

Seniors Funding FAQ/Resource Guide

What did the Federal Government announce?

On Sunday March 29, 2020 the Prime Minister announced funding to UWC to support vulnerable seniors at risk due to the COVID-19 Crisis. This funding is intended to support community agencies' supports for isolated seniors in all parts of Canada including rural and remote communities. Funding in the amount of \$9M will be distributed through the UWC network in Canada via United Way Centraide Canada. Funding is coming from the New Horizons for Seniors Program and is the first step the Government is taking to put in place a program of supports for vulnerable Canadians and charitable sector organizations.

How will the funds be distributed?

The funds will be distributed through an existing senior's program called New Horizons for Seniors Program (NHSP). United Way Centraide will redistribute this funding to local United Ways. Local United Ways will then allocate the funding to local senior-serving organizations that are delivering a range of community services including meeting basic needs like food, hot meals and personal care items, outreach and social support through check-ins with seniors, transportation and other services.

When will funding be distributed?

United Way Centraide is required to distribute funding to the United Way network by April 30th. At this point, United Ways will then proceed with internal processes to distribute the funds to community organizations as quickly as possible. More information will be made available as it is released.

Can individuals access this fund?

These emergency funds are intended to help community service providers address the needs of vulnerable seniors dealing with the impact of COVID-19 isolation measures. Our United Way is working closely with local public health authorities to coordinate this investment where it is needed most urgently. For information about community services and supports available in your community please contact 211 North.

Can agencies apply for these funds?

The \$9m fund will be distributed through the United Way Centraide network for investment in senior-serving agencies in local communities providing urgent support to isolated seniors dealing with the impact of COVID-19 measures. Our United Way is working closely with local public health authorities to coordinate this investment where it is needed most urgently. This direction will ensure rapid and flexible response in communities so that vulnerable seniors can quickly get the supports they need. More details will be available as soon as the distribution criteria and process are finalized.