

Dufferin County Equity Collaborative (DCEC)

Recap – What a Year!

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**DUFFERIN
COUNTY
EQUITY
COLLABORATIVE**

2020 in the News

- Harry and Meghan step back from “Royal” life
- Australian Bushfires
- UK exits European Union
- Previous President Donald Trump acquitted on impeachment charges
- Death of George Floyd
- Tokyo 2020 Olympics - Canada’s Maggie MacNeil named best female athlete

2020 for DCEC

Community Priorities for Roadmap

- Housing and Homelessness
- Employment
- Health Equity

Evolving Community Priority

- Lived Experience Advisory Network

Housing and Homelessness

2020 Outcomes

- Two Housing Support Workers – Collaboration between the County and DAFHT
- New transitional program Coordinated Access Transitional Housing (CATH)
- Hiring of landlord liaison role
- Funding available to assist with Arrears
- More Housing Allowances and Housing Benefits



PRIORITY #1 - HOUSING & HOMELESSNESS

2020 INTENTIONS & REALITIES

INTENDED OUTCOMES	2020 DISRUPTERS	REALIZED OUTCOMES
Increase awareness of housing and homelessness challenges in Dufferin County	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Number of individuals on the BNL and a visible unsheltered population • Skyrocketing rents/lack of affordable housing • Decrease in shelter capacity due to COVID-19 measures • Increase in Federal/Provincial funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation and distribution of over 3,000 "<i>If you know someone is homeless</i>" cards and extensive media campaign led to increased awareness
Explore options to increase supply of affordable housing options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ever growing housing waitlist • Lack of landlord engagement • Increase in Federal/Provincial funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • OPHI provided 57 housing allowances to households on the waitlist. COHB provided 17 housing benefits to households on the waitlist • Hiring of a landlord liaison led to better landlord engagement
Increase access to affordable rental housing options	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Individuals struggling to pay rent because of COVID-related issues (i.e. lost job, etc.) • Inability to afford first and last month rent • Increase in Federal/Provincial funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation/implementation of Housing Allowance and Housing Benefit programs led to rental housing being more affordable • Creation of CHHAP and CATH led to more than a 50% reduction in chronic homelessness
Greater prevention initiatives to help maintain existing housing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lack of housing supports/changes to supports available because of COVID • Increase in Federal/Provincial funding 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hiring of two Housing Support Workers and creation of CATH led to individuals being able to keep existing housing • Hiring of landlord liaison led to better relationships with landlords • Funding available to assist with arrears

Why?

- The average resale price for homes within Dufferin have risen substantially over the past decade; however, incomes are not rising quickly enough to meet these increasing prices.
- There is an insufficient availability of affordable rental units in Dufferin.

Housing and Homelessness

Thank you to all working on
Housing and Homelessness.



“There’s no place like home.”

Dorothy, Wizard of Oz

Employment

2020 Outcomes

- Supported the Recovery For All Campaign by CAEH
- DCEC members were provided with information on BI and were sent a link to Petition - Acknowledgement that BI should be added to this outcome and DCEC work
- Rural Resiliency Task Force conducted a COVID BR+E to understand the challenges businesses face and create an action plan to assist businesses
- Promoted the FindYourJob.ca tool to business owners and employees
- Launched the Ready to Re-Open inDufferin program



PRIORITY #2 - EMPLOYMENT

2020 INTENTIONS & REALITIES

INTENDED OUTCOMES	2020 DISRUPTERS	REALIZED OUTCOMES
Increase awareness of challenges employers and employees face in Dufferin	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> No longer having face to face interactions Businesses temporarily or permanently closed due to lockdowns Employees forced to leave work to care for children/loved ones or to protect themselves from illness Fluctuating unemployment rates/employers not hiring as much because of the pandemic New challenges for employers/employees from pandemic (i.e. health and safety measures, working from home, mental health, etc.) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New ways of sharing information and communication with clients and the community (i.e. Two-Way Digital messaging now available for OW clients) Rural Resiliency Task Force conducted a COVID BR+E to understand the challenges businesses face and create an action plan to assist businesses Promoted the FindYourJob.ca tool to business owners and employees Launched the Ready to Re-Open inDufferin program Started Agriculture Roundtables on a monthly basis Worked with the Western Ontario Warden's Caucus to conduct regional surveys
Increase awareness of, and access to, local skills training, vocation and apprenticeship opportunities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In person sessions/training no longer available Inability for off-shore workers to arrive, leaving some local ag producers without staff 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Most training/courses are now available online Promoted re-skilling programs and job-matching programs offered by other organizations
Advocate for Living Wage and benefits as well as Basic Income (BI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Federal Government begins to issue CERB and other financial supports. Realization that individuals need appropriate income and financial support and that what the province currently provides is not enough (OW is \$733 a month, where CERB was \$2,000) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> DCEC members were provided with information on BI and were sent a link to sign a People's Petition to support BI Acknowledgement that BI should be added to this outcome Guaranteed Livable Income speech given to the Senate was circulated to members Recovery for All was supported by DCEC

Why?

