

2009 Member Agencies and their Programs

Adult Recreation Therapy Centre

(519) 753-1882

Adult Day Program: provides various social, recreational and therapeutic activities to individuals with diminished physical abilities, frail socially isolated individuals and those with mild cognitive impairment related to early dementia. The program aims to assist individuals to maintain an optimal level of functioning that will help them remain independent in the community. Brantford program operates Mondays through Saturday. *(United Way funded program)*

County Adult Day Program: offers similar adult day program services in Paris for residents of the County of Brant on Monday's, Wednesday's and Friday's at the Willett site. *(United Way funded program)*

Aphasia Program: supportive conversation groups for individuals with aphasia, aimed at improving communication skills and confidence of participants. Tuesday's & Thursday's in Brantford, Wednesday's at Willett site.

Living with Aphasia: monthly information and support group

Big Brothers Big Sisters serving Brant, Brantford, Haldimand & Norfolk

(519) 759-3222

The vision of Big Brothers Big Sisters is that every child who needs a mentor, has a mentor. They are committed to providing youth with the highest quality, volunteer based mentoring programs in order to ensure healthy development, a safe environment, and positive outcomes for the children and their families.

One to One Big/Little Match: matching a child (Little) with an adult volunteer (Big) for three to four hours per week *(United Way funded program)*

In School Mentoring: matching a child (Mentee) with a Mentor within the school setting for one hour per week *(United Way funded program)*

Go Girls/Go Guys: uses a mentor (volunteer 18 – 28 years of age) approach in providing a seven week program to youth 12 -14 within a school setting that focuses on healthy lifestyles and choices. *(United Way funded program)*

Boys and Girls Club of Brantford

(519) 752-2964

Programs for Children and Youth: the Club provides a safe, supportive place where children and youth can experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships and develop confidence and skills for life. The Club offers a variety of programs for children and youth five to 21 years of age, ranging from summer day camps, to licensed after school care, evening recreation programs, and fitness opportunities.

Licensed Child Care: the Club operates three MCYS licensed child care centres.

Boys and Girls Club of Brantford continued:

Programs for Adults & Seniors: the Club has facilities to accommodate adults and seniors' fitness/wellness goals, and provides services during the day to adults with physical and/or intellectual disabilities

Transportation Program: provides transportation to/from facilities for members/users that may not have the resources or means to travel to the Club to participate in programs. Routes are designed to accommodate children and youth living in low income and/or subsidized housing areas in the city. *(United Way funded program)*

Brant Food For Thought

(519) 759-6164

Student Nutrition Program: supports the healthy development of children and youth to arrive at school ready to learn by providing nutritious foods including breakfasts, lunches and/or snacks; provides 58 programs to over 8,200 children and youth throughout Brantford and Brant County; provides workshops and skills training for volunteers involved with the nutrition programs *(United Way funded program)*

Brantwood Residential Development Centre

(519) 753-2658

Brantwood provides support to individuals with developmental and complex health challenges. Their goal is to maximize each person's abilities and independence in their community.

Community Day Program: offers support and comprehensive developmental activities for individuals who have multiple disabilities, are over the age of 21, and reside in a family home. The program enables families to maintain their family unit and have their son/daughter remain in the family home. *(United Way funded program)*

Group Homes: a warm, supportive environment is provided in 12 group homes in Brantford and Brant County

Residential Support: provides opportunities for participation in the activities of daily living such as cooking, cleaning, shopping, social/recreational and religious activities, etc.

Community Connections: a volunteer friendship program that promotes and facilitates the development of friendships and social connections between people with developmental disabilities and other members of our community

Therapeutic Services: offers professional, therapeutic and vocational/recreational resources; Hydrotherapy Pool, Sensory Stimulation Area and Snoezelen Room are used by various families and groups in the community.

Seating Clinic: designs and builds custom seating and positioning products which interface with wheelchairs to increase the level of functioning of persons with physical disabilities; available to individuals, agencies and facilities; authorized to assess and prescribe mobility devices under the Assistive Devices Program of the Ontario Ministry of Health.

The Canadian Hearing Society

(519) 753-3162 or (519) 720-0251 TTY

Provides support to individuals who are deaf, deafened or hard of hearing and their families.

