



2026 ANNUAL REPORT



United Way
Centraide

mccarthy
tetrault



PARTNERING FOR WHAT'S NEXT

We are living through a period of profound change. Across Canada, communities are feeling the effects of rising costs, growing mental health pressures, and persistent inequities.

These challenges are complex, and they do not affect everyone equally. At United Way Centraide, this reality shapes our work every day.

We see both the urgency of the needs and the strength of the people and communities responding to them. Women, Indigenous Peoples, newcomers, 2SLGBTQ+ communities, and people with disabilities continue to face disproportionate barriers, and they are also leading change in meaningful and important ways.

This is why partnership matters. Lasting progress depends on people and organizations coming together with a shared commitment to building stronger, more inclusive communities. It requires listening, trust, and sustained investment in solutions shaped by lived experience.

With partners like you, we are supporting pathways for women in leadership, strengthening community-based mental health initiatives, and advancing equity through programs designed with and for the communities they serve. Together, we are helping create the conditions for more people to thrive.

The pages ahead reflect the impact of that work across the country. They also reflect something we deeply value: the belief that a better future is built through collaboration, persistence, and a willingness to act.

Thank you for your partnership and leadership. We are proud to work alongside you in building a future full of opportunities.



Dan Clement

President and CEO

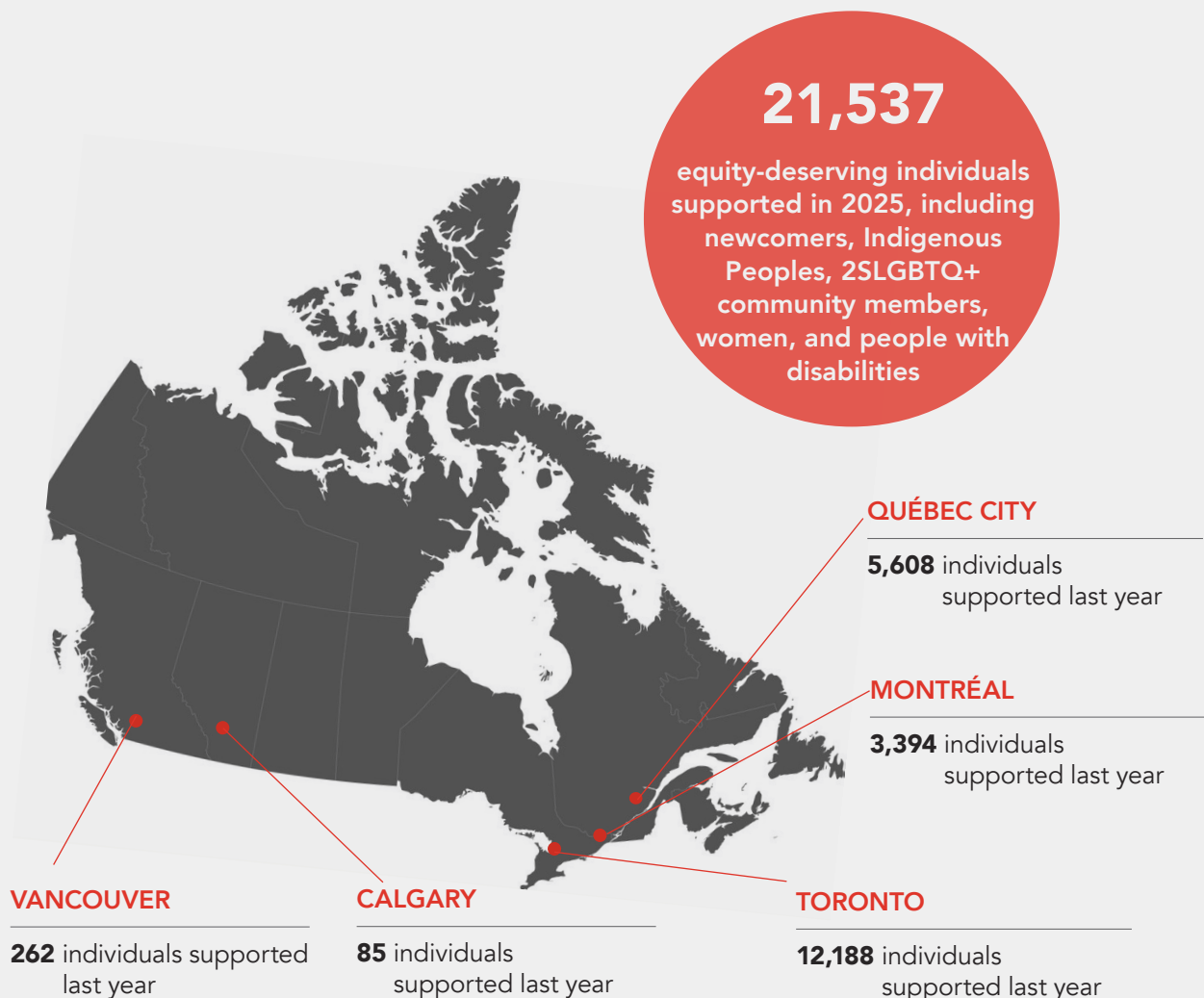
United Way Centraide Canada

COAST TO COAST, COMMUNITY BY COMMUNITY

Across Canada, your support is helping build stronger, more inclusive communities where more individuals can access opportunity, connection, and support. Together with United Way partners, McCarthy Tétrault continues to invest in programs that respond to local needs while advancing equity for communities that continue to face systemic barriers – including Indigenous Peoples, 2SLGBTQ+ communities, women, newcomers, and people living with disabilities.

From culturally grounded programs and mentorship opportunities to community-led services that cultivate belonging and well-being, your commitment is creating meaningful impact in cities and communities across the country. Every initiative funded reflects a shared belief: that lasting change happens when people are empowered, supported, and connected.

Here's a snapshot of the impact your support is making across Canada:



A GUIDING LIGHT FOR A FUTURE MOM



Photo credit: Valérie Paquette

“ Marie Sia arrived in Montréal in 2019 after leaving Guinea and passing through Gatineau and Toronto. At every step of her journey, she was on her own, often facing unstable conditions, in search of a place where she could feel safe and begin to rebuild her life.

In 2024, an unexpected pregnancy changed everything. The baby’s father left within the first few weeks, leaving Marie Sia alone at a time that is especially hard for any future mom. Her job as an orderly grew difficult due to health complications and she soon had to stop working, cutting off her only source of income. Isolated, without family nearby, and unsure how she would make ends meet, she kept going despite it all. “I didn’t even know how I was going to pay my rent,” she recalls.

