

# York Region Accessibility Advisory Committee

## Community Investment Fund Program Review

Matteo Pirri, Senior Policy Analyst, Community and  
Health Services Department

June 23, 2021



# Purpose

- Consult on the barriers in accessing available community services in York Region and obtain insights on the gaps in services for residents living with disabilities.
- This information will help develop recommendations for a refreshed Community Investment Fund.



# Community Investment Fund Program Overview

- York Region provides funding for not-for-profit agencies to fill gaps in community services and help build sector capacity to better deliver human services across the Region
- 2021 Community Investment Fund supports 45 projects serving residents living with low to moderate income to be:
  - Healthier
  - Financially stable
  - Housed
  - Connected and engaged with others

## Sample of funded agencies:



Canadian Mental  
Health Association  
*Mental health for all*



Idayr • Learning Disabilities  
Association of York Region  
*The right to learn, the power to achieve*



360°  
kids  
Surrounding kids  
in crisis with care



WOMEN'S CENTRE  
OF YORK REGION  
*Embracing Change. Empowering Women.*

# Program Benefits and Impact

- Supports over 60,000 residents annually
- Fills service gaps so that the most vulnerable have access to the necessities of life
- Invests in preventative and early-intervention services
- Leverages community agencies' familiarity with community needs and expertise in supporting specific populations



# Program Review

- To best support the not-for-profit sector; review the long-term strategy
- To provide flexibility going forward to respond to changing community needs due to the pandemic and support non-for-profit agencies recover and rebuild
- To find opportunities to fill gaps, improve access to the Program, and reduce administrative barriers



# Questions

- What **barriers** do people living with disabilities face in **accessing available community services** in York Region?
- What **new or additional community services are needed** to contribute to the health and well-being of residents living with disabilities?
- Additional comments or suggestions.

# Next steps

- Continued stakeholder engagement, feedback collection and analysis throughout the summer
- Bring program change recommendations to Council this fall
- Begin implementation of program future state in 2022 (pending Council approval)

# THANK YOU

