

TOWN OF STONY PLAIN COMMUNITY AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

# 2025 IMPACT REPORT

## POVERTY REDUCTION

Building a Safe, Caring & Responsive Community



This report highlights ongoing efforts to reduce poverty in Stony Plain and the Tri-Municipal region. It explores changes in poverty over time, examines impacts within the community, and showcases progress made over the past year.



[stonypain.com/Poverty](https://stonypain.com/Poverty)

# Is **poverty** increasing in Stony Plain?

This is difficult to answer. Poverty is complex and not easy to measure. Some indicators are worsening, while others are improving. The most accurate understanding comes from the lived experiences of people in the community.

Canada's official measure of poverty is the Market Basket Measure (MBM). It calculates the cost of a specific basket of goods and services needed to support a modest, basic standard of living for a family of four. The MBM was last updated in 2023. In Stony Plain, that amount is \$53,255 for a family of four.

Another important indicator is the Living Wage, which reflects the hourly wage required to meet basic living costs in the community. In 2025, Stony Plain's Living Wage increased to \$24.30 per hour for full-time work—an increase of \$2.00 from 2024. While this does not indicate how many residents are living in poverty, it does show that the cost of living continues to rise.

Local data also provides insight. In 2025, 1229 Stony Plain residents accessed the food bank, compared to 1448 in 2024—a decrease of 219 individuals. However, the total number of food hampers distributed increased from 8066 to 8367. This suggests that while fewer individuals accessed services, those who did may have required more support.

Housing data further highlights ongoing challenges. The **2025 Tri-Region Housing and Service Needs Estimate** identified:

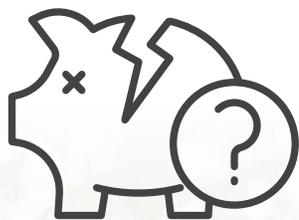


Overall in 2025, **379 residents were identified as housing insecure** when the additional adults and children are factored in, compared to 275 in 2022. The next estimate will be completed in 2027.

Together, these indicators show a mixed picture. While some measures suggest modest improvement, others point to deeper and growing needs within the community.

# Poverty snapshot

These numbers only tell part of the story. Behind every statistic is a person—a neighbour, a friend, a family member—facing real challenges that impact our entire community.

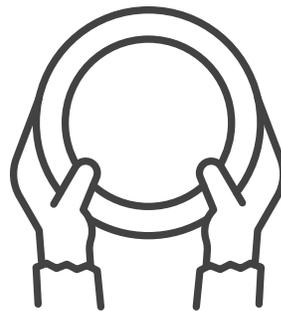


## INCOME INSECURITY

**\$54,480** Poverty line  
*(minimum income required to cover basic living needs, family of four)*

**\$24.30** Living wage

Canada Statistics Census Data 2021 (Market Basket Measure for Alberta urban region less than 30,000); Alberta Living Wage Network Data 2025



## FOOD INSECURITY

**1229** Residents had to use the food bank - often more than once

**155** of the above are employed and yet still can't afford food

Parkland Food Bank, 2025



## HOUSING INSECURITY

**121** Stony Plain residents identified as 'at risk' of homelessness

**7** are unsheltered

TriRegion Housing and Service Needs Estimate, 2025 (unofficial)

# IMPACTS 2025

Building on the foundation set by the 2022 Stony Plain Poverty Reduction Strategy, our community has continued to take practical steps toward reducing poverty. This report reflects the work, achievements, and learning from the past year across Stony Plain and the Tri-Municipal region.

# Collaboration

Poverty affects all of us and it requires that all of us— public, private, non-profit organizations, and individuals—come together to address it.

## MAKING AN IMPACT!

### Housing and Service Needs Estimate

In October 2025, the Town of Stony Plain partnered with the City of Spruce Grove, Parkland County, and Rural Development Network on a regional initiative to better understand local housing and service needs and inform community planning. With the support of 10 additional community organizations, the project engaged 548 people with lived experience—demonstrating the power of collaboration to raise awareness of homelessness, housing insecurity, and poverty, and to strengthen coordinated community responses.



### A CIRCLE OF SUPPORT

After receiving the WestView Primary Care Network Community Connector's contact information through their school, a Stony Plain youth reached out for support while facing challenges related to mental health, food insecurity, and housing instability.

With the youth's consent, the Community Connector worked alongside school staff and local partners to coordinate a timely, wrap-around response. The youth was connected to the Stony Plain Youth Centre, where they accessed food, clothing, and a safe, welcoming space. These immediate supports reduced barriers and created stability during a critical time.

