Windsor Essex Community Foundation

GOOD TO GIVE GUIDE
2026-2027



INSPIRING PHILANTHROPY, TO BENEFIT OUR COMMUNITY,
TODAY AND FOREVER!



ABOUT OUR GUIDE

Each Fall, the WindsorEssex Community Foundation provides grants to local charitable organizations through its annual Community Impact Grant Program. In 2026, WECF received applications from 65 organizations seeking more than $890,000 in funding.

We are humbled by the overwhelming response from our charitable partners, who shared the meaningful and impactful work they are doing in our community. This year, we are proud to support seven organizations.

While we are unable to fund every application, we recognize the importance of all the initiatives submitted. We are pleased to highlight these projects and draw attention to the ongoing funding needs within the Windsor-Essex community.

This guide has been created as a resource to help you learn more about the organizations and initiatives that applied for the 2026-2027 Community Impact Grant and are still seeking support. We hope it inspires you to explore the incredible work happening across Windsor-Essex. When considering charitable donations, we encourage you to engage directly with organizations and build relationships as part of your due diligence.

The WindsorEssex Community Foundation is dedicated to strengthening communities across Windsor-Essex County through collaboration, strategic leadership, and innovative approaches to charitable giving. For over 43 years, WECF has worked to enhance quality of life and create opportunities for prosperity for residents throughout Windsor and Essex County.

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VITAL SIGNS

We use 11 Vital Signs issue areas to guide our grant-making by using local data and community input to identify the greatest needs and priorities, ensuring funding is directed where it will have the most impact.

- **ARTS & CULTURE**
- **FOOD SECURITY**
- **LEARNING**
- **SAFETY**
- **BELONGING & LEADERSHIP**
- **GETTING AROUND**
- **HOUSING**
- **WORK**
- **ENVIRONMENT**
- **GETTING STARTED**
- **HEALTH, WELLNESS & ACTIVITY**

ABRIDGED OPERA

Vintage Voice in Residence brings free, professional vocal workshops from Abridged Opera directly into Windsor-Essex retirement homes, in partnership with South Essex Community Council, to help older adults understand their changing voice and keep singing with confidence.

Project/Initiative: Vintage Voice in Residence
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.abridgedopera.com

Funded in 2026

ART WINDSOR-ESSEX

AWEmerge is Art Windsor-Essex's youth engagement initiative designed to increase access to arts and culture for young people across Windsor-Essex through leadership development, mentorship, creative exploration, and community-building opportunities.

Project/Initiative: AWEmerge Youth Leadership Program
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.artwindsoressex.ca

ASSIST GROUP FOR PUTTING YOUTH IN SPORT

Funding will help remove financial barriers that prevent children and youth from participating in organized sports. Over 40 youth will immediately benefit by being able to join organized sport that financial limitations may have prevented otherwise. These youth that benefit will have lasting memories of being part of sports and or teams. They will have the opportunity to make lifelong friends and a build a strong support system while staying physically fit. There are numerous health benefits of joining sport that youth will benefit from, both short term and long term. $15,000 would go a long way to help more youth in need.

Project/Initiative: 2027 Youth Sport Registration Assistance
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.assistwindsoressex.ca

Funded in 2026

ASSUMPTION UNIVERSITY

The Building Belonging: A Campus Community Initiative, launching in September 2026, provides an inclusive, welcoming, and safe space at Assumption University Campus Ministry where students from Assumption University, the University of Windsor, Assumption Catholic High School (Grades 11 and 12), and international students can access nutritious food, build community, study, and receive support regardless of their faith, culture, or background.

Project/Initiative: Building Belonging: A Campus Community Initiative
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.assumptionu.ca

ATHLETES EMPOWERED

The Keep Me Safe Program is designed to support all trusted adults who influence a child's experience in sports by building awareness of abuse, fostering open discussion, providing trauma-informed disclosure support, and implementing prevention policies centered on a "human-first, athlete-second" philosophy. The funds will support program evaluation/delivery, training of program facilitators, travel costs, printing materials, office supplies/equipment, uniforms, and food + beverage for participants.

