poverty.





Goals of Niagara Prosperity Initiative

- Guide and direct investment on identified initiatives to alleviate poverty in neighbourhoods across Niagara.
- Engage people living in poverty in meaningful ways to ensure that investments reflect need.
- Develop and enhance collaborative relationships between stakeholders.

Neighbourhood Based Interventions

- 74 neighbourhoods
- 362 projects
- 85 different agencies
- 100,000 people





Administration

Social Assistance & Employment Opportunities

Oversight and leadership

United Way Niagara – Secretariat

 Issue RFP, manage applications, chair Review Committee, manage / monitor programs

Niagara Community Foundation – Convenor

 Build partnerships within community and support Niagara Poverty Reduction Network



Funding Process

Independent Review Committee

 Business sector, government, students, community leaders, people living in poverty, and members of PHSSC

Scoring system

 Alignment with NPI criteria, objectives, impact on individuals and community

Call for three volunteers

PHSSC for a four-year term

Research Project

- Three-year research project funded by province's Local Poverty Reduction Fund
- Partnership with Brock University
- Report early 2021 state of poverty, analysis on impacts, outcomes, efficacy of NPI, recommendations on best practices moving forward

Niagara Prosperity Initiative 10th anniversary video