

A woman with glasses, wearing a red t-shirt and a straw hat, smiles warmly while holding a large yellow wicker basket filled with fresh produce. The basket contains green onions, yellow squash, and a head of broccoli. In the foreground, there are more baskets of vegetables, including purple and yellow potatoes and green beans. The background shows a market stall with wooden beams and a sign that says "CASH OUT HERE".

Improving lives in Prince Edward County

# *The County Connected*

*Highlights from The County Foundation's 2019 Year*

# Regardless of where you call home...

*From Carrying Place to Point Petre to Prinyers Cove to NorthPort or anywhere in between.*

Whether you're born in The County, spend time here &/or choose to make it your home, you can feel there's something special about this place. Countless generations have lived, worked, and enjoyed all that Prince Edward County has to offer. Caring deeply about the past, present and future of our community is something that unites us all.

In 2008, a small group of people saw an opportunity to make a big difference. Eleven years later, The County Foundation continues to link our caring community with local causes. We're proud to be one of 191 community foundations in Canada pursuing a future where everyone belongs.

The support of donors, philanthropists, the Municipality, and volunteers enables us to improve lives today and tomorrow. Collaborating with supporters and local agencies, throughout 2019 we strengthened our ability to serve vital needs of our community.

More specifically, **The County Foundation** volunteers and staff:

- Helped people create and manage funds, legacies and bequests that met their personal philanthropic goals. A total of 24 funds were managed and 14 young people pursued their dreams supported by a donor-directed scholarship or bursary.
- Digitized our popular 2018 *Vital Signs* report that signals trends, identifies issues and informs grants. Links to current online reference materials can be accessed anytime, anywhere at [thecountyfoundation.ca/vitalsigns](http://thecountyfoundation.ca/vitalsigns)
- Made and managed grants that address Vital Signs key priority areas and strengthened community resilience.
- Co-led *Vital Signs* working groups focused on community safety and well-being, food security, learning and transportation.
- Connected dozens of volunteers with opportunities to collaboratively support the work of 59 community organizations.

Food literacy session through Prince Edward Learning Centre



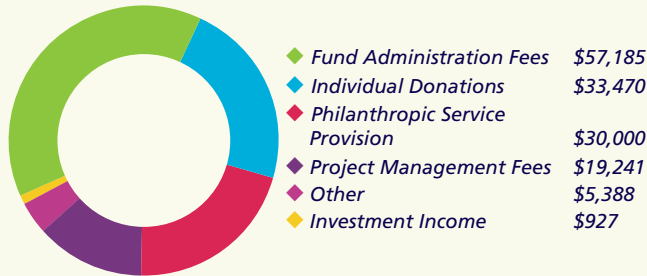
Photo credit: Prince Edward Learning Centre

**Learn more at [thecountyfoundation.ca](http://thecountyfoundation.ca)**

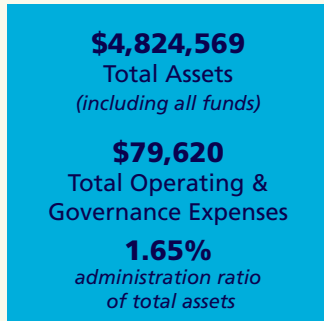


...in The County, we're all connected.

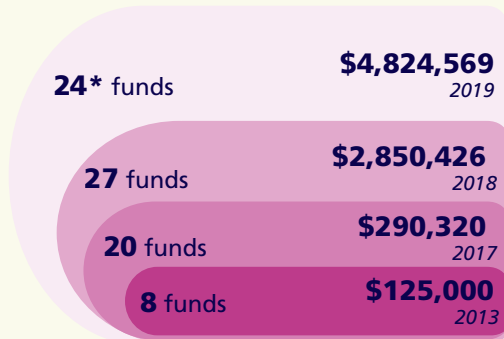
### Income Sources



### Assets and Operating Expenses



### Funds Under Management



\* Funds were added, and some Funds were merged or closed.

