



United Way of the Alberta Capital Region 2009 Allocations and Distributions

People who work together win, whether it be against complex football defenses, or the problems of modern society.

Vince Lombardi

Introduction

1. **Network of Core Services - \$8,678,493 (Annualized Allocations)**

Providing funding to a Network of Core Services is one of the strategies identified in our Community Investment Plan. It reflects the need for a “safety net” of services for vulnerable children, youth, families and individuals who live in our community. These services include basic support, counselling, mentoring, outreach, literacy and crisis services that form the social service infrastructure of our communities. Our Member Agencies and non-member agency partners, and the services provided to our surrounding communities are a vital resource and we will continue to grow and sustain this Network of Core Services as funds allow.

Arthritis Society – Alberta/NWT Division (\$76,440)

Agency Mission: In the Alberta/Northwest Territories Division, our mission is to improve the quality of life for people affected by arthritis, and to support proactive efforts directed toward prevention, diagnosis, treatment, and a cure for arthritis.

Funded Programs:

- ***Education Program and Services*** - Programming and services are offered directly as well as through a network of community connections to help people manage their illness and disability. Lasting change is created by ensuring that people with Arthritis gain knowledge, receive support, and learn skills and strategies in how best to manage their condition. All of which contributes to encouraging personal empowerment, maintaining independence, and enhancing their ability to contribute to the community. Services include the *Arthritis Information Line, Arthritis 101, Arthritis Self-Management Program, etc.*

Ben Calf Robe Society (\$36,400)

Agency Mission: Children are sacred; they are the centre, the focus and the priority - Our work will strive to protect and enhance that sacredness by providing Aboriginal children and their families with holistic education, supportive social services and programs of high quality and cultural relevance.

Funded Program:

- **Breakfast/Lunch Program** – Ben Calf Robe provides breakfast and lunch for the kindergarten to grade nine students attending Ben Calf Robe School. The program runs every day that school is in session.

Big Brothers Big Sisters Society of Edmonton (\$171,360)

Agency Mission: Big Brothers Big Sisters Society of Edmonton and Area (BBBSE) is a community-supported volunteer-based organization committed to the healthy development of children in need and their families through the provision of quality one-to-one volunteer relationships and other related programs.

Funded Program:

- **Mentoring Program** – This program provides youth with a positive role model in their life. Mentoring is offered in a variety of formats including one-on-one, group mentoring and school-based programming.

Bissell Centre (\$356,800)

Agency Mission: Neighbour helping neighbour to find wholeness in greater Edmonton; people with the least access to resources will have increased power to determine and achieve their goals; and people with the least access to resources are interpreted to include those groups affiliated with low income: lone parents, children, aboriginals and people with limiting abilities.

Funded Programs:

- **Essential and Community Support Services (ECSS)** - has three major components: the Drop-In Centre, Adult Support and Outreach, and Basic and Essential Services. In addition, with the assistance of United Way, the agency has increased services in the Community Liaison Outreach Program to better serve the needs of homeless individuals who have chronic and severe mental health and/or addiction issues. The work of Bissell Centre is based on building relationships with people while providing practical assistance to meet the basic needs of individuals living in poverty - that is food, clothing, day shelter, finding housing, applying for financial support, advocacy, someone to talk to, crisis intervention, and a safe welcoming environment. Services are provided within a Harm Reduction model. Most services are provided on a drop-in basis - individuals in crisis or those requiring short-term assistance can access services without requiring an appointment or a complex registration process.
- **Volunteer Services** - The culture of volunteerism at the Bissell Centre is such that volunteers are seen as an integral part of the organization and continue to have a sense of ownership and pride in Bissell Centre. Volunteers are trained, oriented, placed and supported so they can support program delivery and contribute hours of service for special events. Volunteers provide service at three different agency sites (the Community Centre, Moonlight Bay Centre, and the Thrift Store) as well as at various community venues for special events. The Volunteer Coordinator provides staff education, awareness, training and consultation. Program participants are encouraged to volunteer.

- ***Moonlight Bay Centre, Recreation and Wellness Program*** - One of Bissell's most unique community programs is Moonlight Bay Centre. Situated at Moonlight Bay on Wabamun Lake, the Centre is equipped with sleeping, recreation, and kitchen facilities and provides a safe, healthy and comfortable outdoor retreat for individuals and families on low incomes. By participating in residential programs, they can escape the daily struggles of living in poverty and nurture their physical, mental, emotional and spiritual health. For people on low incomes, the opportunity to take a vacation or escape the city simply does not exist.

Boys & Girls Clubs of Edmonton (\$411,500)

Agency Mission: Provides neighbourhood services to children and youth that need support to help them become responsible and self-fulfilled adults.

Funded Programs:

- ***Neighbourhood Clubs*** - Provide children and youth between the ages of 6-17 years the opportunity to come to a safe caring environment in which they feel accepted and valued. It provides a safe alternative to youth going home unsupervised. These programs provide activities that are recreational, educational and creative.
- ***Volunteer Resource Unit*** - recruits, trains, and places volunteers within Boys & Girls Clubs of Edmonton to help meet the needs of the children, youth and families being served as well as the needs of the volunteers themselves.

Boys and Girls Club of Leduc (\$51,200)

Agency Mission: To provide a safe, supportive place where children and youth can experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships and develop confidence and skills for life.

Funded Programs:

- ***After School Drop In Program*** – Provides children and youth between the ages of 6-17 years the opportunity to come to a safe caring environment in which they feel accepted and valued. It provides a safe alternative to youth going home unsupervised. This program provides activities that are recreational, educational and creative. This Agency also provides parents in the community a safe alternative for their children who may otherwise be unsupervised at home.
- ***Lunch Drop In*** - This program provides a safe place for the local Junior and Senior High students to come during their lunch break from 11:30-12:30, Monday – Friday. BGC provides lunch for those youth that do not have one. During the lunch hour they are also engaged in activities both recreational and social in nature. There are friendly competitions weekly and they have the opportunity to engage with healthy adult role models by interacting with the staff.
- ***Youth Leadership Development*** – Provides age appropriate activities and learning opportunities for children and youth experiencing high-risk behaviours or situations, emotional challenges, or a lack of community or family supports outside of the program. This program focuses on building on the Developmental Assets of the young person encouraging them to become positive role models, mentors and thriving citizens.

Canadian Mental Health Association (\$367,838)

Agency Mission – Make mental health matter in our community by promoting mental health and supporting people affected by mental illness.