A turning point came during a home visit from a CLSC nurse, who told Marie Sia about **Women on the Rise**, a community organization that helps women build stronger, more independent lives. In urgent need of support, she decided to go.

As soon as she arrived, a calm came over her. “I felt welcomed, really,” says Marie Sia. “As if I didn’t have to be ashamed. They listened to me without judging me.”

The agency promptly offered Marie Sia her first food basket. She also discovered the workshops the agency offers. There, she met mothers such as herself, heard stories, and drew on the strength of others. “I was isolated,” she says. “In my country, becoming pregnant without being married is frowned upon. I was no longer speaking to my family. When I found the other moms here, I regained a community.”

The support she receives is constant: clothing, food, practical advice, a listening ear, and accompaniment to community resources — all offered with dignity, compassion, and respect for her own pace.

Today her son is one, and Marie Sia has begun planning for her future. She dreams of going back to school, either in pursuit of nursing or social work — two paths offering a mirror reflection of her own: to be there for others, as others were there for her.

“If I managed to get through all that, others can too,” says the woman who, despite every challenge, never lost her contagious smile. “You should never be afraid to ask for help.” //

— Marie Sia, Program Participant

ADVANCING INCLUSION TOGETHER

Thanks to your ongoing support, individuals and communities across Canada are gaining greater access to opportunity, connection, and inclusion. In the pages ahead, we invite you to explore the impact of your generous investment and the meaningful progress we are making together.

TORONTO

PROGRAM SUPPORTED

Rexdale Women's Centre provides trauma-informed support for refugee, immigrant, and racialized women affected by gender-based violence. Through culturally responsive crisis services, counselling, and peer-based group programs offered in multiple languages, women are supported in rebuilding safety, connection, and stability. The program serves women experiencing or escaping violence, including human trafficking, sexual assault, and abuse, many of whom face economic hardships and significant barriers to accessing essential services.



THE IMPACT

4,215 individuals served through the Community at the Centre program.

VANCOUVER



PROGRAM SUPPORTED

United Way British Columbia School's Out Program supports newcomer and vulnerable school-aged children across British Columbia by providing safe after-school programs that promote learning, well-being, and connection. Through educational support, mentoring, physical activity, and life-skills development, children gain confidence, improve social and emotional resilience, and build a strong foundation for long-term success.

THE IMPACT

59% of program participants identify as refugees or newcomers.

NEWCOMERS

MONTRÉAL

“My family and I were fortunate to come across the Welcome Collective, which was a tremendous help by giving us access to a wide range of resources that made our settlement and integration process much easier. They helped us with school supplies for my son, warm clothing for the cold weather, food, and clear guidance on the steps related to the housing allowance and obtaining a work permit.”

