

Making Hamilton the Best Place to Raise a Child

Income Security Working Group



The Income Security Working Group was created to address the growing need for communication, cooperation and action on poverty issues. As a network, it seeks to involve people living with low income, those people working directly with them and those who are interested in issues of income security.

Income Security Working Group goals:

- To make connections with groups concerned about the growing income disparity.
- To support efforts to leverage new resources to help member groups and organizations with a major anti-poverty focus thrive and expand.
- To raise awareness of poverty issues.
- To act as a support mechanism for ensuring involvement of people living with low-income in all aspects of decision making.

Early Successes

- Seniors and Poverty educational sessions on the Guaranteed Income Supplement.
- Living Wage Coalition gathers 1,000 signatures on a petition.
- Presentations to the Hamilton District Labour Council, Hamilton Chamber of Commerce - Community Development Committee, Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction on a Living Wage and the Income Security Working Group.
- Special Diet Clinics held in partnership with Hamilton Health Providers against Poverty.
- Individuals living with low-income actively participate on the Hamilton Roundtable for Poverty Reduction.
- A presentation and report to the United Nations Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights on 'Right to an Adequate Standard of Living in Hamilton'.

Poverty Reduction Strategy

- To draw together diverse groups and individuals who are concerned about poverty.
- To increase participation of people living in low-income in efforts to reduce and eliminate poverty.
- To identify gaps in the current community anti-poverty efforts, particularly around policy advocacy, and find strategies to fill those gaps.
- To increase the linkages between our local efforts to reduce poverty and those efforts in other communities.
- To raise the general public awareness of the conditions of poverty and its root causes in order to build a groundswell of public opinion that will result in more equitable social policy.



Community Partners

- Social Planning and Research Council
- Housing Help Centre
- Hamilton Community Legal Clinics
- Urban Core Community Health Centre
- Hamilton Community Foundation



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