Funded Programs:

- **Community Education** – This program educates people about maintaining and enhancing mental health and securing proper treatment and support. Activities are also designed to change the public's attitudes that, in turn, will lead to an increased understanding and tolerance within the community in order to decrease the stigma and promote mental health.
- **Mindworks** offers adults between the ages of 18 and 65 access to social recreation activities that are cognitively engaging and facilitate self-enrichment and the enhancement of personal wellness.
- **Adult Camp** consists of camping trips and day camps, all of which use the agency's minibus for transportation. Participants are involved in the planning and organizing of the trips and each trip consists of a variety of activities that encompass the range of skills each individual brings with them.
- **Children's Program** – This was developed to help meet the social and recreational needs of children who are at risk of developing a mental illness or come from a family where there are mental health concerns. Through structured activities, outings, role-modeling and positive feedback, these children have the opportunity to become better socialized in their communities.

Canadian Paraplegic Association (\$238,600)

Agency Mission – To assist persons with spinal cord injuries and other persons with physical disabilities to achieve independence, self-reliance and full community participation.

Funded Programs:

- **Client Services** – Through supportive counseling and service coordination that begins while in acute care and continues through an individual's stay in rehabilitation hospitals and over a person's lifetime, CPA Client Service coordinators (CSC) assist people with spinal cord injuries and their families to adjust to the personal and functional effects of injury and disability.

Canadian Red Cross Society (\$404,680)

Agency Mission: To improve the lives of vulnerable people by mobilizing the power of humanity in Canada and the world.

Funded Programs:

- **Disaster Services** – Provides support to individuals and families impacted by disaster. Volunteers and staff work to meet immediate basic needs such as shelter, clothing, food, first aid and emotional support.

- **RespectED** – This is a primary and secondary prevention program that equips community members to interact with adolescents about family and interpersonal violence. By working in collaboration with schools and community agencies, RespectED Educators enable teens to understand maltreatment and break the cycle of abuse and neglect.
- **Youth Program** – Provides young people aged 12-24 the opportunity to be present and involved in the community through volunteerism. The activities are focused in the areas of education, public awareness and community service.
- **Injury Prevention** – This program focuses on teaching young people basic first aid and life skills when caring for others. The program also seeks to teach youth to recognize dangerous situations and to develop appropriate safety habits

Centre for Family Literacy (\$99,200)

Agency Mission –Centre for Family Literacy builds, develops and improves literacy with families and communities.

Funded Programs:

- **Books for Babies** – This program allows parents to discover how and why to share books with their babies. Parents learn that through talking to, reading with, cuddling, having eye contact with and playing with their babies, builds parent child bonds that will last a lifetime. Parents learn how their babies rely on them for intellectual, social and emotional development, and how responding to their babies in positive ways helps their children’s development.

Changing Together – A Centre for Immigrant Women (\$61,500)

Agency Mission: Helps immigrant women realize their full potential through active participation in Canadian society. Provides counselling and support, ESL, family services, employment assistance and personal development programs.

Funded Programs:

- **Volunteer Support Program** – This program allows women to give back to the community, work in a multi-cultural environment, learn new skills, gain Canadian work experience and build a network of contacts to reduce their isolation.

Connect Society (\$201,503)

Agency Mission: Connect Society exists to help deaf and hard-of-hearing individuals and their families to fully participate in society.

Funded Programs:

- **Child and Family Supports Program** - Connect Society provides specialized education and support services to children, youth, and adults who are deaf or hard of hearing and their families. Previously funded as separate programs, these services include: *Early Intervention:* A centre and home-based program for children birth to 3

years of age, focusing on child development, language and building communication within the family through a variety of child development activities and supports; *Early Childhood Services*: A centre-based, early childhood program for children 4 to 6 years of age, focusing on all areas of child development with a specialized language component as an integral element; and *Family Supports*: A multi-component that is designed to increase supports to children, youth, families and communities affected by deafness, which include Social Work services, Literacy services and Speech Language consultation and therapy.

- ***Core Services Administration*** - The Administration department provides support to the deaf community and to clients of Connect Society, the Board of Directors, the CEO, funders and all individual program staff. They support the entire agency in their efforts to achieve People Focused and Systems Focused Outcomes. Connect Society's Administration serves as a resource for information on deaf-related services in the Edmonton area.

CNIB (\$306,506)

Agency Mission - To be the leader in promoting vision health and enhancing independence for people with vision loss.

Funded Programs:

- ***Intake, Counselling and Referral*** - The Intake, Counselling, and Referral Program provides efficient and immediate response to new and existing clients through information sharing, assessments and direct involvement in CNIB services.
- ***Children and Family Services*** - Children and Family Services provides information to individual families and caregivers about their child's specific eye condition and available rehabilitation, intervention, and support services. This Program also provides emotional support, advocacy, and guidance to families.

E4C (\$187,800)

Agency Mission - E4C works to advance positive individual, family and community life. Together, we build on strength, capacity and understanding.

Funded Programs:

- ***School Lunch Program*** - By providing a well-balanced lunch to children, Edmonton's School Lunch Program is helping children to concentrate on their schoolwork and not on their hunger. Edmonton's School Lunch Program positively influences student behaviors, attendance, morale, concentration and learning ability, eating habits and the social climate in the school.
- ***Kids in the Hall*** - The Kids in the Hall Bistro Program is a unique and complex nine-month project for youth-at-risk seeking guidance and direction for a positive and successful future. The project is set up in two basic phases - Phase I Workshops and Phase II Work Experience (Kids in the Hall Bistro).
- ***Crossroads*** - Crossroads offers alternatives, support, and hope to children and adults involved in prostitution or at risk of sexual exploitation. Persons involved in prostitution are subjected to terrible violence and abuse, physical and mental illness, drug and alcohol addiction, criminal persecution, poverty and homelessness.

Edmonton Epilepsy Association (\$100,680)

Agency Mission: To ensure the well-being of persons with epilepsy through increased public awareness and education, and, further, to address specific concerns, both personal and social, that these individuals experience.

Funded Program:

- **Public Education and Awareness** – increases the awareness of the Association and its services to people with epilepsy and their families. It also provides peer support to people living with epilepsy.

Edmonton Social Planning Council (\$207,600)

Agency Mission - Responding to the changing political and social environment, the council will: identify trends and emerging social issues; create opportunities to debate and address social issues: and initiate and support community action through research, coordination and advocacy.

Funded Program:

- **Organized Social Action** - ESPC works with other social agencies to examine social issues. Research is undertaken to support their position and this information is communicated to the public, stakeholders and the various orders of government. ESPC works with governments in an advisory capacity to inform and address key issues, identify and create long-term solutions, and effect changes to social policy.

Elizabeth Fry Society of Edmonton (\$120,043)

Agency Mission - We foster the dignity and worth of all women and girls who are at risk of becoming criminalized.

Funded Programs:

- **Adult Courtwork** serves individuals 18 years and over who are charged with a criminal offence and are appearing in docket court on their first and second appearance, or in the domestic violence courtroom. Staff and volunteers provide information and legal referrals, offer information about community resources, explain sentencing and provide support to family and friends of the accused.
- **Community Resources Program** is an umbrella for a number of specific educational programs, services and initiatives that include: Adult Stoplifting, Drop-In services, Aboriginal Women's program, Clothing program, One-on-one support, Information and Referrals, and Girls Empowered and Strong.