Our ability to make specific and tangible progress each year is underpinned by the generosity of people who donate to The County Foundation. Thanks to those who gave individual and philanthropic financial gifts, our assets grew to **\$4,824,569** in 2019.

Meanwhile, our operating and governance expenses totalled \$79,620 during the fiscal year. This equates to a **1.65%** administration ratio of total assets. It is notable that administration ratios of 2.5-4% are typical for community foundations that serve populations of similar size to Prince Edward County's.

Our strong financial assets enabled us to facilitate more grants to community organizations. A total of **\$435,650** in grants was given in 2019, a significant increase over the \$158,787 in grants given in 2018.

We have facilitated and approved the disbursement of **\$1,174,229** in local grants throughout The County since inception.

Accomplishing goals is something we do together to strengthen our community vitality. We do this with the support of dozens of dedicated volunteers who are the heart of The County Foundation.

As we look back and ahead, we sincerely thank all of the many people who have and are improving lives here in Prince Edward County. From Adolphus Reach to Bay of Quinte to Point Petre, **we're all connected.**

Brian Beiles  
President

Jefferson Gilbert  
Executive Director

*Dreams realized. Lives improved.*

[thecountyfoundation.ca](http://thecountyfoundation.ca)



# Branding. Website. Youth projects.

## *The Greater Than County Youth Collective*

*Learning.* It's the foundation to a lifetime of success. "By working together, we are *Greater Than* the sum of our parts" is what drives the people who lead the *Vital Signs Learning* working group. Here's their story...

We're a collective of people who care for, work for, or are youth. **Our common goal is to have PEC high school graduation rates at parity with the provincial average by 2026.** To reach this goal, we focus on:

- Youth empowerment
- Well-being
- Relationships with caregivers, family and peers
- Enhancing education supports
- Helping youth see the connection between their education and future employment

In 2019, we strengthened networking among youth-oriented groups. Working together, 15 organizations now use a collective approach to respond to needs. We're creating a culture that embraces learning, personal development and enables County youth to reach their potential.

A total of \$78,000 of provincial and private funding was directed to youth and youth-led activities. Collective members, volunteers and supporters collaborated to ensure that funding connected projects to County youth.



Photo credit: Alison Kelly

Youth Inclusion Program members participate weekly in Movement Tuesdays at Prince Edward Fitness & Aquatic Centre

## *Improving lives in our County...*

Learning helps people reach their potential. Fostering a culture that embraces learning as well as personal development is our focus. In 2019, funding helped four major projects take root in The County.

- County Care Kits for youth in need
- Discover Youth, an LGBTQ+ drop-in initiative
- Navigating Systems Work
- Youth Inclusion Project, a wrap-around care program

*"I have seen the impacts of the Learning group in so many areas, and it has personally impacted my life to a large and meaningful degree."*

Christian Everall, Network Facilitator,  
Students Commission of Canada



*Learning connects us all.*

Learn more at [thecountyfoundation.ca](http://thecountyfoundation.ca)

# Food education. Kitchen skills. Funding.

## Rural Ontario Institute & The Theory of Change

**Food.** Other than clean water, there's nothing more essential to life than food. Using the "Theory of Change" document by the Food Security Working Group, and inspired by a Rural Ontario Institute (ROI) grant of \$15,000, project teams addressed three key actions in 2019. Here's their story...

The ROI grant was leveraged into a \$46,000 project through 8 strategic partners, The Theory of Change became our guide to transformation of data into action last year. Here are a few examples of what people accomplished.

### Forming and branding The Food Collective

- Reached 30,000 people via social media, newspaper articles and a 99.3 CountyFM interview
- Hosted first-ever *Meal No Meal* and *Cooking With Council* events
- Initiated, printed and distributed PEC Food Access Guides

### Affordable, nutritious food access projects

- Added 40 community gardens, of which 37% supplied produce to local food banks and seniors
- Established new cooled storage area for Fresh For All produce to support food banks and Food To Share
- Piloted actions toward future centralized and decentralized food hubs

Collective actions to improve food security are what connect us today and tomorrow.

