

Investing in Our Communities

Being connected to our communities across Saskatchewan is a commitment we have upheld for the last 80+ years – it's part of our fabric and our Community Investment Program reflects just that. We partner with community and non-profit organizations that are making a meaningful difference in the well-being of communities across our province.

Our Community Investment Program aligns with our purpose to improve our members' and communities' financial well-being. We know it's only when someone's basic human needs are met that they can become financially well, which is why we provide financial support in three key focus areas:

- Financial literacy education programs
- Basic human needs programs: food, shelter, education, and health services
- Capital projects, specifically facilities that directly impact, improve, or benefit lives in the community and contribute to its economic growth and sustainability

In late March 2020, we made the difficult decision to pause our program due to COVID-19 and didn't accept applications for the remainder of the year. Given the circumstances around us, we shifted our focus to critical business functions and on serving our members through the health crisis.

Despite this disruption, we remained committed and supported 55 initiatives through our Community Investment Program, investing over \$1.5 million back into our communities. Beyond giving financial support, we also waived \$180,000 in banking fees for non-profits and charities, allowing them to use these savings to deliver additional care to clients who depend on their services.



STARS

To continue our support for basic human needs, such as critical health care services, and to put the most cutting-edge tools in the hands of the best talent to save lives, a new fleet of helicopters was needed in Saskatchewan. On behalf of our members, we are proud to have donated \$500,000 to the STARS Keep the Fight in Flight capital campaign.

Critical health care services are foundational to our purpose. By investing in STARS they can provide the very best in care when time is of the essence for our members, our employees, and all the people of Saskatchewan.

Canadian Mental Health Association

More than 200,000 people in Saskatchewan will experience mental illness in their lifetime. We're committed to supporting mental health care in the province by partnering with organizations such as the Canadian Mental Health Association (CMHA) who are providing cutting-edge services and supports for mental health. In 2020, we provided \$50,000 to CMHA to support the HOPE Learning Centre, the first Recovery College in Saskatchewan.



HOPE Learning Centre, Community Partner



Mobile Crisis Services, Community Partner

Farm Stress Line

Over the last two years, Saskatchewan farmers have faced several challenges during growing and harvest seasons, increasing the number of calls to the Farm Stress Line.

To continue our support for health services, ensuring this essential service is available to all individuals in Saskatchewan's agriculture sector, we donated \$100,000 to Mobile Crisis Services in support of the Farm Stress Line.

Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan

In 2020, the Black Lives Matter Movement not only brought attention to systemic racism for our communities, but also made us look internally at how we can start recognizing, educating, and making changes for the better.

We know it isn't enough to be bystanders and made a stand to do the work to aid in the fight for inclusiveness and equality. This included contributing \$10,000 to the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan (MCoS). MCoS is committed to promoting, fostering, improving, and developing multiculturalism in our province while working to achieve equality for all residents.



Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan, Community Partner



Mother Teresa Middle School, Community Partner

Mother Teresa Middle School

In recognition of the increasing number of youths facing significant social and emotional challenges that create barriers to learning, we entered a three-year, \$75,000 partnership with Mother Teresa Middle School (MTMS) - a first of its kind partnership in Canada, and is leading the education of mental health for students.

Towards the end of our second partnership year with MTMS, things changed due to COVID-19. The school closures in March reflected a very real gap in our society - the opportunity for equitable education.

Education is a basic human need, but that need cannot be met without technology solutions. MTMS helped to problem solve and support families in acquiring internet services for students. This not only provided equitable learning opportunities for the youth MTMS serves, but it has also facilitated a way for students to engage with their classmates through daily virtual instruction - all of which support greater mental health and well-being.

Boys & Girls Club of Saskatoon

Boys & Girls Club's mission is to provide a safe, supportive place where children and youth can experience new opportunities, overcome barriers, build positive relationships, and develop confidence and skills for life. They know that when families are supported, stronger families are created.

With our support of a three-year, \$36,000 partnership, the Boys & Girls Club was able to start a Parenting Program at St. Mary's Wellness & Education Centre in Saskatoon.

When faced with the challenge of COVID-19, the Boys & Girls Club of Saskatoon continued to support those they serve, by providing food and personal care packages for families in need, which also include online and education tools. Additionally, they extended the age requirement guidelines for their early learning centre to include school-aged children, providing a place to go for essential service parents' children.



Boys & Girls Club, Community Partner



Moose Jaw Transition House, Community Partner

Moose Jaw Transition House

With Saskatchewan's rate of domestic violence highest among all Canadian provinces, and the heightened risk of domestic violence during COVID-19, we partnered with Moose Jaw Transition House (Transition House) with a financial donation of \$6,500.

Transition House's mission is to work toward ending the cycle of abuse and violence within the Moose Jaw and district community. Transition House is a respected community agency, providing services to those experiencing interpersonal violence and abuse – offering five key programs: Shelter Services, Crisis Line, Community Outreach Program, Children Exposed to Violence Program, and Shelter Support & Follow Up Program.