Edmonton Gleaners Association - Edmonton's Food Bank (\$146,578)

Agency Mission: To be stewards in the community of surplus and donated food for the effective distribution, free of charge, to people in need in our community while seeking solutions to the causes of hunger.

Funded Program:

- ***Volunteer Program*** – Volunteers are essential to the Food Bank. They provide the human resources that make it possible for the Food Bank to operate. This program provides recruitment, orientation, placement, evaluation and recognition of volunteers.
- ***Warehouse Program*** – The Warehouse Program is responsible for the logistics of handling food that is donated to Edmonton’s Food Bank, including transportation of donated food, storing, repackaging and sorting, hamper packing, recording and monitoring of food inventory and distribution.

Edmonton John Howard Society (\$310,333)

Agency Mission – Through our programs and services we work to prevent crime and to help people affected by crime.

Funded Programs:

- ***Community Intake & Aftercare*** - There are four services under this umbrella program. *Intake and Employment Services* that provide direct services and referrals to some of the most disadvantaged people in our community. *REE* START* that helps to assist youth to integrate successfully back into their community. *Alternative Learning Program* is a private accredited school that offers a variety of interrelated tuition free services to its clients. *Volunteer Services* recruits volunteers for a variety of positions within the Agency.

Edmonton Mennonite Centre for Newcomers (\$108,000)

Agency Mission: Mennonite Centre for Newcomers provides programs and services that enable immigrants to participate with equity, dignity and respect in all aspects of life. They seek to address the needs of new Canadians, as well as their children & youth who are experiencing a variety of barriers, to help them feel more at home in Canada.

Funded Programs:

- ***Multicultural Family Connections*** - works in partnership with newcomer families and communities to foster the development of intercultural programming for preschool children and parents building on their socio-cultural approaches to early learning and care.

Fort Saskatchewan Boys and Girls Club (\$70,792)

Agency Mission: To provide positive experiences and role models for children, youth and families to encourage them in becoming positive members of society.

Funded Program:

- ***Youth Development*** – This program includes a number of programs for children, youth and families with an emphasis on those who are socially or economically disadvantaged. Programming includes an after school drop-in, homework club,

computer program, life skills workshops, leadership training and recreational activities. Over 100 kids between the ages of 6-14 access the programming every day.

Gateway Association for Community Living (\$95,080)

Agency Mission: An advocacy and support association working on behalf of individuals with developmental disabilities and their families.

Funded Programs:

- **Family Support Program** – This program promotes strong families by providing opportunities for families who have a loved one with a disability to become more empowered through educational opportunities, connections to referrals, advocacy and crisis support.

Goodwill Industries of Alberta (\$162,491)

Agency Mission - To change the lives of people with disabilities and disadvantages by turning household donations and other resources into training and jobs.

Funded Programs:

- **Work Force Intern Program** - Currently contract services work with adults with mental illnesses, brain injuries and physical disabilities. This program provides individuals who are planning to obtain competitive and or supported employment with the supports they may need to improve their life and work skills.

Information & Volunteer Centre for Strathcona County (\$54,201)

Agency Mission: The Information and Volunteer Centre for Strathcona County enhances the healthy and vibrant lifestyle of Strathcona County residents by connecting them with their community resources and meaningful and fulfilling opportunities for voluntary engagement.

Funded Program:

- **Information and Volunteer Centre** – Provides a community information and referral service and provides agencies/organizations with volunteer services including recruitment, placement, training, management and education.

Jewish Family Services (\$198,016)

Agency Mission: The agency's mandate is to contribute to the achievement of our vision by providing strength & support to individuals & families in need, in a manner sensitive to Jewish values.

Funded Programs:

- **Counselling** - In this program, trained clinical, or therapeutic, counsellors help people address deep-seated emotional and psychological issues within a framework of

established theories and techniques. Clients gain better understanding of their problems, and learn how to choose new behaviours, which help them make healthy choices and form healthy relationships. Clients are referred from other community agencies, health or other professionals, and can also be self-referred. Counselling is provided for as long as required. United Way funding provides subsidies to clients who might not otherwise be able to pay.

- **Edmonton Bereavement Centre** is a comprehensive bereavement program providing both support and education on coping with loss and assisting people through the process of grief. This is accomplished through a variety of ways, including community lectures, small group education & support, one-to-one counselling, self-help opportunities, and training for professionals & volunteers who work with grieving individuals.
- **Community Support Services** helps people with complex practical problems (which sometimes are compounded by emotional and psychological issues, or cultural obstacles) who have had limited success accessing other community services overcome obstacles. Clients are more capable of clearly identifying and articulating the nature of their problems, can identify what they can do for themselves, help them make a plan, identify additional community resources/contacts, and follow up to foster success. An ongoing focus is to work collaboratively with clinical therapy clients within the agency and to enable a holistic approach to their issues. The program provides personal planning, advocacy and referral services.

KARA Family Resource Centre (\$111,444)

Agency Mission – To promote the healthy development of children by empowering families.

Funded Program:

- **KARA Program** - The KARA Program offers a variety of educational and supportive options designed to create healthy family relationships. Components include nutritional programming, educational programming and an intensive, flexible program for parents and their pre-school children, which combines parenting, life skills and experiential learning.

Leduc and District Food Bank (\$40,000)

Agency Mission:

To promote human Dignity

To bring surplus food together

To lend our support to other agencies that care for those in crisis situations

To develop community awareness, co-operation and education with people in need

Funded Programs:

- **Food Distribution Program** - Provides food to people in need in Leduc and Leduc County.

Norwood Child and Family Resource Centre (\$110,949)

Agency Mission: Active Involvement of Children and their Families in a Strong Vibrant Community

Funded Programs:

- **Early Start** offers a Learning Through Play program for children ages 0 to 6 years old. Children are exposed to a variety of play experiences aimed at developing cognitive, physical and social development. Parents have a chance to participate in workshops, with one-on-one dialogue with outreach workers; they may use the time for appointments, or time for themselves. The emphasis is healthy development of children, an increase in positive interactions between parents and their children, an increase in supports for parents, and better access to resources. The Early Childhood Educators are also available to go on home visits with the parents to discuss any child development concerns.
- **Head Start** program is guided by a Learning-through-Play philosophy. Learning experiences are based on a curriculum that includes active, hands-on, conceptual learning leading to understanding and the acquisition of basic skills. The learning experiences are meaningful and relevant for the child, cover a broad range of relevant content, integrated across traditional subject matter divisions and delivered through interactive teaching and cooperative learning. Children's individual physical, social, emotional, cognitive, and language development is supported through these activities.

