

# Making Hamilton the Best Place to Raise a Child

## Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction



**Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction** formed out of concern for our community's poverty challenge. It came together in May 2005 to understand Hamilton's high poverty levels, focus the community's attention on poverty and begin to find solutions.

### Early Successes

- Hamilton Poverty Matrix increases Hamilton's understanding of the impact of poverty.
- Making Hamilton the Best Place to Raise a Child: A Change Framework identifies critical points of investment in the lives of children, youth and their families.
- Over 40 partnerships and alignments developed.
- Key community funders including the Hamilton Community Foundation and United Way direct over \$7 million dollars to poverty reduction efforts.
- City of Hamilton returns a portion of the National Child Benefit Clawback to low income families impacting 6,412 children.
- "Starting Point Strategies" to address poverty in Hamilton developed.

### Poverty Reduction Strategy

- The 'macro' strategy is a broad community-level approach focused at the foundational community supports, policy and systems level change required for poverty reduction.
- Each of the Five Critical Points of Investment will be driven by strategic outcomes defined by a starting point partner.
- Local strategies and community solutions will be assessed to build community knowledge, synergies and best practice approaches.

### Community Partners

#### Roundtable Members

Rick Beauchamp  
Darlene Burkett  
Marcel Castura  
Mark Chamberlain (Chair)  
Tom Cooper  
Renate Davidson  
John Dolbec  
Bill Gair  
Dr. Lindsey George  
Peter Hutton  
Don Jaffray  
Paul Johnson  
Mary Lee  
Sandy Leyland  
Yvonne Maracle  
Councillor Brian McHattie

Bill Medeiros  
Carolyn Milne (Co-Convener)  
Chief Brian Mullan  
Joe-Anne Priel (Co-Convener)  
Dr. Elizabeth Richardson  
Ines Rios  
John Schalkwyk  
Leila Ryan  
Dr. Christopher Spence  
Darrel Skidmore  
Judy Travis  
Carl Turkstra  
Neil Turner  
Steve Varey  
Gary Warner

#### Starting Point Partners - Critical Points of Investment

Best Start Network  
School-Age Solutions  
Skills Development Flagship  
Hamilton Immigrant Workforce Integration Network (HIWIN)  
Affordable Housing Flagship

#### Community Partners - Local Strategies and Community Solutions

There are many community partners joining in developing Local Strategies and Community Solutions.



**TACKLING POVERTY**  
*in* **HAMILTON** *We can do it!*