- 'Employment provides income, a sense of identity and helps to structure day-to-day life' (Raphael, 2015).
- Multiple layers to this priority:
 - Education and Training
 - Types of Employment
 - Income
- Employment ^{Services} Transformation (EST)?

Employment

Thank you to all working on
Employment.



"Nothing will work unless you do."

Maya Angelou, writer

Health

Outcomes

- Created the Dufferin Caledon Cold & Flu Clinic
- Applying a health equity lens, increased utilization of acute care, community and mobile based testing and assessment by 10%
- Shared community of supports across all congregate settings that care for those most at risk
- Food Bank's collaborative response to COVID-19 increased community knowledge of services and increased accessibility
- Community partners collaborated on greater levels and shared supports for many different services (assessment and testing for..... you know what)..... Shows the level of collaboration and interconnected level of human service organisations



"I'm the doctor who brings the cards. I'm a cardiologist."

PRIORITY #3 - HEALTH EQUITY

2020 INTENTIONS & REALITIES

INTENDED OUTCOMES	2020 DISRUPTERS	REALIZED OUTCOMES
Identify and remove service barriers to reduce health inequities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recognizing there are a number of Dufferin/Caledon residents without access to a primary care provider. These residents go to walk ins or ER Development of Dufferin Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Community Advisory Committee The Pandemic removed any "NIMBYism" perspective held by community partners, highlighted that we are all expose to potential harm - particularly our vulnerable populations. A sense of being "truly in this together" was created 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recalibrated objectives of the Hills of Headwaters OHT: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Applying a health equity lens, increased utilization of acute care, community and mobile based testing and assessment by 10% Created the Dufferin Caledon Cold & Flu Clinic. Increased the proportion of non-affiliated and non-rostered patients accessing the cold, cough and flu community clinic by 30% Increased voice of those individuals who may have experienced barriers Community partners collaborated on greater levels and shared supports
Awareness raising and capacity building for health equity at the local institutional levels	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Essential of daily living became hard to find bringing lived experience to those not previously familiar with resource scarcity Realization that individuals need appropriate income and financial support 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Brought food security, housing and equitable access to health service into national focus Informal networks and loose affiliations became true partners during the crisis Shared community of supports across all congregate settings that care for those most at risk
Raise awareness of the root cause of health equity issues (food insecurity, housing, access to primary care, etc.) within the community	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Many experienced job losses, financial insecurity providing a small window into what others have experienced. It brought these issues into sharper focus for communities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Food Bank's collaborative response to COVID-19 increased community knowledge of services and increased accessibility An increased public awareness around food insecurity and other health equity issues

Why?

- Health Equity – All individuals can reach their full health potential and there are not disadvantaged from attaining it due to social, economic factors.
- ‘Health is unevenly distributed between social groups in the population’ (Norwegian Ministry of Health and Care Services, 2007).

Health

Thank you to all working on Health.



"I'm the doctor who brings the cards. I'm a cardiologist."

"Good health is not something we can buy. However, it can be an extremely valuable savings account."

Anne Wilson Schaef, writer

PRIORITY #4 - LIVED EXPERIENCE ADVISORY NETWORK

GOAL

Members of the community have an opportunity to share their experience, provide input and work collaboratively with Dufferin agencies to reduce inequities in the community

DCEC members started 2020 with the intention of adding a fourth area of focus to DCEC's priorities. Although the collaborative is still deeply invested in including the voice of those who have lived/living experience, it was acknowledged that this would be problematic during the pandemic. Due to public health restrictions, most meetings, services and programs have been virtual since mid-March. Having a Lived Experience Advisory Network (LEAN) that can only meet online is limiting and creates participation barriers. As such, the LEAN focus was temporarily put on hold for 2020. It is the intention of DCEC members to revisit this essential priority in 2021.

Now Scheduled for 2022

Reports to the Community

- [2019-11-28 Community Services Dufferin Oaks Museum Agenda Package](#)
[\(dufferincounty.ca\)](http://dufferincounty.ca)
- [2021-08-26 HHS Agenda Package.pdf](#)
[\(dufferincounty.ca\)](http://dufferincounty.ca)



2020 Report to the Community



Web Site

- [Home • DC MOVES - Dufferin County - Dufferin County Managing Organising Validating Engagement Strategies](#)
- [Dufferin County Equity Collaborative • DC MOVES - Dufferin County - Dufferin County Managing Organising Validating Engagement Strategies](#)

Onwards and Upwards 2021

2020's Most Embarrassing Zoom Moments - YouTube