Operation Friendship Seniors Society (\$263,637)

Agency Mission – To offer services to improve the quality of life of inner city seniors.

Funded Programs:

- **Drop-In Food Program** - Reduces economic and social disparities and improves access to services by providing a safe and secure place with recreational programming and opportunities to socialize, play pool or cards, and/or share a meal.
- **Volunteer Program** – The program provides opportunities for individuals, families and groups to provide support to Operation Friendship through volunteering with the agency's various programs.
- **Helping Hands Program** - Provides practical, non-threatening intervention in difficulties facing inner city seniors. Most often the program worker can intervene in situations before they become a crisis, preventing radical intervention such as institutionalization.

Options Sexual Health Association (\$92,820)

Agency Mission – Healthy sexuality throughout the lifespan by providing education, counselling, and consultation services in the area of sexuality.

Funded Programs:

- **Volunteer Program** - Through providing volunteer opportunities within OPTIONS Programs, the OPTIONS Volunteer Development Program matches the needs and

aspirations of volunteers with work opportunities within OPTIONS that contribute to their mission and facilitates the achievement of the volunteer's personal goals.

- **Education Program** - To enable couples, families and groups in the community to develop the capacities and resources to address sexuality issues. The bulk of the education program is directed at adolescents and is designed to: Increase knowledge related to changes in puberty, reducing risk of sexually transmitted infections and/or unwanted pregnancy and options for sexual expression. Increase awareness of the importance and influence of personal factors such as religious beliefs, values, attitudes, expectations of others and communicating with a partner in relation to sexual decision-making and assisting individuals to develop skills in the areas of assessing risk and setting sexual boundaries.

P.A.L.S. - Project Adult Literacy Society (\$87,419)

Agency Mission: Changing lives through literacy.

Funded Programs:

- **Literacy Program** – Adults with low literacy skills are matched with a tutor. The program assists the volunteers to build on the literacy skills of the student and meet the needs and goals of the student.
- **Students for Students** – Builds on the learning that occurs in the Literacy Program. Students plan activities and events that are open to other literacy students. These events often focus on self-improvement and acquiring new skills.
- **ESL Program** – This program is similar to the Literacy program but with English as a Second Language focus. Volunteers and students work on speaking, listening and writing English and learning about Canadian culture.

St. Albert Community Information and Volunteer Centre (\$48,622)

Agency Mission: To provide community information and referral, and volunteer services for all community members

Funded Programs:

- **Community Information and Referral** – Trained volunteers assist clients and respond to information requests regarding services and community resources.
- **Volunteer Centre Services** – This program promotes and supports volunteerism in the community. Information is provided on volunteer opportunities in the community by phone, in person and through online services.
- **Sidekicks** – Provides mentors to teach, guide and empower St. Albert's youth, 6-16 years old, so that they may have the support of a positive adult role model. This program screens and matches community volunteers to children and youth. As well, they provide opportunities for activities that the match can enjoy in the community with other matches.

St. Albert Parents' Place Association (\$75,188)

Agency Mission: To provide services and resources that support and strengthen all families.

Funded Program:

- **Family Life Education** – The program offers a variety of parenting, self-help and drop-in classes as well as support groups that address the challenges faced by families. These programs educate and support parents by strengthening and enhancing their parenting skills. Through parent education and support, parents learn how to deal with their children, build self-esteem and discover practical skills to enhance family life.

Seniors Association of Greater Edmonton (\$95,000)

Agency Mission - To enhance the quality of life of older persons through service, innovation, advocacy and volunteerism.

Funded Programs:

- **Home Services Program** - This program assists seniors to stay in their homes by locating reliable, responsible workers to help with interior and exterior home maintenance they are no longer capable of doing themselves. By offering this unique, free brokerage service, which matches seniors' needs with suitable service providers, the Home Services Program helps seniors to remain in their own home and retain their independence longer.
- **Multicultural Outreach Program** - This program aims to address the issue of deep social isolation experienced by immigrant and refugee seniors as a result of multiple barriers of language, culture and poverty. Its fundamental intent is to ensure that these seniors become connected with sources of support, and gradually build the necessary skills and knowledge for optimizing their quality of life in Canada.

Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton (\$270,360)

Agency Mission - The Sexual Assault Centre of Edmonton (SACE) exists to empower individuals affected by sexual abuse and assault and to empower communities to take action against sexual violence.

Funded Programs:

- **Client Services** – Program provides essential, specialized and cost effective sexual assault services aimed at both preventing the crime and offering healing and recovery to those who have been targets of the crime. The goal of the counselling program is to increase understanding for clients about the impact of sexual violence and to work towards healthier coping in their lives.
- The 24-Hour Sexual Assault Crisis Line is available for survivors of sexual assault and abuse, their supporters, as well as concerned community members. Individuals call for support, information, and referrals.

Strathcona Shelter Society (\$78,640)

Agency Mission: To end domestic abuse and violence in the lives of women and their children by supporting the Shelter, A Safe Place, and impacting public policy through education and awareness.

Funded Program:

- **Shelter Program** - Provides safe accommodation to abused women and their children on a 24-hour basis, for up to 21 days. Support services include crisis intervention, emotional support, information and referral, essential transportation, food, accommodation and child care programming.

Terra Association (\$257,736)

Agency Mission: Empowering teen parents to succeed.

Funded Programs:

- **Volunteer Services** provides a range of opportunities for community volunteers to participate in providing services to pregnant and parenting youth. Staff activities include recruiting, screening, training, supervising and recognizing the volunteers.
- **Dads Outreach** – Provides a range of individual support services to expectant and parenting young men up to the age of 25.
- **Outreach Services** – Provides a range of individual support services to pregnant and parenting youth and their children. Services include home visitation, individual counselling, parent education, crisis intervention, referral and advocacy.
- **Housing Support Services** - The intent of housing support is to help young families find and maintain safe and affordable housing. This can be in the form of helping to fill out rental applications, conducting apartment searches, advocating to landlords or other housing agencies, securing emergency accommodations, helping to secure funding for housing, and helping with independent living skills to promote successful tenancies and prevent evictions.

The Family Centre (\$855,698)

Agency Mission - To foster healthy families, institutions, and communities.

Funded Programs:

- **Therapy and Counselling Services** - The program's goal is to help people acquire awareness, understanding, knowledge, skills, and perspectives to raise healthy children, build strong relationships, heal from trauma and navigate through change.
- **Education Services** - provides psycho-educational courses and workshops. Education Services strives to ensure that: parents will be better equipped to raise healthy children; individuals will build the understanding and skills required to develop strong and healthy relationships; and that individuals, families and institutions (schools,

communities, workplaces) will gain the knowledge needed to effectively navigate through change.

- **Centralized Interpreter** services provide interpretation (verbal) and translation (written) services to individuals, as requested through organizations. In addition to interpretation and translation, the role of the interpreters includes providing cultural insight and brokering to professionals when required.