The youth's family was supportive of them accessing services and receiving help, and also connected with a social worker for additional family support. While the family relationship has experienced strain, these supports are helping to strengthen communication and rebuild connection.

Community partners collaborated to further strengthen the circle of support, including transportation assistance and outreach services to ensure consistent access to care and programming. By working together and building on the youth's existing strengths, the community helped stabilize their situation, reduce vulnerability, and reinforce a sense of belonging and connection.

*Story provided by WestView Primary Care Network, Youth Connectors*



## ALSO IN COLLABORATION:

### Pathways of Poverty Regional Event

The Tri Municipal Region came together with multiple community partners to host 107 participants for a Poverty Awareness Month community event to explore different paths of poverty and gain a better understanding of poverty and local resources.



### Regional Housing Program

A collaboration of the Town of Stony Plain and the City of Spruce Grove supported 20 Stony Plain residents to gain stable housing with \$16,937 in financial support. The program is funded by the Government of Canada's Reaching Home: Canada's Homelessness Strategy, which is administered by the Rural Development Network for Rural and Remote Alberta.

2025 Pathways of Poverty Actor team



# Dignity

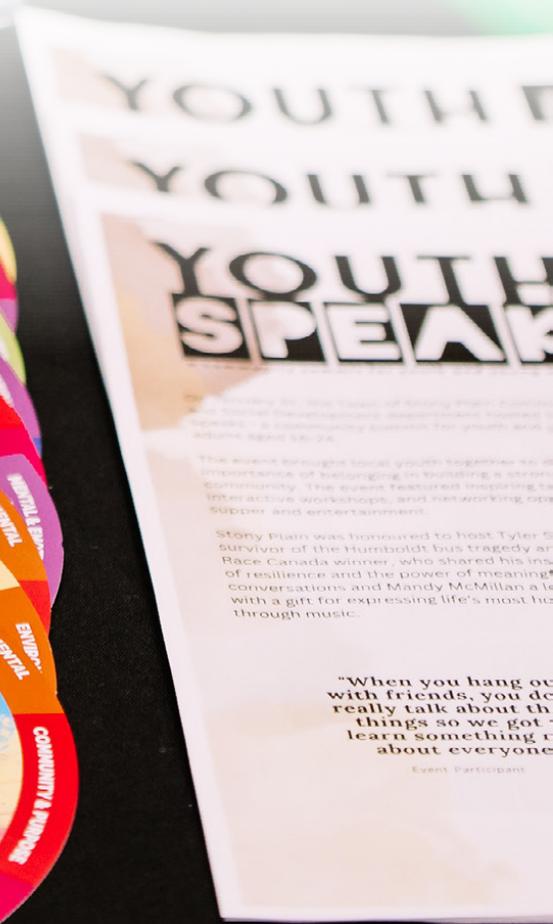
Addressing poverty requires more than giving people things they need to survive; it requires establishing a system that ensures all people have the capacity to meet their basic needs with dignity.

## MAKING AN IMPACT!

### Youth Wellness Wheel

The Youth Wellness Wheels are designed to support young people in accessing the right supports at the right time. Grounded in the eight domains of wellness, the Wheels guide youth through reflective prompting questions that help them explore different areas of their lives and recognize where additional support may be beneficial.

In addition to supporting self-reflection, the Wheels offer practical, youth-friendly language to help young people clearly express their needs and ask for help with confidence. They also include a list of local supports and services, as well as contact information for immediate crisis support when needed, helping ensure youth feel supported, informed, and connected.





## ALSO UNDER DIGNITY:

**NeighbourLink Parkland** helped 97 Stony Plain residents with financial aid, food hampers, or gently used furniture. Volunteers drove over 279 kilometres to support food bank access. They also gave 201 Help Closet items, including toiletries, hygiene products, clothing, and emergency food.

**Parkland Food Bank** served 1229 Stony Plain residents, 12 of them were first time clients. Each intake includes extensive screening which supplies information and referral to further support residents to get the supports they need.

**Community Volunteer Income Tax Program (CVITP)**, in partnership with the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA), provided vital support to 333 residents with modest income to bring nearly \$72,052 back into the community. This program ensured that eligible individuals received or continued to receive their entitled benefit payments.

**Community Pantry**, a program of the Rotary Club of Spruce Grove Community Partners Society, provided 10,725 lunches to Stony Plain children attending school within the Parkland School Division.

**Alberta Parenting for the Future** youth program provided frozen meals to 775 families (2940 individuals), including 305 Stony Plain families (39%).

