



Purpose

The “**Atlantic Compassion Fund**” (ACF) was set up to accept donations for local non-profits affected by COVID-19. The purposes of the ACF was assist the non profit sector to meet basic needs, reduce the impact of further marginalization, and bring people back together when the time is right. United Way Cape Breton agreed to facilitate distribution of the ACF in Cape Breton to address the most pressing needs for those in community impacted by this public health crisis.

Established by Tom Rose, the President of Atlantic Business Interiors, with a generous offer to match up to \$100,000 in initial donations, the fund was set up to help agencies across the Atlantic Provinces respond to the emerging needs of their local communities. During its establishment the fund was set up to have three phases. The first (Response) addresses immediate needs such as food security & shelter, the second (Recovery) addressing issues such as mental health & internet access, and the third (Rebuild) addressing issues such as organizations who have experienced financial gaps due to COVID-19 restrictions or cancellations.

The **Atlantic Compassion Fund** invested \$257,932.00 to strengthen local programs here in Cape Breton. These funds have helped address food insecurity, shelter needs and the personal wellbeing/safety of community members in need.

Atlantic Compassion Fund Impact Data

Total funds allocated locally **\$257,932.00**

22 Organizations Supported

29 Programs funded

10,729 Unique individuals impacted

33,040 Covid relief interventions

Service Types:

Food Security

- # meals provided **5,850**
 - # food baskets/hampers provided **8,446**
 - # of essential items provided **1,225**
 - # deliveries **14,332**
 - # volunteers trained **161**
 - # staff trained **64**
- Total 30,078**



Mental Health & Wellness

- # calls (longer than 1 minute) 1,437
- # unique calls 1,437
- # of remote contact sessions with unique individuals 1,200
Total 1,537

Personal Safety

- # of remote contact sessions with unique individuals 625
- # of safety assessments made 800
Total 1,425

Ongoing Basic Needs Unavailable Through Other Means

- # of people provided with shelter/housing supports 303
- # of people provided with food, medication, cleaning supplies, other personal need item
7,858

of people provided with transportation (e.g., for medical appointments)

- # of people provided with social, emotional, or personal support (e.g., peer support) (non-medical) 1,176
- Delivery costs for food, cleaning supplies, personal items, medication, etc. (not including transportation reported above) \$8,069.25

Service Supports (check all that apply and indicate #)

Check all that apply and Indicate # of people and/or cost for each, as indicated:

- Additional wage/employment costs \$56,679.00
- Hiring temporary workers # of people 8, cost \$ 32,026.00 Adding hours to existing staff roles #of people 8 # of additional hours 280.5
- Assisting individuals with self-isolation: # of people 1,460



Assisting staff/volunteers with other (specify) # of people

- Exceptional circumstances to support social distancing for individuals # of people **303**
- Exceptional circumstances to support social distancing for staff/volunteers # of people Other assistance (specify): _____ # of people **20**

Reducing Isolation and Increase Connectivity

Check all that apply and Indicate # of people and/or cost for each, as indicated

- Access to technology # of people **46 \$ 6,471.95**
- # of people provided with mobile data # of people **__**
- # of people participating in virtual programming **775**

Type of programming offered to increase connection (e.g., virtual outreach, (describe)

-Bereaved Families of CB are offering Support & Share sessions virtually in Cape Breton due to COVID-19. The individuals who are attending these sessions are provided/offered understanding from other participants who have also experienced the death of a loved one and are dealing with the challenges that come from living with grief in these trying times of COVID-19 .

-46 unique participants were provided with devices



A few examples of programs funded

Municipality of the County of Inverness (Expanded Food Bank Partnership Program)

Working in partnerships with Schools Plus and local volunteer Fire Departments to continue offering breakfast programs to youth and families that struggle with food insecurity. Also working in partnership with local Food Bank and Fire Halls to expand food bank service to all areas within the County, for families facing food insecurities during COVID-19 State of Emergency. The municipal staff will coordinate and organize food hampers and food resources and work with partnering groups to safely get them distributed to low income families and seniors who need them. Utilizing Fire Halls to create temporary food hubs, where people can come and receive emergency food hampers. The food hampers will be delivered through either a knock and drop or in a drive up service similar to those being utilized by grocery stores. In some cases good gift cards to local participating groceries will be provided. This service includes service to isolated rural communities.

