

Appendix B – Housing Initiatives Profile: Equity and Reconciliation Investments Impact Stories

K-W Urban Native Rent Program

Objective: To support housing providers (Urban Native) develop 30 affordable housing units for Black, Indigenous and racialized families.

Impact Stories from K-W Urban Native Wigwam Project recipients:

- “K-W Urban Native Wigwam Project (KWUNWP) has helped myself and my family tremendously! The monthly rent support helped/ continues to help me and my family be able to afford monthly rent payments, due to the economy and market place rent being so high and the amount given from OW or ODSP just doesn't cut it anymore. If it wasn't for KWUNWP my family and I would still be going from couch to couch, or in a shelter. We are forever grateful for KWUNWP and their great team of workers. Thank you.”
- “Thanks to KWUNWP's rent assistance program my family doesn't need to get by with the bare minimum, I can worry less about rent and focus more on providing for my young daughter. The possibility of community activities like swimming lessons becomes likely for her future rather than a wish. I can focus on providing healthy options for dinner rather than the cheaper processed foods. With programs like rental assistance, we can live life as an average family, with access to basic needs. Ontario's housing market is climbing and the possibility of living in a house with a back yard to play has become out of reach.... With the rental assistance we can stress less about putting food on the table and more on enjoying the food together. Thank you.”
- The extra monthly support has helped me out financially in so many ways. Being a single mom raising a toddler in the city of Kitchener, the cost of living is overwhelming at moments. With the financial monthly support KW Urban Wigwam Project has helped me with, it allows for some extra money at the end of the month to better provide for my son and myself. It has taken such a financial load off me because I am also continuing my education at this time... Thank you again for the amazing support, and work that you do to help other families like mine. Chi Miigwetch.”

Somali Canadian Association of Waterloo Region - Portable Rent Assistance Program

Objective: Portable Rent Assistance program delivered directly through the Somali Canadian Association of Waterloo Region for 200 families.

Testimonials from SCAWR PRA Program Recipients:

- “As a single mother, it’s really hard to make ends meet. I was on the verge of becoming homeless. I was constantly stressed out and because of that, I developed many health issues. Being a part of this program made me feel supported by the community.”
- “Before this program, my entire income went to rent. As a single mother, I was really struggling. Although I was on the housing waitlist, I was nowhere near coming off that waitlist. The BBFP program gave me hope again. Thank you SCAWR and Region of Waterloo.”