The Support Network (\$118,869)

Agency Mission: The Support Network strengthens and supports individuals and families seeking resources, experiencing distress or looking to contribute to the well being of the community.

Funded Programs:

- **Distress Line** – A 24-hour crisis line available within the City of Edmonton and surrounding communities. The line provides supportive listening and crisis intervention by volunteers who undergo an extensive training program.
- **Walk in Counselling** – Offers a no fee, solution-focused therapy to individuals and families. Individuals can access these services on a drop-in basis and receive support from volunteer therapists.

Victorian Order of Nurses (\$158,737)

Agency Mission - Provide leadership in the Edmonton area in the delivery of innovative community-based nursing and other health care and support services based on the principles of primary health care.

Funded Programs:

- **People in Crisis Program (PIC)** - Provides one-on-one support to residents in women's shelters. Health facilitation is an essential component of the services provided by the PIC nurse and is defined as "the provision of supportive environments to enable people to change their lifestyle and consequently improve their health and well being."
- **Inner City Foot Care Program** - Provides foot care in the home and in clinic settings particularly in the inner city, to aging individuals who may not be able to care for their own feet due to health problems or a disability. Clinics are located in various areas of the city in partnership with other community agencies.
- **Volunteer Program** - Provides volunteer assistance for the VON staff, to assist persons in job transition to acquire practical experience and to provide quality, cost efficient care to clients.
- **Elder Abuse Program** - Within this program, the nurses work in conjunction with Catholic Social Services, Elder Abuse Intervention Team and the Edmonton Police Service. VON nurses, along with the social workers and police, go into the senior's home and deal with the medical, emotional, physical, and financial problems and refer the senior to the appropriate community supports.

YMCA (\$366,203)

Agency Mission - The YMCA of Edmonton creates life - enhancing opportunities for the growth and development of all people in spirit, mind and body.

Funded Programs:

- **Youth Transitions Program (YTP)** - YTP works with youth between 13 to 19 years of age who have been out of school or are struggling in school. YTP offers a holistic approach to programming that enhances the youth's self-esteem and confidence, personal management skills, and lifestyle.
- **Time Out** - Time Out is an alternative to suspension program for junior high youth. The program provides the youth a safe place to reflect on their behaviour, maintain their studies with homework periods, and focus on pro-social skill development in the workshops.
- **Kids' Club** – YMCA Kids' Club is an after-school literacy program. Children attend the program two afternoons a week for a period of eight to ten weeks. During the summer months, Kids' Club becomes Kids' University and the program expands into a two-week full day experience that incorporates a numeracy skill development component in addition to the literacy skill development component.

YWCA (\$210,712)

Agency Mission: Through leadership, advocacy and support for women and their families, YWCA Edmonton creates strong, inclusive communities that value women's perspectives.

Funded Program:

- **Counselling Program** – to provide a supportive environment in which to explore thoughts and feelings and to address social, emotional, intellectual and spiritual needs. The Counselling Program offers counselling and group sessions for individuals, couples and families. Funding from the United Way subsidizes counselling for women and children who come from low-income situations. Additionally, the Centre provides crisis intervention and referral services.

Youth Emergency Shelter Society (\$228,368)

Agency Mission – The Youth Emergency Shelter Society will be a well-respected and compassionate service provider for youth at risk. The organization will be one that youth want to utilize, people want to work for and the community wants to support.

Funded Programs:

- **START House** - This program is for youth ages 16-19, who are typically victims of abuse or neglect and have no viable living alternative. They must be involved in productive activities such as attending school or working. START is a client directed program, which focuses on the development of strong independent life and decision-making skills.
- **Skills Program** - Skills is a component of service that is available to clients residing in the START and SkY Programs. This component provides skills development on

both an individual and group level to meet the needs of the client. Areas of Skill development include (but are not limited to) the following; employment readiness training, budgeting, meal preparation, educational preparation, self-esteem building, relationship skill building and accessing the job bank.

Other 'Network of Core Service' Investments (\$255,400)

Aboriginal Consulting Services Association of Alberta (\$50,000)

This Agency offers the Circle of Safety Aboriginal Family Violence Program that provides family violence specific services to Aboriginal men, women and children who have been exposed to family violence. Included in the service is male and female outreach, partner safety checks, parent/child Circles, Elder Services and Ceremony. This program is the only one of its kind in Alberta and one of only nine in Canada.

Aboriginal Women's Professional Association – AWPA (\$50,400) AWPA exists to provide Aboriginal women the opportunity to gather and meet other Aboriginal women and to learn from each other. The AWPA is a growing network of professional Aboriginal women who are skilled business owners, managers, program coordinators, public employees, entrepreneurs, facilitators, and students. The Association is mandated to mentor and share relevant teachings with interested Aboriginal Women of all ages, regardless of background or experience.

Boyle Street Community Services - *Urban Counselling Network* - UCN (\$80,000)

Community members, many of whom are homeless, come to Boyle Street to access services that address immediate needs (e.g., food, clothing, and housing) and to develop a sense of belonging. The relationships that develop as a result of the initial service interaction at Boyle Street raises a community member's comfort level and increases their openness to accessing counselling services. Individuals and families who are deemed hard to serve or non-compliant by mainstream professional services are often receptive to acting on a referral from one of the Agency's existing programs to UCN. Having the UCN counsellor on-site full time also means there is a known face and a responsive resource for clients to access. This Program received funding in 2007 for the first time as a result of the United Way's Homelessness Action Plan.

Institute for Sexual Minority Studies and Services – ISMSS (\$25,000)

This multi phase community outreach project supports the complex health, safety and social development needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transidentified and two-spirited youth (LGBTT) in the Edmonton Region. ISMSS supports vulnerable youth and works with community partners to administer the program, the strong need for this service has been demonstrated over a number of years.

PAAFE (Prostitution Awareness and Action Foundation of Edmonton) COARSE Program (\$50,000)

PAAFE is a provincial court-approved diversion program for individuals charged with offences related to prostitution, operated by the Prostitution Awareness and Action Foundation of Edmonton. Individuals who want to exit street prostitution can participate in a court-approved case plan that may result in withdrawal of charges or reduced criminal justice system sanctions. Individual case plans may include addictions treatment, education, job training, income support, housing, health care, and other programs and resources

Network Collaborations (\$257,550)

Edmonton School Lunch Program (\$50,000)

The School Lunch Program provides a well-balanced lunch to children. It helps children to concentrate on their schoolwork and not on their hunger. Edmonton's School Lunch Program positively influences student behaviors, attendance, morale, concentration and learning ability, eating habits and the social climate in the school.