— Program Participant,
Asylum Seeker from
Democratic Republic
of Congo

PROGRAM SUPPORTED

A network of newcomer welcome centres helps newcomers to Montréal receive coordinated support as they begin rebuilding their lives in Canada. Through a network of approximately 30 community agencies, the program helps migrants, asylum seekers, and refugees access settlement services, navigate local systems, and connect with the resources and community supports needed for successful integration and long-term well-being.



THE IMPACT

1,793 participants accessed inclusive spaces and community-based supports through the Montreal LGBTQ+ Community Centre’s *Compass Program*, with over **92%** identifying as asylum seekers.

5,414 individuals and children served by the Welcome Collective’s Drop-in Welcome Centre, supporting asylum seekers and newcomers in gaining access to essential needs.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

TORONTO

PROGRAM SUPPORTED

Aboriginal Legal Services, formerly *Aboriginal Legal Services of Toronto*, supports Indigenous individuals and communities in the Greater Toronto Area through culturally responsive legal services and Indigenous-led justice programs. By advancing community-based approaches rooted in Indigenous knowledge and traditions, the organization helps create more equitable and accessible pathways to justice.

THE IMPACT

30 parents completed the Dreams for Growing Children program, earning certificates recognizing their growth in setting healthy boundaries and supporting positive parenting.

VANCOUVER



PROGRAM SUPPORTED

United Way British Columbia School's Out Program creates welcoming after-school environments where Indigenous youth can feel safe, connected, and supported. Through mentorship, wellness supports, and skill-building opportunities, the program helps children strengthen their well-being and personal development.

THE IMPACT

27% of children at School's Out are Indigenous.

INDIGENOUS PEOPLES

CALGARY

Knowledge Holder, Tristen Monague facilitates bone carving teachings at Diamond Willow Youth Lodge, offering youth a culturally grounded, hands-on way to nurture creativity, confidence, and connection.

“*This carving group gives youth a chance to develop a sense of self-efficacy and recognize the capacity they naturally hold to create good things in their lives. The program is closely connected to Indigenous teachings and culture and instills skills to support good health.***”**

— Tristen Monague,
Knowledge Holder,
Diamond Willow
Youth Willow Lodge

PROGRAM SUPPORTED

Diamond Willow Youth Lodge is a youth-led gathering space where Indigenous youth in Calgary can connect, learn, and access culturally grounded supports in a safe and welcoming environment. Through programming shaped by youth voices — including cultural activities, mentorship, ceremonies, and community connections — the Lodge creates individualized opportunities for belonging, leadership, and personal growth, shaped around the unique needs and strengths of the youth.



THE IMPACT

25 cultural, ceremonial, and program-based opportunities offered to Indigenous youth.

68% increase in Lodge visits over the last year

2SLGBTQ+ COMMUNITY

TORONTO



PROGRAM SUPPORTED

The 519 Church Street Social and Systems Change Program helps organizations strengthen inclusive workplace practices and create safer, more supportive environments for 2SLGBTQ+ employees. Through policy development, staff education, and organizational support, workplaces are better equipped to implement gender-inclusive practices, support employees during gender transition, and create a culture of belonging.

THE IMPACT

247 organizations and networks served by the program.

TORONTO

PROGRAM SUPPORTED

Barbra Schlifer Commemorative Clinic's Advocacy Program

supports single-parent, immigrant, and refugee women experiencing mental health challenges related to violence and trauma. Through legal advice and representation in family, immigration, and criminal law matters, the program helps women facing poverty and complex legal barriers access critical supports that may otherwise be out of reach.



THE IMPACT

572 organizations and networks served by the program.

MONTRÉAL

PROGRAM SUPPORTED

Women's Centres and Agencies across Greater Montréal provide critical supports for women navigating poverty, homelessness, gender-based violence, mental health challenges, and settlement barriers. Through community programming, workshops, emergency resources, and skill-building opportunities, the network of nearly 30 agencies provides inclusive spaces where women can access resources, build resilience, and strengthen social connections.

THE IMPACT

1,713 women accessed educational, social, and recreational services through the West Island Women's Centre, representing a 60% increase in memberships over the last six years.

31 educational and employment workshops offered through Action travail des femmes, supporting **567** socio-economically disadvantaged women in accessing decent jobs.



