



United Way
Sarnia-Lambton
theunitedway.on.ca

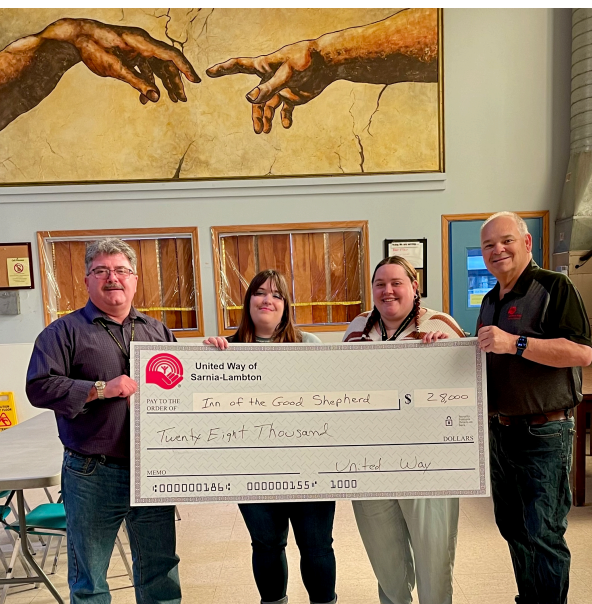


The Inn
Of The Good Shepherd
Caring hands of the community
Est. 1981

The Inn of the Good Shepherd

2022-23 United Way Funding

Income Tax Program - \$28,000



Individuals helped by the Income Tax Program in 2022-23

2,497 Individuals Helped

Program Descriptions



The Inn of the Good Shepherd's Income Tax program assists clients by completing and e-filing their income tax returns. There are several barriers for individuals to file their own tax return – filing fees, literacy & numeracy challenges, internet access, inconsistent housing, distrust of government and lack of understanding of the tax system. If a person's taxes are not filed, then government cannot determine if they are entitled to benefits and if a person's taxes are not filed, any current benefits they are receiving get cut off.

The Income Tax program is run by a team of volunteers and staff who process, complete and e-file returns for clients. They can go back up to 5 years to file back taxes.

The Income Tax clinics are run at the Inn of the Good Shepherd in Sarnia and through mobile clinics across Lambton County.



Program Results



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Income Tax Program

3286 tax returns were completed last year generating over \$9 million in household income for clients

10 mobile clinics were run across Lambton County to reduce barriers to service

55% of clients indicated that the tax clinic is the only program of the Inn they access, due to the financial independence gained from the income generated from the tax program





Testimonials

Inn of the Good Shepherd Staff:

“Receiving these benefits generates an income that means they can be more self-sufficient and not have to use other community resources. This sense of self-reliance is one of the most important parts of the program! Last year we generated over \$9 million in household income for clients. That’s an average of \$3,300 per household. That can be life changing.”

“We’ve heard from clients who have been able to clear away debt, get a used vehicle so they can get to their jobs, move into better housing and more. For many, having a consistency in income helps folks manage and budget better to stay on top of their bills. This helps even out the challenges of meeting everyday life crises such as illnesses or celebrate the happy times such as birthdays and Christmas. That also takes an enormous stress off parents and gives them the dignity of being able to be self-reliant.”



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