The Alberta Parenting for the Future Association food rescue program provided 11,692kg of fresh food and bread to 775 families (2940 unique individuals), including 305 Stony Plain families. In addition, their Youth “Stir It Up” program provided an additional 1200 individual frozen meals.



# Opportunity

While meeting basic needs is essential, people also deserve opportunities for health, education, recreation, and meaningful connection and belonging.



## MAKING AN IMPACT!

### From Transience to Belonging

After nearly a year of living transient, a community member reached out to the Town of Stony Plain Community Connector for support with housing, health, and financial needs. They were exhausted and discouraged, feeling their calls for help had gone unanswered, and feared they might have to leave the community altogether to access the resources they needed.

With persistence and compassion, the Community Connector worked alongside them to secure safe and appropriate housing, ensuring their basic needs were finally met. They were also connected to health supports that promoted their well-being and introduced to a local faith group that offered encouragement and belonging.

Through these connections, the resident not only found stability but also began to feel truly supported by their community.

*Story provided by the Town of Stony Plain Community Connector*



## ALSO IN OPPORTUNITIES:

### Wishing You Wellness

Through subsidized Wishing You Wellness recreation passes, 214 individuals (44 from Stony Plain) have built healthier community connections and long-term wellness habits, representing a total investment of \$37,671.03 in physical and mental well-being across the Tri Municipal Region.

### KidSport Parkland

\$19,161.95 in fees have been provided to help cover the costs of registration removing barriers so that 58 kids in Stony Plain could enjoy a season of sports.

### Community Connections

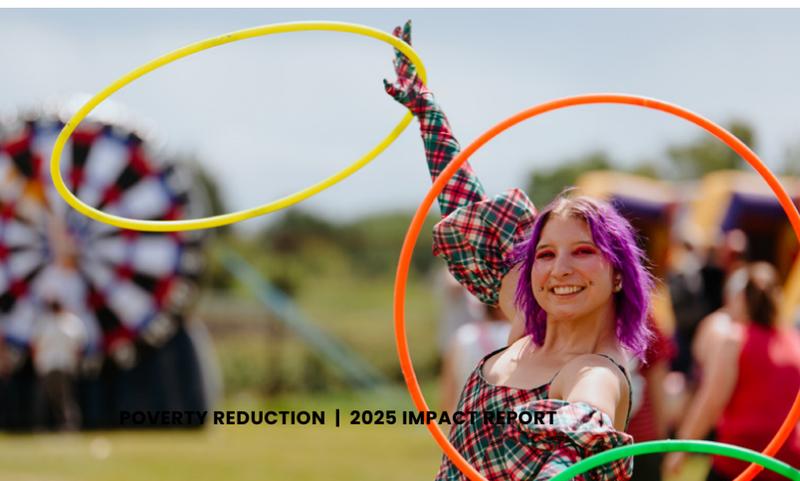
The Town of Stony Plain helped individuals foster opportunities for connection and enhanced feelings of belonging through free community events, including: Family Fest (4000), Canada Day (5000), Summer Sessions (5747), Mid-Summer Thursdays (3500), Willy Wonka Summer Movie Experience (attracting 300 participants), and Cultural Campfires (including 310 participants), Halloween event (4000 individuals) and Christmas Lightup (4000).

### Town of Stony Plain Community and Social

**Development Department** supported 7327 residents (up from 5282 in 2024) with 102 programs (up from 87 in 2024) and events to connect, build and strengthen community. Of these, 1694 (up from 1639 in 2024) residents were helped to feel a greater sense of belonging, 2017 (up from 1172) have a better understand of community and social needs and challenges, 1190 (up from 388) have greater understanding of resources in our community, 352 are better at handling life challenges, and 1667 feel more supported in community. 94% of those surveyed shared positive outcomes from their participation.

### Town of Stony Plain Public Library

eliminated late fees in 2025, making borrowing easier. More families are using the library, and parents feel comfortable getting books for their children. This change has improved access to learning and leisure for all residents.



# Resilience

Building strength and capabilities of community to positively deal with the complexities of life will help to break the inter-generational cycle of poverty and prevent further people from falling into poverty.

## MAKING AN IMPACT!

### Strengthening the first five years

This year marked the first *Little Year, Big Impact* gathering in Stony Plain, bringing together nine early childhood educators to connect, share insights, and reflect on the state of the early years. The discussion highlighted a key message: the first five years shape lifelong wellbeing, with 90% of brain development occurring before age five. Strong early childhood supports build healthier children, more resilient communities, and in time relieve pressures on social and justice systems.