QUÉBEC CITY

“ I have deep admiration for the young girls knocking on our door. They operate in sometimes very difficult contexts, but show resilience and make us grow through their too often winding road. I also do not forget the women who trust us, we are honored to walk by your side. ”

— François Soucy,
General Director,
Maison Richelieu
Hébergement
Jeunesse

PROGRAM SUPPORTED

Network of Women’s Services in the Greater Québec City Region brings together 40 community organizations dedicated to supporting women and families through housing, shelter, health, mental wellness, and parenting services. By creating strong community connections and responsive support systems, the network helps reduce isolation, meet essential needs, and create pathways toward greater connection, stability, and well-being.



THE IMPACT

280 individuals and their children accessed food and basic needs support through the Association des familles monoparentales et recomposées la Chaudière, with **76%** of single-parent families being led by women.

5,694 young women participated in prevention workshops offered by Maison l’Éclaircie, addressing issues such as substance use, mental health disorders, post-traumatic stress, and physical and sexual violence.

PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

TORONTO

PROGRAM SUPPORTED

Community Living Toronto's Bridging Diversity and Inclusion Program supports 2SLGBTQ+ individuals with intellectual disabilities, as well as newcomers to Canada, in accessing services and community supports. The program promotes safety, belonging, and meaningful participation in community life, while working to reduce barriers and strengthen inclusion for racialized families navigating intersecting identities and challenges.

THE IMPACT

1,334 individuals served by the program.



RECOGNIZING YOUR COMMITMENT

We are sincerely thankful to McCarthy Tétrault for your ongoing generosity and dedication to creating lasting community impact. Your support helps individuals facing poverty, exclusion, and systemic barriers feel seen, supported, and connected to the services they need to move forward with confidence and hope.

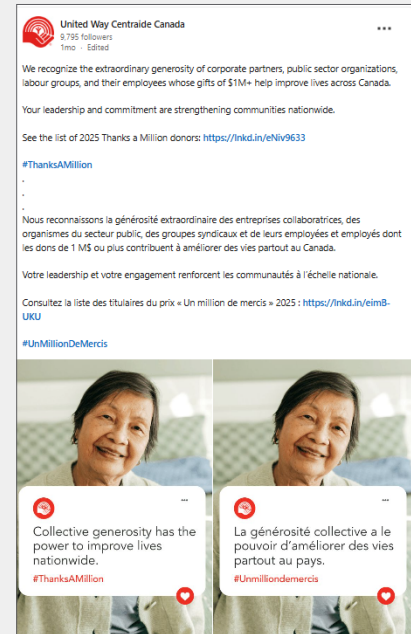
Your partnership continues to create meaningful change, and we were honored to recognize your generosity in the following ways:

RECOGNIZING YOUR COMMITMENT

NATIONAL

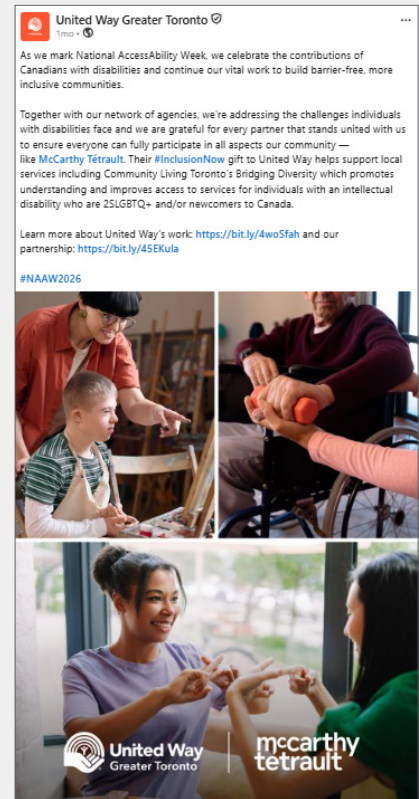
THANKS A MILLION

Your support was recognized nationally through ads in *The Globe and Mail* and *National Post*, celebrating your outstanding commitment of more than \$1 million in 2025 to strengthen communities across Canada.



TORONTO

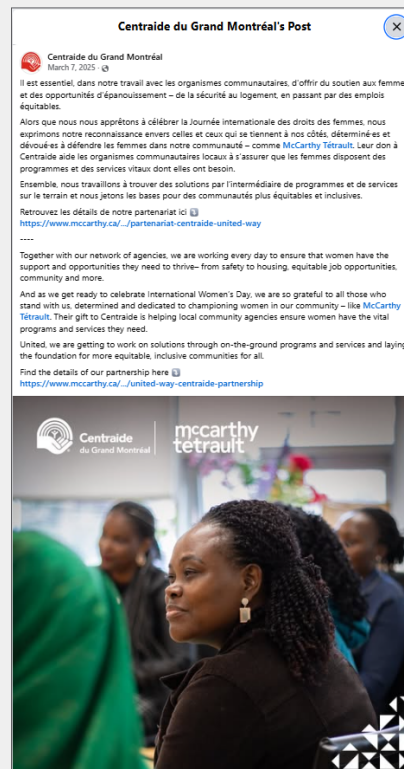
- Your leadership was recognized at our Local Leaders celebration, and through your inclusion as a Local Leader within the *Toronto Star*, *The Globe and Mail*, and on our website, showcasing the impact of your gift on our community.
- The Firm's commitment to advancing equity and inclusion was recognized through social media features on International Women's Day and National Accessibility Week, as well as a dedicated post highlighting McCarthy Tétrault's support of newcomers to Canada.
- McCarthy Tétrault's Major Donors, including Cabinet Members, were recognized in the Major Donor Circle Honour Roll, celebrating their leadership and generosity.