Project/Initiative: Keep Me Safe Program
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.athletesempowered.ca

BIG BROTHERS BIG SISTERS

The BBBSWE Go Girls/Game On! Ford City Group Mentoring Program is a structured after-school initiative held three evenings per week for youth ages 10 to 14 that combines physical activity, peer discussion, and mentorship to build self-esteem, emotional well-being, healthy relationships, communication and life skills, positive lifestyle habits, and a strong sense of community in a safe and supportive environment.

Project/Initiative: Go Girls/Game On! - Ford City
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.windsor.bigbrothersbigsisters.ca

BIKE FRIENDLY WINDSOR

The Youth Bicycle Mechanics Education and Internship Program will provide vulnerable youth with bicycle mechanics education, skill-building and valuable job experience in the Windsor-Essex community. Funding will support the delivery of repair workshops, the creation of five fully equipped repair stations, and paid internships that help participants gain technical skills, workplace experience, and increased employment readiness.

Project/Initiative: Youth Bicycle Mechanics Education and Internship Program
Funding Requested: $11,450

www.bikewindsoressex.ca

Funded in 2026

BLACK KIDS IN ACTION PERFORMING GROUP

The Career Initiative Program/Get a job program empowers Black and racialized youth through mentorship, career exploration, educational guidance, employment readiness training, and networking opportunities. Funding will support educators, mentors, coaches, HR specialists, program coordination, and workshop delivery to help youth build confidence, prepare for employment, and pursue future career pathways.

Project/Initiative: Career Intiative Program/Get a job
Funding Requested: $14,880

www.bkia.ca

BULIMIA ANOREXIA NERVOSA ASSOCIATION

The Bulimia Anorexia Nervosa Association will execute a high-impact Eating Disorder Awareness Week campaign across Windsor-Essex, equipping local residents with tactile wellness tools, dynamic print media, and a community movie screening dedicated to mental health education. This will spark community-wide conversations about eating disorders through educational outreach, awareness campaigns, and a public film screening. Funding will support printed educational materials, outreach resources, and community events designed to reduce stigma, increase awareness, and connect individuals with pathways to care and support.

Project/Initiative: 2027 Eating Disorder Awareness Week Campaign
Funding Requested: $11,458

www.bana.ca

CANADIAN FEDERATION OF ENGINEERING STUDENTS

Summit on Development of Engineering Societies (SDES) is a national conference that brings emerging engineering leaders from across Canada to Windsor for high-impact training, bilingual programming, and industry engagement hosted in Windsor. Funding will support workshop materials, accessibility accommodations, and community engagement programming, enhancing the conference experience while showcasing Windsor-Essex as a centre for innovation and leadership.

Project/Initiative: Summit on Development of Engineering Societies (SDES)
Funding Requested: $25,000

www.cfes-fceg.ca

CENTRE FRANCOPHONE AFRICAIN DE WINDSOR-ESSEX

Bridges of Belonging is a 12-month community inclusion and well-being project that will support Francophone immigrant communities in Windsor-Essex through workshops, youth mentorship, digital literacy, employability support, seniors' engagement, volunteer development, and community connection activities. Funding will support program coordination, facilitators, supplies, participant supports, and community outreach activities that strengthen inclusion and belonging.

Project/Initiative: Bridges of Belonging: A Community Inclusion and Well-Being Project for Windsor-Essex
Funding Requested: $14,000

www.cfapfwe.com

CHILDREN FIRST CANADA

The Being, Belonging, Becoming (BBB) program is a dynamic learning toolkit for students, designed to build confidence, resilience, and leadership while fostering civic engagement. Funding will support educator training, bilingual curriculum development, classroom implementation, student workbooks, and youth-led social impact projects that will reach more than 1,200 students across participating schools.

Project/Initiative: Being, Belonging, Becoming
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.children-first.ca

CONNECTIONS EARLY YEARS FAMILY CENTRE

The Making Art Project will provide young children and their caregivers with hands-on creative experiences led by local artists. Funding will support artist honoraria and art supplies for activities that strengthen fine motor skills, creativity, emotional expression, problem-solving, and family engagement while ensuring participation remains free and accessible.

Project/Initiative: Making Art Project
Funding Requested: $6,000

www.connectwithus.ca

***Funded in 2026**

DOWNTOWN WINDSOR COMMUNITY COLLABORATIVE

This program uses culinary arts, mentorship, and community engagement to create a welcoming space where youth can build skills, confidence, and connection. Community Kitchen is leveraging the love of food, the importance of community, and the need for belonging to provide a place to "come home to" for more than 70 neighbourhood youth living in a historically underserved community. Funding will support staffing, food-handler certification, culinary training supplies, kitchen equipment, uniforms, meals, and program celebrations that recognize participants.