General Social Support Counselling: provides support and advocacy to overcome obstacles and make connections to other community services, assist with government forms, etc. ***(United Way funded program)***

Employment Services: offers job-related career counselling, job leads and referrals, interview training, interpreters for interviews and assist employers with job accommodations and supports ***(United Way funded program)***

Technical Devices Program: carries the most complete range of communication devices that assist and augment communication, safety and independence, including smoke detectors, baby monitors, alarm clocks, amplified phones, TTYs (text telephones) and more ***(United Way funded program)***

Interpreter Service: American Sign Language service that facilitates communication between the deaf and hearing ***(United Way funded program)***

Sign Language Instruction: American Sign Language instruction to the public or by special contract to organizations interested in learning how to communicate with the deaf ***(United Way funded program)***

Hearing Care Counselling: assists seniors in carrying out daily activities independently and with reduced communication difficulties ***(United Way funded program)***

Information Community Outreach: provides unbiased information about deafness, hearing loss, and prevention of hearing loss, noise and its effects ***(United Way funded program)***

Connect Counselling: offers a range of counselling services such as: family counselling, relationship counselling, illness/depression/stress, sexual abuse, violence, verbal and physical abuse, and legal advocacy ***(United Way funded program)***

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB)

(519)752-6831

Registration and Referral: This is the first point of contact for anyone wishing to access CNIB's programs and services. Staff work closely with each individual to identify needs and goals, and make referrals to appropriate resources – within CNIB or with community agencies.

Assistive Technology Services: Provides information about the availability, selection, use and purchase of devices best suited to individual needs, through demonstration, assessment, training and technical support. ***(United Way funded program)***

Early Intervention Services: Provides supportive counselling, service coordination, information, advocacy and programming for children and their families. Early Intervention Services Specialists work with children from birth to school age (up to six yrs) and their families to assess developmental needs associated with vision loss, taking into consideration additional disabilities, and environmental needs to help schools accommodate students with vision loss. ***(United Way funded program)***

The Canadian National Institute for the Blind (CNIB) continued:

Computer Training: Provides instruction on how to use current computer programs to access information and communicate independently. *(United Way funded program)*

Consumer Products Support: Provides a unique retail experience in a supportive and interactive environment that allows people with vision loss to become familiar with devices prior to purchase.

Counselling: Provides support to people as they adjust to vision loss, or the combined loss of hearing and sight. *(United Way funded program)*

Deafblind Services: Provides access to information for people who are deafblind through case management, counselling, referral, literacy programs, intervention services and assistive technology.

Independent Living Skills: Provides life-skills training to help manage the essentials of daily living, with an emphasis on maintaining independence – from safe and effective methods of cooking and doing household tasks such as laundry, to banking, writing and personal care. *(United Way funded program)*

Low Vision Services: Provides functional assessments of visual abilities, information and training in the use of low vision devices, and instruction on how to maximize residual vision. *(United Way funded program)*

Indoor and Outdoor Travel: Provides instruction on how to move safely around your home, or travelling outside. *(United Way funded program)*

Support Services: Provides information and advocacy support for resources available at CNIB as well as resources focusing on social issues such as concessions, housing, finances and leisure pursuits, available from partner community resources.

Support and Self-Help Groups: Client group programs provide a venue to discuss work, home life, activities of daily living or leisure and community participation. *(United Way funded program)*

Library Services: access to newspapers and books in alternate formats

Volunteer Services: volunteers are trained to provide program support, such as in assistive device training. Other volunteer activities are in advocacy, advisory group support, fundraising and administrative support. *(United Way funded program)*

Canadian Red Cross Society

(519) 753-4189

Disaster Management Program: provides respite to individuals who experience a physical crisis such as fire or flood who have no insurance or other supports, especially for the first 72 hours; provide emergency personal preparedness training in order to assist community members to be prepared in case of an emergency with extra focus on reaching seniors, those with special challenges and youth. Community Outreach & Support – i.e. provides bottled water during heat alert. *(United Way funded program)*

Canadian Red Cross Society continued:

Meals on Wheels: provides hot and frozen well balanced meals to those who do not have access to regular nutritious meals, including seniors, recovering adults, the chronically ill and physically or mentally challenged individuals. Menus respond to a wide variety of tastes and special dietary needs such as bland, diabetic, low sodium, minced, celiac and pureed. Program also provides social interaction for isolated clients, respite for family and caregivers and a daily security check on the health, safety and well-being of clients. *(United Way funded program)*

Transportation: provides door-to-door rides for the physically and mentally frail, seniors and people with temporary or permanent disabilities to medical appointments and out-of-town specialist appointments; program is for ambulatory clients who are unable to access other transportation options including public transit and lack the financial resources to use profit-based services like taxis. *(United Way funded program)*

Widows Program: long standing social program for widows to meet and support one another in a common place. *(United Way funded program)*

Community Resource Service

(519) 751-4357

Advocacy: provides a support service to those needing and trying to utilize government programs designed to assist them during difficult economic circumstances; Advocate will help you if you have been denied benefits, or if your benefits have been discontinued.

Food Bank: There are many life circumstances that can leave a person or family struggling financially. Program provides support to both individuals and families needing food, and to community-based programs that support those needing food security. Clients of the Brantford Food Bank also have an opportunity to be supported in a variety of ways by internal programs and external referrals *(United Way funded program)*

Employment Services: provides individual and job search support; no scheduled appointment is needed

Christmas Baskets: provides Christmas dinner and toys to eligible individuals, families and children within the communities of Brantford, Brant County and Six Nations

Crossing All Bridges Learning Centre Inc.