Brian Layton Infant Formula Program (\$12,000)

The St. Albert Food Bank has developed a quick, effective delivery system to provide infant formula to families unable to provide the proper nourishment to their infants. The need has been confirmed in discussions with healthcare workers in the Capital Region. The St. Albert Food Bank provides Safeway gift cards to partner representatives at St. Albert and Edmonton hospitals, health centers, parenting and social agencies. The gift cards, in the amount of \$22, provide formula for up to five days. The value of the card may be revised periodically if formula prices increase.

Seniors Abuse Help Line (\$16,750)

This Help Line provides a no fee, confidential 24-hour crisis and referral service for seniors in the Alberta Capital Region. The designated crisis and information line is answered by individuals who are knowledgeable about the issues of abuse to older adults and the community resources available to them. The service is delivered through The Support Network, utilizing existing expertise in recruiting, training and supervising volunteers to operate a crisis line. In addition, there is follow up service for individuals, which includes supportive listening, re-evaluation of risk, and additional referrals. The operations are supported by a steering committee, which brings together representation from the Seniors Association of Greater Edmonton (SAGE), the Elder Abuse Intervention Team, The Support Network, and United Way.

Success By 6® Provincial COW Partnership (\$5,000)

The Alberta Prairie Classroom on Wheels (C.O.W.) is a friendly space for parents and young children, zero to six years, to learn and explore fun new ways to add literacy activities into their daily lives. At the invitation of local literacy groups, the C.O.W. bus travels around rural and urban Alberta communities participating in locally planned events. Trained literacy facilitators provide information on the importance of early language development and leave behind, with each community, a small library of children's books.

211 Information and Referral Line (\$122,200)

211 is an easy-to-remember three-digit phone number providing free, confidential, multilingual access to information about the full range of community, social, health and government services. Trained personnel answer a wide variety of inquiries including those related to housing, shelter, family based programs, specialized counseling, healthcare and leisure services. United Way is involved in planning for the expansion of 211 both regionally and at a provincial level.

Volunteer Edmonton (\$51,600)

Volunteer Edmonton provides leadership to this program that focuses on strategies that will further volunteerism in Edmonton. Volunteer Edmonton's goals include elevating the awareness of the value of volunteerism to the community at large, advocating good standards of practice for volunteer involvement, and facilitating collective action among organizations that support volunteerism. Volunteer Edmonton is funded in partnership with the City of Edmonton.

Geographic Service Areas (\$150,000)

United Way of the Alberta Capital Region is committed to the allocation of resources in surrounding communities, referred to as Geographic Service Areas or GSAs. A United Way staff member sits on a local Community Investment Committee (CIC) comprised of citizens within each community, which directs dollars based on what they feel would be the greatest benefit to their municipality/region. The three United Way GSA's with CIC's include:

Fort Saskatchewan (\$50,000)

The CIC has chosen to distribute its allocation to the community through a granting process that takes place twice a year. It currently distributes its allocation to Fort Sask. Boys & Girl's Club, PALSS (Parent Advocates Linking Special Services), VPA – Volunteer Program Association, Families First and Kidsport.

St. Albert (\$50,000)

The CIC has chosen to fill a key need in the community for a Community Outreach Coordinator to assist community members to connect to services that they need, including housing and housing supports. The position is based out of St. Albert Parents' Place, which is a Member Agency of United Way.

Strathcona County (\$50,000)

The CIC currently distributes its allocation to two agencies in the County – Boys and Girls Club of Strathcona County and SAFFRON (Sexual Assault Centre).

Summary of Total GSA Investments

In addition to the three GSA Community Investments Committees there are six Member Agencies and two Community Initiatives in the Leduc, Fort Saskatchewan, Strathcona County and St. Albert communities that receive dollars from United Way. (These have been previously listed in the member Agency section of this Report.) The following chart summarizes all direct investments to the Geographic Service Areas.

Geographic Service Area	Allocation
1. Leduc and Leduc County GSA Total	\$70,960
Member Agencies	
• Leduc and District Food Bank	\$ 40,000
• Leduc Boys and Girls Club	\$ 51,200
2. St. Albert GSA Total	\$185,811
Community Investment Committee	\$ 50,000
Member Agencies	
• St. Albert Parents Place	\$ 75,188
• St. Albert Community Information and Volunteer Centre	\$ 48,623
Community Initiative	
• St. Albert Food Bank	\$ 12,000
3. Fort Saskatchewan GSA Total	\$120,792
Community Investment Committee	\$ 50,000
Member Agency	
• Fort Saskatchewan Boys and Girls Club	\$ 70,792
4. Strathcona County GSA Total	\$182,841
Community Investment Committee	\$ 50,000
Member Agencies	
• Strathcona Shelter Society Ltd. – “A Safe Place”	\$ 78,640
• Information and Volunteer Centre of Strathcona County	\$ 54,201
Total of all Geographic Service Area Investments:	\$560,404

2. Community Partnerships and Initiatives - \$2,951,301

Issues such as poverty, homelessness and family violence that are the root causes of many other social problems are so complex that they must be addressed in a multi-disciplinary, multi-faceted and coordinated approach. Citizens, professionals, non-profit agencies, different levels of government and various government departments are working together in community partnerships and collaborative initiatives to create new and exciting ways to solve some of our most persistent community problems. Research indicates that these approaches are the most effective way to get at root causes and to be able to find solutions. The Community Investment Plan supports this way of working by increasing resources to Community Partnerships when funds are available.

Community Opportunity Fund (\$100,000)

United Way is often asked to respond to emerging issues and innovative projects in our community and the Community Opportunity Fund was created for this purpose. It allows us to proactively respond to opportunities that align with our Vision 2010 Community Investment Plan. These dollars are also often used for one time only grants that benefit the social service community through conferences or training opportunities.

Community Solution to Gang Violence – CSGV (\$32,000)

CSGV uses a risk and protective framework to raise awareness of the conditions that draw young people into gangs and the protective factors that are needed to create opportunities to promote the positive development of young people that will enable them to avoid the gang lifestyle. The real challenge in this approach is to shift thinking from looking for quick fixes to ones that address the deeper causes of gang violence and the needs of children, youth and families. This community initiative has many partners working together to address the issue of youth violence.

Community University Partnership for the Study of Children, Youth and Families C.U.P. (\$35,000)

CUP promotes collaborative, applied research on child and family development and serves as the contact point between the community and University. C.U.P. gathers and uses existing research effectively and increases the capacity for community to be involved in new research to improve services for children, youth and families.

Edmonton Chamber of Voluntary Organizations – ECVO (\$31,200)

ECVO is dedicated to providing leadership and mobilizing the collective resources of the voluntary sector, to enhance programs, services, operations and governance of not-for-profit organizations in the Edmonton Region. ECVO is working to develop a cohesive and credible voice on important issues related to this sector.