Project/Initiative: Youth Apprenticeship Summer and Ghost Gang Fall program
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.dwcc.ca

***Funded in 2026**

ENACTUS WINDSOR - ASCENT

Ascent is a youth entrepreneurship program that mentors students through the process of developing their own community-focused ventures while building skills in business, leadership, and innovation.

Project/Initiative: Ascent
Funding Requested: $5,000

www.enactuswindsor.ca

ENACTUS WINDSOR - REEDIFY

Reedify converts invasive Phragmites from an environmental threat into sustainable products while supporting First Nations-led ecosystem restoration and economic development.

Project/Initiative: Reedify
Funding Requested: $5,000

www.enactuswindsor.ca

ENACTUS WINDSOR - 100% FISH

100% Fish is a sustainable pet product venture that transforms fish byproducts sourced from local communities into nutritious, all-natural dog treats, reducing waste while creating value through a circular economy solution.

Project/Initiative: 100% Fish
Funding Requested: $5,000

www.enactuswindsor.ca

ESSEX COUNTY DIVERSION PROGRAM

Youth Diversion will develop a free online learning platform that provides evidence-informed education and practical resources for youth, families, educators, and community partners across Windsor-Essex. Funding will support platform development, self-paced educational modules, downloadable resources, accessibility features such as closed captioning and transcripts, community outreach, and program evaluation to ensure broad community access and impact.

Project/Initiative: ConnectED: Youth Diversion Prevention Learning Hub
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.ecyouthdiversion.ca

ESSEX COUNTY FIELD NATURALISTS' CLUB

This project will strengthen the committee's capacity by recruiting and training additional volunteers, increasing community awareness, expanding turtle rescue response through a dedicated hotline, and providing materials for volunteers to build additional nest protectors. Funding will support educational materials, volunteer equipment and safety supplies, a dedicated Turtle Hotline, conservation signage, and materials for nest protector workshops, helping protect vulnerable turtle species throughout Essex County.

Project/Initiative: Building Community Capacity for Turtle Conservation in Essex County
Funding Requested: $9,000

www.essexcountynature.com

Funded in 2026

FAITH MENNONITE CHURCH

Spark is a weekly after-school program serving children in Grades 1–6 at Margaret D. Bennie Public School. Each week, 24 children will gather in a forest setting to play, enjoy a healthy snack, and explore creative activities that build skills in art, reading, math, and everyday life. Spark provides enriching experiences for children while offering families reliable after-school support. Participants will strengthen their social, learning, and life skills in a nurturing environment. Junior Youth and high school volunteers develop leadership skills, earn service hours toward graduation, and gain valuable references for future employment. Funding will support program staffing, educational materials, and activity supplies, allowing participants to benefit from meaningful after-school programming

Project/Initiative: SPARK after school program
Funding Requested: $14,828

www.faithmennonite.ca

Funded in 2026

FAMILY SERVICES WINDSOR-ESSEX

Family Services Windsor-Essex will implement TIMMS Enterprise Module software to streamline client balance tracking and communication, reduce administrative time, and increase organizational capacity to meet the continued growth of new clients. Funding will support software acquisition, setup, and service costs, enabling more streamlined client tracking, improved communications, reduced administrative burden, and increased capacity to serve the growing number of individuals seeking support.

Project/Initiative: Expanding Client Capacity: Avenues Program
Funding Requested: $12,472.80

www.fswe.ca

GREEN UMMAH

Green Ummah will partner with Windsor Islamic Association to host a community cleanup series of 3–4 events in the Windsor area where youth, families, and community members will remove litter from local parks, streets, waterfronts, and shared outdoor spaces after participating in a safety and environmental stewardship session. Funding will support cleanup equipment and supplies, participant safety materials, educational resources, volunteer training, outreach, refreshments, and event coordination, helping create cleaner and healthier public spaces throughout Windsor-Essex.