(519) 751-0123

Core Program: offers continued learning opportunities including academic, life skills, physical fitness and recreation/leisure/craft skills for adults over the age of 18 with an intellectual disability. *(United Way funded program)*

Family Counselling Centre of Brant

(519) 753-4173

Individual, Couple, Family and Group Counselling: a community based, responsive, creative, compassionate and healing, professional counselling service to individuals, couples and families in distress in a confidential and ethical atmosphere *(United Way funded program)*

Credit Counselling Services: designed to assist individuals and families to acquire the skills necessary for financial stability. Quick facts: less than 2% of people who finish the program get into credit trouble again, almost 70% of clients' financial situations improve as a result of credit counselling and over 98% of their programs receive creditor co-operation. *(United Way funded program)*

Family Counselling Centre of Brant Continued:

Women's Groups: Women Initiating New Growth In Self-Esteem - designed to help women who are survivors of emotional, physical and/or sexual abuse; Peaceful Pathways - a group for assaultive women committed to ending aggression in their intimate relationships; Soaring above the Turbulence; Learning to Deal with Conflict and Anger; Flying together in Healthy Relationships. *(United Way funded program)*

Men's Group: Men On The Move - a men's group that explores how behaviour impacts relationships and families and seeks to assist men in understanding why they behave the way they do and what they can do about it. This group seeks to support men striving to end the occurrence of family violence in the home. *(United Way funded program)*

Developmental Services: provides special services at home for adults; Case Management, Behaviour Therapy/Consultation, Family Relief Services and Deafblind Outreach Services

Employee Assistance Program: services offered to businesses so that they can provide their employees with an EAP Program; EAP offers employees help before problems reach a crisis point, and before problems affect employee health, family life or job performance. The EAP offers professional counselling by therapists who hold a Master's degree in a counselling related field. Services are offered to employees and their families.

Kids Can Fly

(519) 448-1713

Launch Pad: early learning and parenting centers offer a free drop in program for parents and caregivers with children to age 6; it is a "learn by doing" environment aimed to help children with school readiness *(United Way funded program)*

Roots of Empathy: evidenced-based program delivered in elementary school classrooms with a goal of helping children develop emotional literacy (empathy) which will reduce bullying and aggression *(United Way funded program)*

Parachute Program: a free program geared to parents with infants in the first year. Eight session program where parent and child participate in music, lap games and discussions around raising an infant. *(United Way funded program)*

Book Camp: summer day camp that provides mentoring to children by professional authors, illustrators, editors, etc. *(United Way funded program)*

Blue Boxes for Books: outreach program puts boxes of quality books into community waiting rooms to encourage parents to read to their children and to provide literacy opportunities for children while waiting *(United Way funded program)*

Literacy Council of Brantford & District

(519) 758-1664

Provides a confidential service to adults who wish to improve their literacy and essential skills which include reading, writing, numeracy, oral communication and computer skills. Trained staff and volunteers work on a one-to-one or small group basis. Assist individuals to understand and fill out required forms. Provide a service to local businesses and organizations to assist them in making sure that their printed materials are clearly written so that people are able to read and understand them better. *(United Way funded program)*

Navy League of Canada – Brantford Branch

(519) 752-8821

Royal Canadian Sea Cadets Corps Admiral Nelles: provides a safe, fun environment for local youth aged 12-18 to interact with one another while developing significant life and work skills; free program for youth (***United Way funded program***)

Navy League Cadets Admiral Landymore: provides a safe, fun environment for local youth aged 9 to 12 years to interact with one another while developing significant life and work skills; free program for youth (***United Way funded program***)

Nova Vita Domestic Violence Prevention Services

(519) 752-1005

Crisis Line: The 24-hour crisis telephone line, 519-752-HELP, is available to anyone in the community who is in crisis, or who needs help and advice about an issue involving domestic violence. While many of the callers are woman who themselves are the victims of physical and/or emotional abuse, an increasing number of calls are from concerned friends, family members, neighbours and co-workers.

Emergency Shelter: provides 30 emergency beds for abused and/or homeless women and children. The shelter is open 24 hours a day, seven days a week, providing a safe haven, meals, support, information and referrals to other community resources. The child-friendly facility has both indoor and outdoor play areas. Children and adolescents receive the comfort and support they need from dedicated Child and Youth Workers. Call 519-752-HELP (4357)

Transitional and Housing Support Program: provides services for women who want to make the transition to an independent, violence-free life. Clients receive safety planning, assistance in obtaining housing, referrals to other community resources, accompaniment (i.e. to court, lawyer's office, other appointments), advocacy with social service agencies, home support and follow-up. Nova Vita owns and operates an eight-unit transitional housing service, which offers longer term residential stays for women and children in a setting that combines independent living with counselling and life skills training.