Edmonton Seniors Coordinating Council – ESCC (\$21,000)

ESCC is helping senior-serving organizations deliver social, recreational, and social support services that are comprehensive, effective, efficient and accessible for seniors throughout Edmonton. Through coordination and facilitation of resource sharing among existing senior-serving agencies, ESCC strives to maximize efficiencies where possible. By bringing senior-serving agencies together, the sector is able to identify duplication of services as well as gaps

that need to be addressed. The present resource levels of services available to seniors is not likely to increase proportionate to anticipated growth in the aging adult population.

Families First Edmonton – FFE (\$100,000)

FFE is a collaborative project aimed at improving the well-being of low-income families and their children through innovative programming, applied research and well-informed public policy. The primary objective of the research is to test the efficacy of four health and social service delivery models on children, parental, and family health of families on low-income assistance and to evaluate the costs of the four models for all sectors involved. This Project was implemented in late 2005 and will complete the service delivery component in 2009. The research component will continue for another three years.

Neighbourhood Empowerment Team – NET (\$230,000)

NET targets at risk communities in Edmonton that are characterized by the effects of poverty and escalating levels of crime. The team consists of a police officer, a social worker and a youth worker. They offer a number of preventative programs customized to the communities' needs. In all NET sites unsupervised youth are identified as a high concern for area residents and community leaders. This program utilizes many partnerships; it addresses priority issues in the community and aligns well with the Community Investment Strategic Direction. An increase of \$65,000 is recommended to NET to provide an additional youth worker to the Teams.

Partners For Kids – PFK (\$765,000)

PFK is a community collaboration between United Way, Edmonton Community Foundation, The Family Centre, Big Brothers Big Sisters Society of Edmonton and Area, E4C, Edmonton Public Schools and the eight schools of the City Centre Education Project. The City of Edmonton's Neighbourhood and Community Services also has programs that are an important component of PFK. PFK offers a combination of services to children and families to increase the ability of children to be successful in literacy, technology and social skills and to enter the next level of schooling with the same chance of success as kids not experiencing social barriers to learning. The Initiative is currently exploring ways in which it can engage local neighbourhood citizens and businesses in its work to enhance life for children and families. It is anticipated that the City of Edmonton will join the partnership. This has been a very successful partnership that provides excellent results.

- ***Big Brothers Big Sisters Society*** provides In School Mentoring, which is one of the main components of the Partners For Kids Program. It offers a different model for mentoring than the traditional Big/Little Match for which BBBSE is best known. Instead of a four-hour weekly commitment, volunteers are matched with children in need of mentors and meet with them for an hour in the school setting.
- ***The Family Centre*** – The Family Centre provides success coaches, therapy and outreach support to children and their families in the Partners For Kids program.
- ***The Edmonton School Lunch Program*** also receives an allocation to provide lunch at the schools involved in this partnership.

The Today Family Violence Help Centre (\$75,000)

The Today Centre (formerly the Domestic Violence Centre) will deliver a comprehensive, multidisciplinary response to family violence. It will offer a safe place for those affected by domestic violence to access timely, short-term services and support. Additionally, the Today Centre will link those affected by domestic violence to medium-term and long-term services and supports in the community that will further support their quality of life. Edmonton John Howard Society administers United Way's funding for The Today Centre.

Internally Managed Partnerships

InKind Centre (\$825,467)

The InKind Centre is an innovative program designed to meet community needs through smart business practices. The Centre operates a storefront and warehouse to which donors contribute high quality new and used goods. Co-operative bulk purchasing options are also supported to acquire a variety of items. Products available include items such as office stationery, office furnishings, technology, personal care products, paper products, cleaning supplies and other miscellaneous items. Goods acquired are distributed on a first come first serve basis to qualified organizations in the charitable sector. In addition to day-to-day storefront and warehouse operations, the InKind Centre oversees the Coats for Kids and Families and Tools for School programs.

Labour Partnership (\$118,112)

The Labour Partnership is a joint venture of the Canadian Labour Congress and United Way. The Labour Coordinator is involved in the following programs and also sits on the CIAFV Leadership Committee and the Donate a Ride Committee.

- The ***Union Counselling Program*** trains work site union members to guide, inform and refer co-workers seeking help and assistance on a wide range of issues. This Training Program is very popular and trains up to 65 new Union Counsellors a year across a variety of venues.
- ***Labour Appreciation Night Committee*** – The United Way Labour Coordinator co-chairs this committee that organizes and hosts the Annual Labour Appreciation Night Banquet and Dance, the Jim Shewchuk Award Presentation, Union Counselling Program graduate presentations and the annual Labour Mini Conference.
- ***Edmonton and District Labour Council*** – The Labour Coordinator sits as an executive board member, bringing a United Way presence to the group and a labour perspective back to United Way. Ad hoc committees include: Finance Committee; Community Services Committee; Education Committee and the Labour Day Community Barbeque Committee.
- ***Workers Health Centre*** - The Labour Coordinator sits as a member at large on this committee, appointed by the Alberta Federation of Labour. Working with the Executive Director, energy is focused on Employee Assistance Program presentations and stress workshops.

Success By 6® (\$389,664)

Success By 6® is a community initiative dedicated to the well-being of Edmonton's children and their families and strives to create nurturing environments where all children have the opportunity to reach their unique potential. The partnership builds and enhances community through mobilizing and leveraging resources that support the growth and stability of an accessible, comprehensive range of early childhood development services for children 0 to 6 years and their families. Success By 6® operates under the direction of a cross-sectoral, multi-disciplinary Council of Partners. United Way, as the managing partner, provides financial oversight, staff and supervisory responsibilities for the initiative.

The Council of Partners, through the implementation of its Strategic Plan, is working with citizens, business leaders, government and other agencies and organizations to raise awareness of the importance of the early years for children's learning and development as well as increasing public support for the early years as a community priority. The Council also allocates approximately \$200,000 annually to early childhood development programs in the community. Currently Success By 6® is resourced through a variety of sources including grants – some of which are for specific projects, endowment funds distributed through the Edmonton Community Foundation, the Dave Hancock Charity Classic and a United Way allocation.

3. Community Engagement Activities - \$113,004

As we enhance our work around community engagement events that generate new resources are emerging. Last year Discovery activities included the Engineering Day of Challenge and Enbridge's additional activities focused on providing the resources required for additional Partners for Kids Rooms in schools. More and more United Way Discovery opportunities like Days of Caring provide Agencies and initiatives with voluntary human resources to assist in the enhancement of their facilities and services. Others community engagement activities that attract revenue include:

- **Coats for Kids and Families** is an initiative of United Way that asks our community to donate gently worn winter coats. Coats are distributed to those who would otherwise have to brave Alberta's cold winter without a warm winter jacket.
- **Tools for School** program is intended to ensure that all Edmonton-area students receive the educational supplies they need for classroom success. Even in today's high-tech world, these supplies, ranging from pens and pencils to binders and workbooks, are essential.