Project/Initiative: Windsor Community Cleanup Series
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.greenummah.org

HABITAT FOR HUMANITY WINDSOR-ESSEX

Habitat Windsor-Essex will provide affordable, micro-financed critical and adaptive home repairs that help lower-income homeowners and seniors remain safely and independently housed while preserving existing affordable housing in our community. Funding will support direct repair costs, including materials and skilled labour, allowing Habitat Windsor-Essex to assist additional households while creating a revolving source of future repair funding through affordable homeowner repayment plans.

Project/Initiative: Microfinance Projects for Low Income Residents
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.habitatwindsor.org

HEM PENTECOSTAL CHURCH CANADA

This program is a 12-month community integration helping newcomers and refugees successfully settle, belong, recover, and live in Windsor–Essex through practical settlement support, counselling, and community connections. Funding will support volunteer recruitment and training, community workshops, service navigation, accessibility and transportation supports, outreach activities, and program coordination that help participants access resources, build community connections, and thrive in their new environment.

Project/Initiative: HEM Welcome and Thrive: Newcomer & Vulnerable Family Support Program
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.hemcanada.org

HIATUS HOUSE

Transitional Housing provides a safe, stable environment with wrap around supports for up to two years giving women and children the time they need to stabilize, heal and rebuild after leaving an abusive relationship. Funding will sponsor a one-bedroom apartment within the program, helping provide safe accommodation, stability, and access to the supports needed to heal and move toward independence.

Project/Initiative: A Place to Heal
Funding Requested: $10,000

www.hiatushouse.com

JENNIFER ASHLEIGH CHILDREN'S CHARITY

Our partnership will help Windsor/Essex families who have a child currently in hospital or active treatment cover essential out-of-pocket costs not covered by OHIP, including transportation, accommodations, meal support, medical supplies, and sibling childcare. Funding will allow local families to focus on their child's recovery rather than financial hardship.

Project/Initiative: Financial Relief for Windsor/Essex Families Caring for Children in Medical Crisis
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.jenash.org

JUNIOR ACHIEVEMENT SOUTH WESTERN ONTARIO

This project will connect youth across Windsor-Essex with JA's virtual Career Hunt exploration events, opening doors to exciting career pathways and real-world inspiration from industry leaders. Funding will support platform licensing, program delivery, volunteer management, and administration, helping more than 500 local youth build confidence, career awareness, and workplace readiness skills.

Project/Initiative: Empowering Windsor-Essex Youth: A Career Readiness Learning Experience
Funding Requested: $9,000

www.jaswo.org

KIWANIS SUNSHINE POINT CAMP

The generator will protect Sunshine Point Camp's seasonal food investment from spoiling through the major power outages that plague Harrow and surrounding areas. Funding will help protect food supplies, preserve camp operations, and ensure campers can continue to enjoy a safe and uninterrupted experience during unexpected electrical disruptions.

Project/Initiative: Sunshine Point Camp Generator
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.k00132.site.kiwanis.org

LEAMINGTON ARTS CENTRE

The Next Gen will provide youth in Leamington and in surrounding communities who are facing socio-economic barriers with free and accessible hands-on arts education and exhibition opportunities through a two-part partnership with The Bridge Youth Resource Centre and the Windsor Essex Community Housing Corporation, building a sense of community and confidence in the next generation of community artists. Funding will support art instructors, creative materials, transportation, hospitality, and program administration.

Project/Initiative: The Next Gen
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.leamingtonartscentre.com

Funded in 2026

LEARNING DISABILITIES ASSOCIATION OF WINDSOR-ESSEX COUNTY

Through Thrive Coaching Ontario, we aim to strengthen youth capacity in executive functioning, self-management, goal-setting, emotional regulation, and employment readiness. Funding will support direct coaching, ensuring participants can access these supports free of charge.

Project/Initiative: Thrive Coaching Ontario – Youth Coaching
Funding Requested: $5,000

www.ldawe.ca

MAKE-A-WISH CANADA

This project will restore strength, hope, and joy to the 44 children facing critical illnesses and their families who are currently waiting for their transformational wish in Windsor-Essex. Funding will contribute to direct wish costs, including experiences, travel, accommodations, and specialized purchases, while also supporting the coordinators who work with families and healthcare teams to bring each wish to life and reduce the local waitlist.