The event also strengthened community capacity by creating space for educators to learn from one another, discuss challenges, and deepen their shared understanding of how to support families through life's complexities. These insights help build resilience and contribute to preventing hardship and breaking cycles of inter-generational poverty.

Participants expressed interest in making this an annual gathering to support professional development, raise awareness of the importance of the early years, and bring attention to the challenges within the childcare sector.

### STABILIZING TODAY, STRENGTHENING TOMORROW

A single parent raising a youth with complex needs had long relied on extended family for support, especially to maintain safe housing. While managing personal health challenges and the demands of caregiving, they remained focused on creating a stable future for their child.

The path to independence was not easy. Financial barriers and limited housing options made the goal feel out of reach at times. But with determination and persistence, they navigated complex systems, advocated for their family's needs, and accessed community programs designed to support long-term stability.

There were setbacks along the way, but they continued moving forward—building the knowledge, confidence, and skills needed to secure stable housing. With support from the Regional Housing Program, they were eventually able to move into their own apartment.

Having a place to call home provided more than housing. It strengthened their ability to care for their family, remain connected to their community, and build a stable foundation for the future. This journey reflects how resilience, combined with the right supports, can help families overcome complex challenges and move toward lasting stability.

*Story provided by the Town of Stony Plain  
Community Connector*

## ALSO IN RESILIENCE:

### Strengthening Residents

Since 1994, Parkland Turning Points Society has worked to break cycles of family violence and abuse, supporting families across Stony Plain with counselling and programs for women, men, couples, and families. In 2025, 82 Stony Plain residents (46 women, 36 men) received support to address personal challenges and strengthen relationships.

Grounded in the belief that everyone deserves to live free from fear and feel seen, heard, and supported, staff walk beside clients to build healthier ways of relating and creating stable, hopeful homes.

Among women, 81% improved their understanding of the cycle of abuse and 47% strengthened healthy communication skills. Among men, 91% showed increased personal accountability and 89% reduced behavioral aggression—demonstrating that meaningful change is possible when people have the space to heal.

By supporting the growth and healing of men and women, this work strengthens families at their foundation, creating safer homes for children and a future of thriving families in Stony Plain.

### Building Life Skills

TriCALA has supported lifelong learning in the Tri-Region for more than 40 years. This work directly contributes to poverty reduction by improving access to learning and creating pathways to employment, education, and community connection. TriCALA's programs are barrier-free, inclusive, and often subsidized, making learning accessible for everyone. In the past year, TriCALA offered 205 programs, engaging 115 residents from Stony Plain.



### Building Strong, Resilient Families

In 2025, Alberta Parenting for the Future Association supported 395 Stony Plain families through direct programming in early learning and care, parent education, and youth supports. The Home Visitation program reached 53 families, promoting healthy child development by supporting parents and caregivers in the home and their Youth "Stir It Up" program helped youth build confidence across social, emotional, and physical areas.

### Supporting Youth Mental Health

The partnership between WestView Primary Care Network and Parkland School Division remained strong and active in 2025, continuing to provide in-school mental health clinics at local high schools. This collaboration helps ensure students can access care in a familiar setting, reducing barriers to academic success and future employment. Over the course of the year, 23 students accessed services through this partnership, reflecting consistent utilization and an ongoing need for accessible, school-based mental health supports.



**MAKING AN IMPACT!**

# Primary Care Network's Vulnerable Person Clinic

At WestView Primary Care Network, our motto, "a healthy medical home for all," guides everything we do. The Vulnerable Person (VP) Clinic reflects this commitment by supporting people who face barriers to accessing healthcare.

The VP Clinic extends WestView's Virtual Care Clinic by offering virtual appointments with a Nurse Practitioner every Wednesday afternoon at the Spruce Grove Public Library, with additional outreach to encampments or temporary living sites when needed.

The clinic supported 57 residents from across the Tri-Municipal region in 2025. While the exact residence of individual clients is not available due to the nature of the clinic and the populations it serves, its flexible outreach model allows care to be delivered in ways that reduce barriers and meet patients where they are. Given that unsheltered residents both live in and regularly access services across the region, the clinic plays an important role in supporting the health and well-being of people within Stony Plain..

By helping patients attend appointments, use technology, and connect to income, housing, and community supports, the VP Clinic improves access to care and supports better health outcomes for vulnerable community members.

*Submitted by WestView Primary Care Network*

## Poverty reduction work cannot be done alone.

Many community partners and community members work on addressing poverty in our community. Thank you to all the contributions of shared data and stories provided in this report. If you would like to be included in a future publication, send your highlights to [connect@stonyplain.com](mailto:connect@stonyplain.com).

### THANK YOU TO COMMUNITY

