

## OPEN HOUSE 10 January 2014

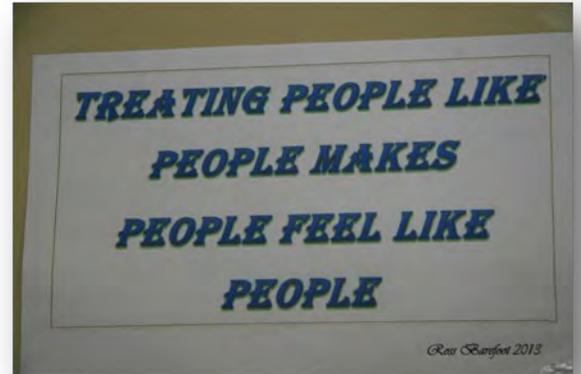
The Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force held an Open House with members of the community and the media to celebrate our progress to date and to highlight the need to continue to find long-term solutions to poverty in our communities.

Together we follow a [Vibrant Communities approach](#) where the goal of poverty reduction is not to simply reduce or alleviate the symptoms of poverty, but to create a culture that focuses on reducing poverty by addressing root causes and taking bold, innovative action that leads to long-term change.

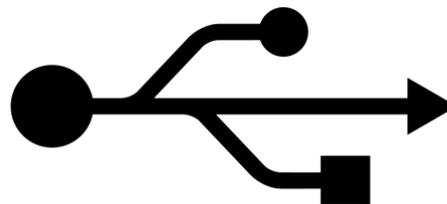
With a broad representation at the Poverty Task Force table, we have worked together to educate each other, share creative solutions and developed a common understanding of issues related to poverty.

The members of the Poverty Task Force are committed to educating themselves, their agency staff and communities-at-large on negative stereotypes and to act with compassion to make meaningful change.

The Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force brings together 22 agencies/community groups in a roundtable to look at creative local solutions to address complex problems. Our conversations are enriched by our Community Voices group and 4 Action Groups which focus on: housing, income security, transportation and food security.



## ACTION GROUPS



*“Poverty is the condition of a human being who does not have sufficient economic and other resources to live with the dignity, choices and power that support full participation in society.”*

## LET'S START A CONVERSATION

**Let's Start a Conversation about Health And Not Talk About Health Care At All** is a [video](#) created by the Grey Bruce Health Unit and it was played at the Open House to remind us that where people, live, learn, work and play has an enormous impact on our health and well-being.

Health starts with affordable housing in safe neighbourhoods.

Health starts with access to healthy food to nurture physical and mental development.

Health starts with quality education in safe schools.

Health starts with good jobs in stable workplaces.

Health starts with the time and the means to play and enjoy life.

We are from Grey Bruce, we are known for innovation and resourcefulness. We are known for coming up with creative solutions to complex problems.

## RESOURCES

Our conversations at the OPEN HOUSE were supported by many resource persons as well as resource material produced by the Poverty Task Force and/or by roundtable partners.

[Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force Brief](#)

[Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force Submission to Review of Ontario Poverty Reduction Strategy](#)

[The Cost of Eating Well in Grey Bruce  
Nutritious Food Survey 2013](#)

[Minimum Wage Review Submission by United Way of Bruce Grey  
What We Heard about Utilities](#)

[Motion for Rural Transportation Review](#)

We recognize that our collective energies are greater than that of any individual, organization, faith or government.

Individually we can do little, together we can change the word.

# VISION

The Poverty Task Force will reduce and eliminate poverty in our community.

# PURPOSE

The Poverty Task Force facilitates community partnerships to advocate for poverty reduction and elimination.

# VALUES

## **Collaboration/Partnership**

Building trust and respect across community stakeholders through dialogue and purposeful partnerships.

## **Understanding poverty issues and each other**

Working together to educate each other, share creative solutions and develop a common understanding of issues related to poverty.

## **Equality/Justice**

Working to improve lives within the community, while ensuring the services are accessible, affordable, humanitarian, equitable, and provides choice.

## **Advocacy**

Acting in partnership to leverage our community knowledge and expertise to advocate for change.

## **Com(assion) for Change**

Acting with compassion to make meaningful change for individuals and families when they need it most.

## **Collective Synergies**

Recognizing that our collective energies are greater than that of any individual. Individually we can do little, together we can move mountains.

# STRATEGIC DIRECTIONS

Build partnerships with key community stakeholders and networks and work together to eliminate poverty.

Enhance our common understanding of poverty issues through solution-based research, knowledge development and information sharing.

Create opportunities for community stakeholders to become involved in poverty elimination efforts.

# MEMBERSHIP

## Core PTF members

Adult Learning Centres: Grey Bruce Georgian  
Bruce County  
Bruce Grey Child and Family Services  
Central Westside United Church  
Closing the Gap Healthcare Group  
Grey Bruce Legal Clinic  
Grey Bruce Public Health Unit  
Grey Bruce Violence Prevention Coordinating Committee  
Grey County  
Home and Community Support Services  
HOPE Grey Bruce  
LEADS – Employment and Skills Development Services  
OPP South Bruce  
Ontario Disability Support Program – Grey Bruce  
OSHARE: Owen Sound Hunger and Relief Efforts  
Safe and Sound  
South Grey Community Health Centre  
Saugeen Shores Help and Resources Programs Project (SSHARPP)  
The Women's Centre (Grey Bruce)  
United Way of Bruce Grey  
Victorious Living  
YMCA of Owen Sound Grey Bruce

## Associate members

City of Owen Sound  
CMHA  
Community Living Owen Sound and District  
First United Church  
Grey County EMS  
Owen Sound and Area Senior's Centre  
MOVING' Saugeen Shores  
TCVV  
Grey Bruce Labour Council  
Heart and Stroke Foundation



Membership is free!  
Please contact us for more information

## Join the Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force

The Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force focuses on building partnerships with key community stakeholders and networks; working together to eliminate poverty, and enhancing our common understanding of poverty issues through solution-based research, knowledge development and information sharing.

Join one of our **Action Groups** to delve deeper in to poverty elimination efforts around specific sectors: Housing, Income Security, Food Security and Transportation.

# CONNECT

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