New Dawn Meals on Wheels/Better Bite Kitchen (Seniors Meal Delivery & Good Food Packs)

We have adjusted our practices to deliver meals to our current participants. With the nature of COVID 19, senior isolation from affordable, healthy meals is a concern. We have extended our production to meet the anticipated community needs. We will expand the program to the needs that come forth due to the crisis. We have moved from a volunteer based delivery service to allocating paid staff for the delivery as many of our volunteers are in the high risk category. We have increased our productivity to include Good Food Packs. The Good Food Packs are available in family and single sizes. Organizations connect with our Coordinator to order the packs for their participants. During week 7 of the pandemic we assembled 720 Good Food Packs to be delivered by the partner organizations across the Island!

Elizabeth Fry society of Cape Breton (Outreach Services)

This project will keep families together by providing phone cards so women will be able to connect with our staff in all of our programs, providing information, supportive counselling, referrals and wellness checks. It will also enable us to purchase and mail headphone sets, so women can attend our programs virtually without fear of others overhearing their private information. Attending programming will enable women working with Child Welfare to reunite with their children and complete legal obligations which will keep their families together. Funding for staff to provide outreach services to our women in our residential, programs. bail, domestic violence interventions and our new Girls Action against Trafficking and Exploitation (GATE) Program . We are also planning to purchase grocery gift cards to offset the increasing costs food during the pandemic.



Donations

Total funds allocated locally **\$21,464.00**

6 Organizations Supported

6 Programs funded

1,033 Unique individuals impacted

1,653 Covid relief interventions

Provincial Government Funding (Family & Youth)

In April 2020, in response to emergent community needs during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Province of Nova Scotia invested \$1 million in United Way's Atlantic Compassion Fund (ACF), to help fill gaps and support vulnerable Nova Scotians across the province. This investment allowed United Ways in Nova Scotia to continue meet basic needs of vulnerable families and youth across the province during this difficult time.

The donation to United Way was part of a larger \$3 million investment that will ensure vulnerable families, seniors and youth will receive additional support for food, shelter, basic necessities and staying connected during the province's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. The funding is redirected from the HomeWarming program and includes a \$1 million from Nova Scotia Power and \$2 million in provincial funding from EfficiencyOne.

Total funds allocated locally **\$140,930.00**

15 Organizations Supported

17 Programs funded

4,457 Unique individuals impacted

5,274 Covid relief interventions

United Way Cape Breton Atlantic Compassion Fund (Provincial Funding-Family & Youth)

Ongoing Basic Needs Unavailable Through Other Means

Check all that apply and Indicate # of people for each:



- ✓ # of people provided with shelter/housing supports **303**
- ✓ # of people provided with food, medication, cleaning supplies, other personal need item **7,254**

of people provided with transportation (e.g., for medical appointments)

- ✓ # of people provided with social, emotional, or personal support (e.g., peer support) (non-medical) **1,150**
- ✓ Delivery costs for food, cleaning supplies, personal items, medication, etc. (*not including transportation reported above*) **\$4,038.50**

Service Supports (check all that apply and indicate #)

Check all that apply and Indicate # of people and/or cost for each, as indicated:

- ✓ Additional wage/employment costs **\$8,194.00**
- ✓ Hiring temporary workers # of people **2**, cost **\$ 2,520.00** Adding hours to existing staff roles
#of people **8** # of additional hours **168**
- Assisting individuals with self-isolation: # of people
- Assisting staff/volunteers with other (specify) # of people
- ✓ Exceptional circumstances to support social distancing for individuals # of people **303**
- ✓ Exceptional circumstances to support social distancing for staff/volunteers # of people Other assistance (specify): _____ # of people **12**

Reducing Isolation and Increase Connectivity

Check all that apply and Indicate # of people and/or cost for each, as indicated

- ✓ Access to technology # of people **46** **\$ 6,471.95**
- # of people provided with mobile data # of people **__**
- ✓ # of people participating in virtual programming **775**

Type of programming offered to increase connection (e.g., virtual outreach, (describe)



-Bereaved Families of CB are offering Support & Share sessions virtually in Cape Breton due to COVID-19. The individuals who are attending these sessions are provided/offered understanding from other participants who have also experienced the death of a loved one and are dealing with the challenges that come from living with grief in these trying times of COVID-19 .

-46 unique participants were provided with devices

Seniors Funding

Total funds allocated locally

8 Organizations Supported

9 Programs funded

957 Unique individuals impacted

5,670 Covid relief interventions