Project/Initiative: Wishes Are Medicine: Improving Children's Health and Well-being in Windsor-Essex
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.makeawish.ca

MIGRANT WORKER COMMUNITY PROGRAM

Growing Together is a series of inclusive events through which MWCP helps migrant and temporary foreign workers transition to life in Canada, build connections, share their cultures, and engage with the wider Windsor-Essex community. Funding will support food, refreshments, multilingual outreach materials, and event delivery for a series of community gatherings that foster belonging, inclusion, and social connection.

Project/Initiative: Growing Together: Migrant Worker Culture, Recreation and Community Events
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.mwcp.ca

***Funded in 2026**

OUR LADY OF GUADALUPE HOME

This project aims to create a child friendly patio play area by building an awning that will provide shade consistently throughout the day. Funding will support the installation of a permanent awning to create a comfortable outdoor environment where families can play, bond, and spend quality time together.

Project/Initiative: Patio Play Space Enhancement Project
Funding Requested: $12,954.32

www.ologhome.com

PARKINSON SOCIETY SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO

Parkinson Society Southwestern Ontario is looking to further expand social/emotional domain programs as well as initiate an educational opportunity for the Windsor community to learn more about Parkinson's Disease. Funding will help deliver physical activity programs, in-person supports, and awareness initiatives during Parkinson's Awareness Month and beyond.

Project/Initiative: Engagement and Education in Windsor
Funding Requested: $8,000

www.psso.ca

PAWS IN RECOVERY

The 2SLGBTQIA+ Community Connections Program will provide free, inclusive community outings for 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals in Windsor-Essex, reducing social isolation and increasing access to safe, affirming recreational, cultural, and wellness experiences. Funding will support staffing, transportation, admissions, meals, and activity costs, ensuring participants can engage in safe, inclusive, and affirming community experiences

Project/Initiative: 2SLGBTQIA+ Community Connections Program
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.pawsinrecovery.ca

PELEE ISLAND BIRD OBSERVATORY ECOLOGY GARDENS PROJECT

The Pelee Island Bird Observatory's Ecology Gardens Project will create a native-plant and pollinator habitat that strengthens biodiversity, supports migratory birds and pollinators, and provides hands-on environmental education for residents, youth, and more than 50,000 annual visitors to Pelee Island - helping advance conservation and bird friendly gardening across Windsor-Essex. Funding will support garden preparation, native plant purchases, educational signage, installation, and related materials.

Project/Initiative: Pelee Island Bird Observatory Ecology Gardens Project
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.pibo.ca

Funded in 2026

RONALD MCDONALD HOUSE SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO

Meals from the Heart provides freshly prepared, nutritious meals that bring comfort, nourishment, and a sense of normalcy to families staying close to their child receiving medical treatment. Funding will support food purchases, meal preparation, catering when needed, and essential program supplies, ensuring families can focus on their child's care without worrying about daily meals.

Project/Initiative: Meals from the Heart
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.ronaldmcdonaldhouseswo.ca

SAINTS STUDENT ATHLETIC ASSOCIATION

SSAA Women's and Men's Hockey Program helps reduce financial barriers that prevent students from participating in competitive collegiate hockey. Funding will offset participation costs, making team sport opportunities more accessible to students experiencing financial hardship.

Project/Initiative: SSAA: Woman's and Men's Hockey Program
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.saintsstudentathletic.org

SAKEENAH CANADA

Sakeenah Canada's Windsor long-term housing unit provides safe, subsidized housing and wraparound support including case management, mental health services, life skills development, and child/youth programming for clients and their children, who are transitioning from violence and housing instability towards independent living. Funding will help offset housing costs and support case management services.

Project/Initiative: Windsor Long Term Housing
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.sakeenahcanada.com

SANDWICH TEEN ACTION GROUP (STAG)

A free STEAM makerspace empowering youth in the Sandwich area to become the next generation of innovators through hands-on learning, meaningful opportunities, and future-ready skills. Funding will support classroom renovations, lighting, flooring, storage, accessibility, and safety improvements needed to create a modern learning environment.

Project/Initiative: The Future Makers and Digital Futures Project
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.sandwichteen.org

SANDWICH TEEN ACTION GROUP (STAG)

STAG Girls Group Revitalization is a project that aims to strengthen supports for female-identifying youth through mentorship, arts, culture, life-skills programming, and community experiences. Funding will primarily support dedicated staffing, along with transportation, activities, supplies, and program resources that foster leadership, confidence, and a stronger sense of belonging.