Community Counselling: Counselling provided to women aged 16 and over who are in – or have been in – an abusive relationship. Most counselling takes place in small group settings, where participants can draw support from one other. A senior women's group (WOW, Women of Wisdom) allows clients and counselors to address the special needs and concerns of this unique population.

Children Exposed to Domestic Violence Program: Children and adolescents aged four to 16 meet in small groups to deal with the violence they have witnessed against their mothers. Concurrently, the mothers attend separate sessions to discuss the impact of domestic violence on children and learn parenting/coping strategies. Childcare and transportation will be provided if required.

Challenge to Change - Men's Program: This 16-week program is directed at men who are, or are at risk of becoming, abusive towards their partners. Through group counselling, participants discover how the violence has impacted on their families, learn how to stop their abusive behaviours and develop new respect for their partners and their relationship. The safety of the participants' female partners is monitored through the Partner Check Program. Participants are offered ongoing therapeutic/crisis support throughout the program. (***United Way funded program***)

Nova Vita Domestic Violence Prevention Services Continued:

Caring Families: This prevention-based program helps parents create respectful adult relationships and a cooperative, positive co-parenting approach with their children. This 16-week program offers separate groups for fathers and mothers with an eight-week children’s group. Parents participate in an active learning model which supports reducing parental conflict.

Public Education/Awareness Program: This program is designed to heighten awareness of domestic violence in the community. The program provides group educational presentations to schools (secondary and post secondary), service clubs, community and church groups about domestic violence, teen dating violence, bullying, etc. All sessions are individually tailored to the needs of the group.

Sexual Assault Centre of Brant

(519) 751-1164

Counselling Program: provides individual counselling to female survivors of sexual violence aged 14 and over

Crisis Line Services: provides support and crisis intervention for any community member impacted by sexual violence (includes support for people, workers, partners and parents)

Public Education Program: provides prevention services, speakers, presentations, workshop, resources and promotion of issues connected to sexual violence in all its forms; community members/groups, institutions, schools, churches, and businesses may request a speaker

Advocacy: both individual (for survivors and prevention) and systemic (for prevention and to address the social conditions which allow sexual violence to be perpetrated and perpetuated)

Young Women’s Program: provides individual counselling sessions, advocacy, accompaniment, resources and referrals for female survivors of sexual violence aged from 14 to 19 years. Program also available for young women “at risk of sexual violence”. *(United Way funded program)*

Victim Services of Brant

(519) 752-3140

Victim Crisis Assistance and Referral Service (VCARS): provides on-scene response to assist victims of crime, tragic circumstance and disaster. Victims are provided with emotional support, practical assistance and referrals to other community agencies for long-term support.

Court Assistance Program: provides assistance and support to victims during the accused bail court hearing. *(United Way funded program)*

Support Link Program: provides victims of domestic violence, stalking and sexual assault with safety planning and a pre-programmed 911 cellular phone.

ALERT Program: assist victims of domestic violence with specific safety issues. *(United Way funded program)*

Licensed Child Care – the Y operates nine licensed childcare centres in Brantford providing care for up to 540 children from three months to 12 years old each weekday in programs throughout the city

Youth Health Fitness Recreation Leadership and Play Programs: children and youth programs that support the healthy development of children from six months to 15 years of age through health, fitness, and recreation and leadership programs. Y Family Program Center offered seven days a week; financial assistance ensures that these programs are available to all. *(United Way funded program)*

Day Camps: indoor day camp is offered at the Y Family Program Centre and Ryerson Heights Elementary School for children from J.K. to 12 years, outdoor day camp is offered at Camp Chippewa for children from 6 to 15 years. *(United Way funded program)*

Before and After School Programs: for children JK to 12 years provides working parents with quality care for their children

Immigrant Settlement Services: assists newcomer immigrants to settle successfully into the Brantford community; provides service in Spanish, French, Hindi, Punjabi, Urdu, Mandarin, Tamil, Malayalam, Bengali and Nepali; provides access to an Interpreter bank of 60 volunteers who can provide support in 36 languages.

The Host Program: a program where newcomer individuals and families are “matched” with community volunteers who provide support through friendship, mentoring and organized activities.

Youth Gambling Awareness Program: offers students, teens, adults and young adults accurate information about gambling as well as the skills to make informed life decisions around risk-taking behaviours. Youth Outreach Worker available to make presentations to schools, camps, campus and community groups.

Teen Esteem Program: Six week program offered to girls in grades six, seven and eight, in various elementary schools assisting pre-teen girls to explore their potential, raise self esteem and unlock the door to meaningful futures.