***“Across Prince Edward County, 20 partner organizations, each with significant projects underway, are making impactful contributions to improving our food security.”***

Tony Walton, Communications Lead and Volunteer, The County Foundation



Photo credit: Food to Share

Food to Share cooking session

## Improving lives in our County...

Food is fundamental. Supporting food security, food education and access to good, healthy food is our focus. In 2019, funding helped three major collaborative projects come to life in The County.

- Enhanced public awareness of local food insecurity
- Launched new food education and skill-building initiatives with County youth
- Improved access to affordable, nutritious food through 12 distinct activities

*Food security connects us all.*

Find more food security news at [thecountyfoundation.ca](http://thecountyfoundation.ca)



# *Sustainable. Barrier-free. Affordable.*

## *Getting Around Working Group*

*Transportation.* Prince Edward County is vast. Whether you live in or near Big Island, Demorestville, Point Petre, Rednersville, Waupoos or anywhere in between, it's not easy to get around in The County. A major provincial transportation grant was received in late 2019 and the *Vital Signs* Getting Around working group was ready. Here's their story...

Three years in the making, a pilot project is poised to change how people get from point A to point B and back again in The County. The plan is to start small and grow by 2023. Local students, seniors, commuters, and visitors can expect an initial 12-month expansion of Quinte Access fixed routes:

- On weekdays, 6 round trips to Belleville
- On weekends, 2 round trips to Belleville (June to September only)
- Co-ordinated scheduling with Belleville Transit to key locations

On-demand transit will run 4 times daily from Hwy 33 from Trenton through Consecon, Wellington, and Bloomfield with flexible stops. Routes include County Rd 3 from Rossmore to Carrying Place, and potentially expanding into Northport. Stops close to the flex route may also be possible.

A fixed and flexible transit system is what can and will connect our County.



Photo credit: Quinte Access

Quinte Access Bus

## *Improving lives in our County...*

Transportation fuels our lives and economy. Developing an integrated, affordable and sustainable Prince Edward County transportation system is our focus. Extensive 2019 planning will lead to the launch of a 2020 pilot project in The County.

- Partners include 11 community organizations, the Municipality and The County Foundation
- A three-year pilot project funded by the provincial government
- Funding is for \$466,025 plus contributions and user fees
- Launch plan summer/autumn 2020

*“The ability to find efficiency will help to ensure costs for... transit programs are being well managed, sustainable and have the greatest reach to the members of the community.”*

Grace Nyman, Community Development Co-ordinator, The County of Prince Edward\*

\*Source: CountyLive



*Transportation connects us all.*

Get moving at [thecountyfoundation.ca](http://thecountyfoundation.ca)

# *Emergency response. Senior support. Mental health.*

## **Community Safety and Well-Being**

**Safety.** The world and The County are constantly changing. And, as change happens, so do the needs of people. *Vital Signs* research identified needs in 2018 and a safety and well-being program is responding. Together with local agencies and *Vital Signs* working group volunteers, people are fostering security. Here's their story...

Throughout 2019, local Community Safety and Well-being projects and initiatives contributed to a greater sense of security and belonging in our County. A few highlights are listed below.