Project/Initiative: STAG Girls Group Revitalization
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.sandwichteen.org

SARE CENTRE

This project will equip young women aged 17-24 with the knowledge, skills, and confidence to recognize and resist sexual coercion and assault by delivering an effective, evidence-based program called Flip the Script with EAAA® in collaboration with local community organizations. Funding will support trained facilitators, educational materials, and participant resources that expand access to this prevention initiative across Windsor-Essex.

Project/Initiative: Flipping the Script on Sexual Assault for Young Women in Windsor-Essex
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.sarecentre.org

SICKLE CELL AWARENESS GROUP OF ONTARIO (SCAGO)

SCAGO will deliver a full year of quarterly peer support sessions, quarterly healthcare provider and community education sessions, and two large community gatherings for Windsor-Essex families affected by sickle cell disease, supported by family transportation assistance and a formal partnership with Windsor Regional Hospital. Funding will support sessions and gatherings, and transportation assistance for specialized medical appointments and program participation.

Project/Initiative: SCAGO Windsor-Essex Peer Support, Education and Community Building Program
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.sicklecellanemia.ca

SLOVAK HERITAGE FOUNDATION OF WINDSOR-ESSEX COUNTY

The project will preserve, research and digitize the history of the Slovak community in Windsor-Essex while expanding regular public access to the Slovak Heritage Room and creating educational exhibits, presentations and resources that share this history with the broader community. Funding will support historical research, digitization of archives, exhibit development, public programming, and community outreach.

Project/Initiative: Solcz Family Slovak Heritage Room – Preservation, Digitization & Community Access Project
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.slovakheritage.ca

Funded in 2026

SOUTH ASIAN CENTRE OF WINDSOR

Chai Chats: South Asian Seniors Social Connection Program is a culturally responsive social connection program engaging South Asian seniors through regular meetings, wellness activities and cultural programming. Funding will support program coordination, supplies, refreshments, and the creation of a community video documenting seniors' experiences and contributions.

Project/Initiative: Chai Chats: South Asian Seniors Social Connection Program
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.sacwin.org

SOUTHWESTERN ONTARIO GLEANERS ORGANIZATION

The Volunteer Experience Enhancement Project aims to improve the comfort and well-being of the volunteers who make the organization's work possible. Funding will support workplace enhancements, including ergonomic seating and related improvements that reduce fatigue, improve volunteer experiences, and support long-term volunteer retention.

Project/Initiative: Volunteer Experience Enhancement Project
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.swogleaners.ca

Funded in 2026

TETRA SOCIETY OF NORTH AMERICA

Tetra builds innovative solutions for people with physical disabilities to overcome environmental barriers, providing greater independence, quality of life, and inclusion. Funding will support the design and construction of several adaptive devices that improve accessibility and quality of life.

Project/Initiative: Tetra Windsor - Custom Assistive Devices Breaking Barriers
Funding Requested: $5,000

www.tetrasociety.org

THE CORPORATION OF THE CITY OF WINDSOR

Earth Day Windsor-Essex 2027 will expand one of the region's largest free environmental events by connecting thousands of residents with immersive environmental education, hands-on experiences, and native tree and pollinator plant distributions that inspire lasting environmental stewardship, strengthen biodiversity, and build a healthier Windsor-Essex. Funding will support educational workshops, take-home resources, accessibility improvements, and visitor engagement activities.

Project/Initiative: Earth Day Windsor Essex Enhancement Project
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.citywindsor.ca

THE CORPORATION OF THE TOWN OF ESSEX

The Town of Essex is enhancing accessibility and inclusion by replacing the existing Mobi-Mat at Colchester Beach to ensure that residents and visitors of all abilities can safely and independently access the beach and waterfront. Funding will support the purchase and installation of a new accessible pathway, allowing individuals who use wheelchairs, walkers, strollers, and other mobility devices to safely and independently access the beach.