4. Community Building and Engagement - \$ 669,679

Issues such as poverty, homelessness and family violence that are the root causes of many other social problems are so complex that they must be addressed in a multi-disciplinary, multi-faceted and coordinated approach. Citizens, professionals, non profit agencies, different levels of government and various government departments are working together in Community Partnerships and collaborative initiatives to create new and exciting ways to

solve some of our most persistent community problems. Research is indicating that these approaches are the most efficient and effective way to get at root causes and find solutions. United Way staff members are involved on many of the Community Partnerships described above. There are also many other community building activities in which United Way staff members are engaged even though direct funding is not provided.

Community Initiatives Against Family Violence (CIAFV)

The vision of CIAFV is that the City of Edmonton and area has a collaborative, coordinated, community response to family violence and bullying in which families are supported to live free of violence. This community-wide, cross-sectoral initiative works to strengthen the community's capacity to take constructive action against family violence by providing consistent identification and appropriate referral for all people who are affected by it. United Way offers strategic support and planning for this initiative.

Community Mapping

Community mapping is a process for communities to visually map the assets of their community, including social, economic and ecological factors. The process is one that encourages inclusivity, community partnerships, cross-sectoral collaboration and places value on the knowledge and wisdom of community members. United Way is a member of the Steering Committees for MAPS Alberta Capital Region as well as the Steering Committee for the Provincial Early Childhood Development Community Mapping Project, which has grown out of the work done locally since 2001.

Funders' Forum

Representatives of a number of organizations that provide funding and grants to community agencies, including United Way, meet quarterly to share information and discuss emerging issues. The Forum has recently started to look at some of the more complex issues facing our community and exploring ways this collective can provide leadership in seeking solutions. United Way will co-chair Funders Forum with the Edmonton Community Foundation in 2009.

Funders' Liaison Network (FLN)

The Funders' Liaison Network (FLN) of FCSS, Region 6 Edmonton and Area Child and Family Services, United Way and other funders, is working to strengthen the human service sector and to find new ways to work in collaboration and partnership with each other and with the community.

GM Community Wheels

This program is in its sixth year and it continues to be successful. Community Wheels has been implemented in a number of cities across Canada. General Motors provides vehicles to four United Way Member Agencies to support their work. Feedback from Agencies indicates that this project is immensely valuable for the agency. United Way works with the agencies and administers the program for General Motors.

Organizational Capacity Building Committee

This group was formed to look for ways to develop and implement practical and accessible capacity-building solutions for community organizations. The group's primary focus is on Aboriginal, multicultural and emerging/developing organizations in the community.

Wicihitowin

Wicihitowin is a community driven model of urban governance that's inclusive of all Aboriginal peoples and the agencies that serve them in Edmonton. As a result, it's based on Indigenous traditions of governance and community decision-making. The goal is to help Aboriginal people work more effectively together on identifying and addressing vital issues and concerns impacting their community in Edmonton. Wicihitowin will be sharing space in United Way's new facility at Stony Plain Road and 152 Street and has United Way to sit on the Wicihitowin Funders Resource Circle.

5. Co-Fundraising - \$ 710,245

Fundraising partnerships help to build the capacity of the social service sector and the community in general. They enable us to work with others to leverage funds and in kind contributions to achieve our collective outcomes.

Donate a Ride (Distribution of \$226,261 to the community)

Donate a Ride is designed to provide transit tickets to Edmonton residents including seniors, teenage moms, individuals with low income, single parents and dependents. Without transportation people often miss out on work and educational opportunities, medical appointments, and access to a variety of basic services. United Way provides financial management, marketing and committee support to this City of Edmonton initiative.

Mac and Cheese Inner City Lunch (Distributions of \$180,265 to the community)

The Mac and Cheese Lunch raises awareness about poverty and other issues facing inner city residents and generates resources for a group of agencies providing services to this population. Through working together and increasing awareness, solutions to some of the problems may be uncovered. United Way provides financial management, marketing and committee support to this event in partnership with the Inner City Agencies Foundation.

Edmonton's School Lunch Program (Distribution of \$136,588 to the community)

School Lunch Program provides a well-balanced lunch for children so that they can concentrate on their schoolwork and not on their hunger. United Way distributes a mailer in the community in partnership with E4C to raise funds for this program, which currently operates in 14 participating schools and provides one third of a child's daily nutritional requirements. This co-fundraiser is in partnership with E4C.

Great Human Race (Distribution of \$167,131 to the community)

The Great Human Race is a community event that is designed to strengthen the capacity of the non-profit sector. It offers the necessary infrastructure to all non-profit organizations so that they may use it as a platform for fundraising. The Great Human Race is also designed to encourage volunteerism and citizenship. All individuals are empowered to walk 5 km or run 10 km on behalf of any non-profit organization of their choice.

6. Donor Designations – Member and Non Member Agencies - \$3,275,000

Donor choice options reflect a total of \$ of investment into community agencies Canada wide. The majority of this is invested in Capital Region programs. These are unencumbered program dollars and in the case of our Member Agencies, they may be reinvested into any of the services they offer. Agencies are not accountable to United Way directly for these dollars in their financial reporting but it is evident that the majority of funds are invested into specific United Way programming.

7. Community Investment Process - \$669,679

United Way takes the lead in ensuring transparency and accountability in the stewardship of donor dollars. Through our participation and liaison role with Member Agencies and with Community Partnerships, we ensure accountability of United Way investments. Community Building and Investment (CBI) staff members work with agencies, organizations and partners to understand the most effective ways of collecting information so that we can understand and describe the results and the impact of the programs, services and organizations that we fund. CBI staff play an important role in monitoring and evaluating investments and in utilizing information to inform future decision-making. Implementation of our evaluation framework will advance this work in 2008.

8. United Way of Canada - \$154,185

United Way of Canada – Centraide Canada (UWC-CC) is a national organization created in 1939 and supported by 125 member United Ways and Centraides in Canada. It acts as a voice for the members within the Canadian voluntary sector and international level. It provides leadership, programs and services to its members which include: communications, training, statistical analysis, research, national publicity, policy development, standards of operations, consultation services in fundraising, fund distribution, operations, agency relations, management and voluntary leadership. The newly developed Standards of Excellence and the accompanying tools will be extremely valuable in guiding our community impact journey.

9. Public Education and Advocacy - \$ 54,411

Public education and awareness of social issues are critical to engaging citizens, professionals, politicians and business leaders to get involved in finding solutions to social problems. United Way will continue to offer and enhance opportunities for learning for a variety of audiences. We will also explore, with our staff, volunteers, Board and Cabinet Members, donors and partners, strategies and opportunities for influencing policies and practices that will improve conditions for children, youth and families in the Alberta Capital Region. Three other strategies United Way engages in creating awareness include our updated website, the Friends of the Way Initiative and the Community Matters Newsletter.