



**United Way
of Greater Toronto**

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UNITED WAY ANNOUNCES \$9.5 MILLION IN INVESTMENTS FOR UNDERSERVED NEIGHBOURHOODS THROUGHOUT TORONTO

Investments include community development programs to identify local issues

TORONTO, June 30, 2005 – United Way of Greater Toronto today announced key investments targeting Toronto’s highest-need inner suburbs. The announcement comes on the heels of the release of the Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy – a collaboration between United Way and the City of Toronto – identifying community needs, investment priorities, and a new system for governments to make coordinated investments in neighbourhoods.

The \$9.5 million in investments include \$6.7 million for new and expanding programs to deal with the increasing complexities of Toronto’s inner suburbs, particularly those targeting newcomers and youth, \$1.8 million for ongoing support for new services that began as pilot projects in the inner suburbs, and \$1 million over three years for a community development fund – to be carried out in partnership with the City of Toronto – that will engage residents and community groups in building a vision and action plan for their neighbourhoods. The investments will focus primarily on the nine neighbourhoods identified in the Toronto Strong Neighbourhoods Strategy where community investments are most urgently needed.

United Way is also launching Action for Neighbourhood Change (ANC), a one-year community revitalization initiative funded by the Government of Canada that will bring together residents, local business owners, neighbourhood groups and service providers to find solutions to local neighbourhood issues and challenges. ANC is taking place in five cities across Canada to build local community capacity and inform long-term public policy for strong neighbourhoods. In Toronto, ANC is taking place in the neighbourhood of Scarborough Village, in the Markham and Kingston Road area, which is one of the nine neighbourhoods identified in the Strategy.

“United Way is driven to extend social service networks beyond downtown to the increasingly poor inner suburbs,” said Frances Lankin, President and CEO, United Way of Greater Toronto. “These investments will empower residents to create a vision and action plan for their neighbourhoods, and to influence and shape how their communities evolve.”

United Way of Greater Toronto works to create sustainable change in the lives of Torontonians, identifying needs and taking action to support people and develop strong communities through research, partnerships with government, volunteers, labour, and business, and by funding a network of 200 health and social agencies.

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