RECOGNIZING YOUR COMMITMENT

MONTREAL

The Firm was recognized among the Top 100 Workplace and Corporate campaigns on Centraide of Greater Montréal's website, highlighting its leadership and significant contribution to 66% of the 2025 Campaign result.



QUÉBEC CITY

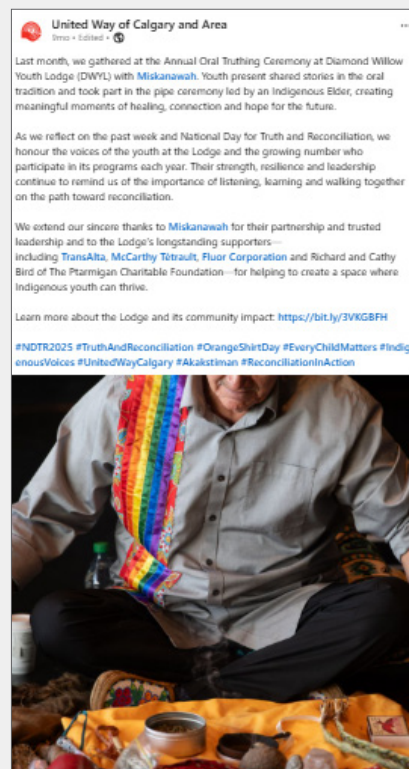
- McCarthy Tétrault was recognized as a Top 3 Centraide QCA campaign in the Law Firms and Advisory Services category and received a Distinction Award at Centraide Québec's annual recognition event in acknowledgment of this achievement.
- The Firm was also recognized as a *Grand Partenaire Centraide* in the Mobilizer category, surpassing \$100,000 in contributions for the first time.



RECOGNIZING YOUR COMMITMENT

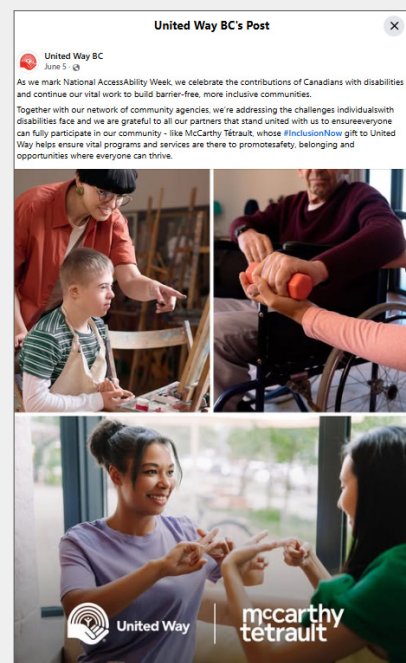
CALGARY

- McCarthy Tétrault's commendable community efforts were recognized across multiple channels, with 14 dedicated social media posts on Facebook, LinkedIn, and Instagram celebrating your commitment.
- McCarthy Tétrault was acknowledged on United Way Calgary's website, featured in the online Honour Roll, and celebrated in both United Way Calgary and Diamond Willow Youth Lodge's Annual Reports.



VANCOUVER

McCarthy Tétrault's commitment to inclusion was recognized across social media channels during National Accessibility Week and International Women's Day, highlighting the importance of advancing accessibility, equity, and inclusion, and reinforcing the ongoing work needed to continue building a more inclusive future.



THANK YOU

Our heartfelt thank you to McCarthy Tétrault for your meaningful partnership and unwavering commitment to advancing equity, diversity and inclusion. Your generosity is helping individuals and families across Canada access vital supports and opportunities that create belonging, resilience, and sustainable societal impact.

Together, we are helping remove systemic barriers, strengthen communities, and create pathways toward a more equitable future grounded in inclusion, compassion and opportunity. We are honored to have you as a partner, and for the leadership and care you continue to bring to this work.



**Centraide
United Way**

unitedway.ca

