



The WindsorEssex Community Foundation and Green Shield Canada (GSC) Community Investment Granting Initiative Invests a Total of \$450,000 to Fund Local Programs that Address the Oral & Mental Health Needs of Windsor-Essex

Windsor, ON (October 19, 2021) – Today, the WindsorEssex Community Foundation (WECF) was joined by Green Shield Canada (GSC) to announce the successful recipients of the Green Shield Canada (GSC) Community Investment Granting Initiative.

A total of \$450,000 has been invested as part of the Green Shield Canada (GSC) Community Investment Granting Initiative, to support six local charities and fund local programs that address the oral and mental health needs of the Windsor-Essex Community, with a goal of impacting over 3,000 lives. This partnership between the WECF and GSC began in 2018 with the establishment of the GSC Community Impact Fund, a collaboration designed to support granting in oral and mental health areas that are typically under-funded and under-resourced.

The organizations funded through the Green Shield Canada (GSC) Community Investment Granting Initiative include:

- The **Canadian Mental Health Association Windsor-Essex County Branch** awarded \$50,000 to support their Building a More Mentally Healthy Community project.
- **South Essex Community Council** awarded \$65,000 to support their Building Routes to Mental Wellness Project.
- **Harrow Health Centre Family Health Team** awarded \$70,000 to support their Community Oral Health Care Project.
- **Trans Wellness Ontario** awarded \$75,000 to support their Queer and Trans* Mental Health and Addictions Services Program.
- **Life After Fifty** awarded \$95,000 to support their Post-Pandemic Support for Seniors' Mental Health through Socialization and Physical Activity Project.
- The **Multicultural Council of Windsor & Essex County** awarded \$95,000 to support their Oral Health and Wellness Project.

“On behalf of the WECF we want to thank Green Shield Canada for providing us with the opportunity to continue to address the oral and mental health needs of the Windsor-Essex Community. We are honoured to be a part of this initiative and are excited to have been able to grant \$450,000 today to support worthy programs that address the oral and mental health needs of Windsor-Essex. This partnership between the WECF and GSC began in 2018 with the establishment of the GSC Community Impact Fund, a collaboration designed to support granting in oral and mental health. Over the past few years, this fund has invested in projects with eight local charities to fund local programs that address the oral and mental needs of the Windsor-Essex Community. Today’s renewed investment will mark the continued expansion of the partnership between GSC and the WECF and offer critical support to local charitable organizations in a time of increased need. Congratulations, once more to the grant recipients, we look forward to seeing the positive impact your projects will have in our community.”
– **Lisa Kolody, the WECF Executive Director**

About Green Shield Canada

GSC is Canada’s fourth-largest health and dental benefits provider and is uniquely structured as a social enterprise with the purpose of making it easier for people to live their healthiest lives. From coast to coast, our service delivery includes drug, dental, extended health care, vision, hospital and travel benefits for groups and individuals, as well as administration and benefits management services. Supported by outcome-based sustainability strategies, advanced technology, and exceptional customer service, GSC creates innovative programs for nearly four million plan participants nationwide.

[greenshield.ca](https://www.greenshield.ca)

About WindsorEssex Community Foundation

The WindsorEssex Community Foundation, originally founded in 1983 as Heritage Windsor, is a perpetual community trust for philanthropic purposes. It exists to manage donors' legacy funds and make grants to support local community programs. Through grant making activities, the WECF is able to establish partnerships to assist a broad range of community organizations. Learn more here: www.wecf.ca.

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