Project/Initiative: Enhanced Accessibility at Colchester Beach
Funding Requested: $14,450

www.essex.ca

Funded in 2026

THE MULTICULTURAL COUNCIL OF WINDSOR-ESSEX

As a partner of United Way for the Ignite Academy, this funding will strengthen the food component of the program, which provides academic support to students attending local schools in Windsor's low-income, high-risk neighbourhoods, including Begley Public School, Brock Public School, St. James Catholic School, and Immaculate Conception School, by providing additional nutritious snacks and meals to participating children. Funding will provide nutritious meals and snacks for participating students, as well as grocery gift cards.

Project/Initiative: Food Security Support
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.themcc.com

THE REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD, ADULLAM HOUSE OF REFUGE

The Nourishing Hope Program is designed as a practical, dignified, and sustainable response to the challenge of food insecurity affecting individuals and families throughout Windsor-Essex. Funding will support food purchases, participant subsidies, transportation and delivery, packaging materials, food-handling supplies, volunteer training, and program coordination.

Project/Initiative: Nourishing Hope: Subsidized Community Good Food Box Program
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.rccg.org

THE UNITED CHURCH DOWNTOWN MISSION OF WINDSOR

This project repairs and protects the Mission's food-storage cooling system, so the Food Bank can safely hold rescued and donated food at proper temperature, while keeping the FRESH program's cold chain intact for the 18 community organizations and programs it supplies. Funding will support the installation of a new cooling system.

Project/Initiative: Protecting the Food Bank
Funding Requested: $13,923.62

www.downtownmission.com

THE WINDSOR RESIDENCE FOR YOUNG MEN (WRYM)

Food for Home will strengthen WRYM's existing food-security initiative for current residents and formerly homeless youth connected to WRYM through Aftercare. Funding will be used entirely for staple foods, groceries, and meal ingredients, helping provide more consistent meals and food packages for young people working toward stable housing and independence.

Project/Initiative: Food for Home
Funding Requested: $12,000

www.wrym.ca

TRANS WELLNESS ONTARIO (TWO)

The TWO peer support program connects clients with peer support workers who provide support and guidance at any stage of an individual's gender journey. Funding will support peer support staff and program delivery, helping participants access healthcare, housing, employment, legal, and social services while reducing barriers and fostering community connection.

Project/Initiative: Peer Support Program
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.transwellness.ca

UNIVERSITY OF WINDSOR

This project will create a vibrant, community-led native garden and vegetable-growing initiative that addresses food insecurity through fresh food and hands-on workshops such as canning and pickling. The workshops incorporate Indigenous knowledge and learning, supports bird-friendly habitats, expands volunteer opportunities, and strengthens community connection, participation, and well-being. Funding will support the development of the garden and delivery of the workshops.

Project/Initiative: Seeds of Connection: Growing Food, Nature, Knowledge & Community
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.uwindsor.ca

WINDSOR CANCER CENTRE FOUNDATION

Windsor Cancer Centre Foundation is looking to acquire a new Bladder Scanner, which will enhance patient comfort, dignity, and efficiency of care by purchasing a new bladder scanner for clinical use. Funding will cover the purchase of the equipment, helping reduce wait times, improve patient assessment, and support timely cancer treatment and care.

Project/Initiative: Bladder Scanner
Funding Requested: $12,000

www.windsorcancerfoundation.org

WINDSOR GOODFELLOWS CLUB

This project supports individuals and families experiencing food insecurity in Windsor, Tecumseh, and LaSalle through the organization's year-round community assistance programs. Funding will be directed across the Goodfellows' core poverty-relief initiatives, helping ensure vulnerable residents have access to essential food and support.

Project/Initiative: Alleviate the Burden of Poverty in Windsor, Tecumseh and LaSalle
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.windsorgoodfellows.org

Funded in 2026

WINDSOR INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL

Women of WIFF, a film program dedicated to celebrating women in film, is committed to empowering current and forthcoming generations of women in Windsor-Essex and advocating for gender equality through film. Funding will support film screenings, guest speakers, theatre rentals, travel and accommodation for presenters, marketing, and audience engagement activities that make the program accessible to the community.

Project/Initiative: Women of WIFF
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.windsorfilmfestival.com

Funded in 2026

WINDSOR LIFE CENTRE

The Empowering Staff, Transforming Lives project aims to equip the staff with the necessary training and resources to help the women coming through our doors attain stability in their recovery. Funding will provide professional development opportunities to allow the staff to better assist program participants on their journey toward stability and wellness.