### **Emergency response**

- 38 new road signs (6 bilingual) installed in high traffic areas and key entrance points
- Roadside simulations, motorist reminders and displays at the Picton, Ameliasburgh and Milford Fairs

### **Senior support**

- 99.3 CountyFM, service agencies and OPP partnership led public awareness campaigns
- Ongoing presentations and inaugural Scooter Rodeo mobility safety events

### **Collaborative mental health & addictions strategy**

- Advisory team established with representation from 15 local agencies
- Action areas, leads and core working groups established



Photo credit: Ontario Provincial Police

OPP Prince Edward County

## *Improving lives in our County...*

Safety is essential to our sense of security. Improving the effectiveness of community safety and well-being in Prince Edward County is our focus. Provincially mandated program is funding emergency response, senior support, poverty reduction as well as mental health and addictions strategies and projects

- Collaborative efforts of local agencies are led by Prince Edward County OPP

***“The Move Over and Flashing Green Lights public awareness campaigns has made a significant impact on the ability of emergency response vehicles to navigate County roads quickly and efficiently year round.”***

Staff Sargent John Hatch, OPP

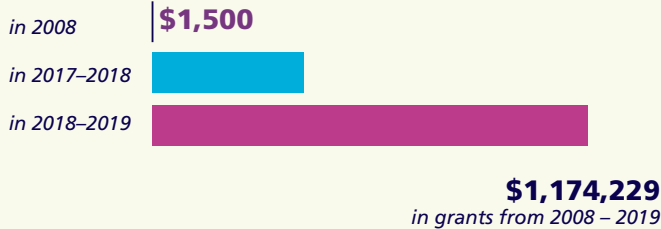
*Community safety connects us all.*

Read more at [thecountyfoundation.ca](http://thecountyfoundation.ca)



# 2019 Granting highlights.

## Cumulative Grants to Community Organizations

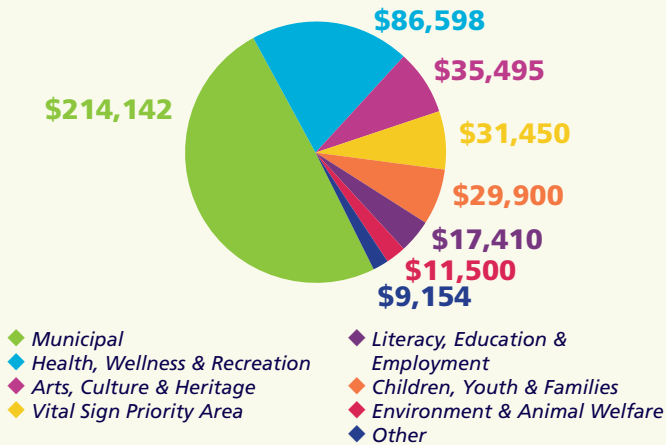


Caring deeply about the future of The County unites us all. In 2019 our donors are proud to have funded grants in the areas of:

- Arts, Culture & Heritage
- Children, Youth & Families
- Environment & Animal Welfare
- Health, Wellness & Recreation
- Literacy, Education & Employment
- Other

Every day, The County Foundation connects our caring community with local causes. We're proud to collaborate with people and serve the most vital needs of Prince Edward County.

## Areas of Granting in 2019



*Help us help others...*

visit [thecountyfoundation.ca](http://thecountyfoundation.ca)


Phone: 613-476-7901 x 218

[info@thecountyfoundation.ca](mailto:info@thecountyfoundation.ca)

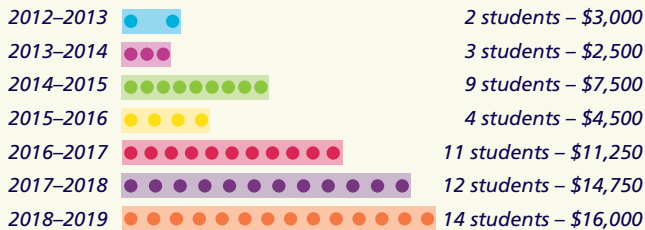
The County Foundation

Suite 103, 280 Main Street, Picton, ON

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A proud member of:  COMMUNITY FOUNDATIONS OF CANADA

## Bursaries & Scholarships



*Projects realized. Lives improved.*

visit [thecountyfoundation.ca](http://thecountyfoundation.ca)