



News Release

United Way Waterloo Region Communities (WRC)

For Immediate Release

SOLD-OUT United Way 'Women United' Event Launches Local Giving Circle

October 31, 2024 - WATERLOO REGION, ON: United Way Waterloo Region Communities (WRC) held its inaugural 'Women United' event in Kitchener on October 29, 2024, bringing together compassionate and influential community members to support an international movement promoting female leadership, philanthropy, and advocacy.

All profits from the sold-out event with over one hundred attendees will be donated by the United Way to the Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region. "We are thrilled with the overwhelming response to our first Women United event," said Jennifer Ward, Chair of Women United Waterloo Region.

"This is what the group Women United is all about – it's about leveraging the talent and time of the network we build to show up and make an impact for those women and families that need us in our community", Ward said.

Women United is a volunteer-led committee with a powerful network of over 70,000 women across Canada and worldwide. Every Women United group across Canada aims to support critical needs in their community, by supporting and empowering a network of women and allies emphasizing equality and empowerment for all. The launch event for Women United of Waterloo Region focused on supporting Women's Crisis Services of Waterloo Region, a vital resource for women and children facing domestic violence.

Women United for Waterloo Region's kickoff featured three local female leaders who spoke to the large crowd, sharing their personal stories of overcoming challenges, supporting others, and giving back to their communities: Jill Summerhayes, respected business entrepreneur, author and recipient of a 2024 recipient of the YWCA Cambridge Women of Distinction Award, Neena Gupta, partner at Gowling WLG and Board Chair for United Way Waterloo Region, and Nupi Zubair, Senior Vice President & Region Head for Ontario Southwest Region at TD Bank.



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Joan S. Fisk, CEO of United Way Waterloo Region Communities, expressed her enthusiasm for the event's success: "This incredible turnout shows that our community is ready to come together, to unite, and to make a difference to help women and all those in need. The funds raised here tonight will have a direct and immediate impact on the lives of women and children in crisis in Waterloo Region.

Digital Assets:

Please visit www.uwaywrc.ca/about-us/communications/ to download our digital assets and further information, including photos, CEO bio and photo, and other United Way materials. United Way Women United specific information and more photos from the event can be found at <http://uwaywrc.ca/womenunited>

About United Way Waterloo Region Communities (WRC)

United Way WRC is dedicated to helping people live better lives in every one of the seven communities we serve, and we focus on understanding issues and solutions unique to our community. Thanks to generous donors and partners, we are privileged to collaborate with people, non-profits, and businesses to empower multiple innovative, impactful, and measurable solutions. We are fundraisers and local community builders that support a network of agencies whose programs and services are locally focused, informed, connected, and deeply invested in helping people reach their full potential. To ensure critical agencies, programs and services get the funding they need, and to ensure donors have a clear line of site to the work we do, we have focused on cause-based giving which allows for donations to be directed in a way that aligns with selected priorities and goals. To learn more, connect with us at www.uwaywrc.ca

For more information or for media interviews, please contact:

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