Project/Initiative: Empowering Staff, Transforming Lives
Funding Requested: $12,666

www.windsorlifecentre.com

WINDSOR LIGHT MUSIC THEATRE

Windsor Light Music Theatre has a multi-level rehearsal space which is used regularly by our members, many of which have increasing mobility limitations that would be aided by the addition of a stairlift in our lobby. Funding will contribute toward the project cost, helping ensure that anyone with mobility challenges can fully participate in theatre activities and programs.

Project/Initiative: Stairlift Accessibility Project
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.windsorlight.com

WINDSOR SYMPHONY ORCHESTRA

The WSO's Social Prescription program bridges the gap between clinical programs and the arts by offering complimentary concert tickets to patients who receive prescriptions from their health practitioner as part of their overall course of mental health care. Funding will support ticket subsidies, participant outreach, administration, and program delivery,

Project/Initiative: Social Prescription
Funding Requested: $13,766

www.windsorsymphony.com

Funded in 2026

WINDSOR-ESSEX CHILD/YOUTH ADVOCACY CENTRE (WECYAC)

As Windsor-Essex's only specialized child and youth victim advocacy centre, WECYAC will help 30 children and youth following a police investigation by identifying their needs, connecting them with counselling or mental health services, and checking in until they are connected to the support they need. Funding will support frontline advocacy services, referral coordination, case management, and program administration.

Project/Initiative: Post-Investigation Support for Child and Youth Victims of Crime
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.wecyac.ca

WINDSOR-ESSEX CHILDREN'S AID FOUNDATION

The Foundation's Bursary Program provides youth served by the Windsor-Essex Children's Aid Society with equitable access to post-secondary education through financial assistance for tuition and education and living related expenses. Funding will provide fifteen $1,000 bursaries.

Project/Initiative: Bursary Program
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.wecas.on.ca

WINDSOR-ESSEX THERAPEUTIC RIDING ASSOCIATION

Growing Together: An Inclusive Natural Play Space will create an accessible outdoor environment where children, families, seniors, and community members of all abilities can play, learn, connect with nature, and thrive. Funding will support accessible surfacing, sensory features, educational signage, and inclusion-focused enhancements that ensure the space is accessible.

Project/Initiative: Growing Together: An Inclusive Natural Play Space
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.wetra.ca

WOMEN'S ENTERPRISE SKILLS TRAINING OF WINDSOR INC. (WEST)

A new 10-episode community education series where prominent Windsor-Essex leaders and WEST staff will co-host conversations on removing systemic barriers to employment for visible minority women, creating a free, permanent, and accessible resource aligned with Vital Signs priorities of Work & Economy, Gender Equality, and Belonging & Inclusion. Funding will support production equipment, editing, accessibility features including captioning and transcripts, and promotional activities.

Project/Initiative: WEST Voices: Breaking Barriers – A Community Learning Podcast Series
Funding Requested: $15,000

www.westofwindsor.com



YOUTH WELLNESS HUB WINDSOR ESSEX

This project combines practical cooking education with direct food supports for youth to help address local food insecurity. Funding will provide food for weekly cooking groups and the Food Pantry, helping participants build life skills, improve food security, and access healthy meals in a low-barrier, supportive environment

Project/Initiative: Nourishing Futures: Empowering Windsor-Essex Through Cooking Skills, Grocery Support, and Food Security
Funding Requested: $10,000

www.youthhubyqg.com



INSPIRING PHILANTHROPY, TO BENEFIT OUR COMMUNITY, TODAY AND FOREVER!

The Foundation was originally established with the goal of protecting, enhancing, and preserving one of Windsor and Essex County's most cherished assets: our beautiful waterfront. In honour of this milestone year, we commissioned local artist Sydney Taylor to create a unique design that would reflect some of the WECF's historical community investments, as well as those created in honour of the WECF's 40th Anniversary with our community partners. This design, pictured on the front cover of this report, reflects many of our historical community investments tied to the waterfront. These projects include recognizable landmarks, places to gather, rest & engage in recreation, and natural enhancements to an already beautiful landscape that is the heart of our community.

Thank you for helping us to inspire philanthropy, for over the past 43 years and for generations to come!



WINDSORESSEX COMMUNITY FOUNDATION

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