

# United we can keep our rural communities strong.

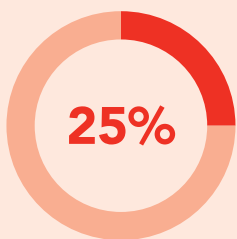


Through an initiative powered by United Way East Ontario, families and individuals with neurodiverse needs in Renfrew County now have access to portable sensory spaces through the Petawawa Military Family Resource Centre.

When a parent is deployed, military families carry a heavy emotional load. By delivering portable sensory spaces to local families, this initiative reduces social isolation, removes barriers to support, and fosters connection.

*"Petawawa is really small, and we have a hard time accessing these kinds of resources, so when we get this support from the community—especially for our children—it's precious."*  
—Fabienne, local program participant

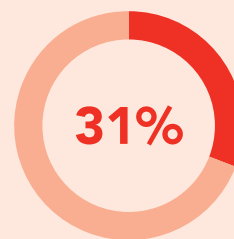
## The local facts:\*



25% of children entering school in Renfrew County are not on track with language and cognitive development.



\$5,200 is the difference in median income between rural and urban centres in Ontario.



31% of households in Renfrew County face food insecurity, exceeding the provincial average of 24.8%.

With the support of our donors, **89,662 people** received help across East Ontario in 2024-2025. Read our latest **annual report** to learn how we are building a brighter future for those in need.



\*Visit [UnitedWayEO.ca/Local-Issues](https://UnitedWayEO.ca/Local-Issues) for fact sources and more information.

## United we can create possibilities.



We invest in affordable, community-based counselling and peer support delivered in person, online, or by phone to meet people where they are.



We invest in life skills and employment training programs to support youth experiencing or at risk of homelessness, preparing them for long-term financial independence.



We support safe after-school activities, summer learning opportunities, and STEM programming that help rural children reach their full potential.



We tackle the challenges of the Ottawa Valley's vast geography by bringing mobile and virtual social programs to isolated seniors, caregivers, and military families where they live.



## Your gift makes a difference.

**\$20 a month or  
\$240 a year**

supplies a 12-week after-school program for children ages 8 to 12 with the crafts and sports equipment needed to keep activities fun, active, and engaging.

**\$80 a month  
or \$960 a year**

covers gas costs for Renfrew County cancer patients commuting to larger cities to get the life-saving treatments they need.

**\$175 a month  
or \$2,100 a year**

equips a community garden with tools that extend the growing season, maximize harvests, and help Renfrew County families access fresh, local food for more of the year.

**Please give today to help people build stronger, healthier lives.** Donate through your workplace.



**United Way**  
East Ontario