

United we can shut the door to chronic homelessness.



Natasha found a vital lifeline through an expanded youth crisis program powered by United Way East Ontario.

This program provides a safe place to live and critical mental health supports for youth experiencing homelessness and complex crises. After experiencing homelessness and severe mental health challenges, Natasha was able to step out of survival mode, learn to advocate for herself, and acquire the stability needed to plan for a brighter future.

"When I first became homeless, it was devastating. I felt lost, confused, and angry. Programs like these are what help pull our youth out of dark places." —Natasha, program participant

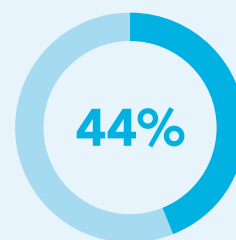
The local facts:*



2,952 people in Ottawa were **experiencing homelessness** as of the city's 2024 point-in-time count.



Nearly 60% of youth who experience homelessness have been involved in the **child welfare system**.



44% of Indigenous people who have faced homelessness first experienced it **before the age of 18**.

With the support of our donors, **163 youth** living in emergency shelters or transitional housing received support to live independently in 2024-2025. Read our latest **annual report** to learn how, together, we have helped people get back on their feet.

*Visit UnitedWayEO.ca/Local-Issues for fact sources and more information.



United we can create possibilities.



We invest in family and natural supports, providing counselling, communication skills, and conflict management to help youth stabilize relationships and avoid homelessness.



We power social enterprises that provide youth experiencing homelessness with steady jobs and life coaching to prepare them for long-term financial independence.



We convene working groups with youth at the table to advocate for increased affordable housing and resources for families experiencing or at risk of homelessness.



We invest in youth and family mental health services, including leading *project step* to ensure access to treatment, education, and prevention of substance and technology harms.



Your gift makes a difference.

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

equips two youth workers with the specialized training needed to support 30 children in high-risk neighbourhoods.

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

provides one youth with a full year of OC Transpo transit passes, shoes, clothing, and supplies to start their new job.

**\$200 a month or
\$2,400 a year**

helps a young person leaving transitional housing furnish their first apartment, creating a safe and stable place to call home.

Please give today to help young people overcome homelessness and find stable housing.
Donate through your workplace.



United Way
East Ontario