

# **Income Support**

Helping lift Peel residents out of poverty





#### **Core Service**

Income Support services help lift Peel residents out of poverty by supporting them to take steps towards employment, greater independence, and an improved quality of life

#### Services include:

- Income support
  Stability support
  Poverty prevention
  Emergency support







### Interesting facts about this service

**25K** 

1.7% of Peel's population receives
Ontario Works support

\$733

The maximum monthly payment for a single person on Ontario Works

<30%

Ontario Works
benefits
provide less
than 30% of
Peel's Living
Wage

0%

How much Ontario Works benefits have increased since 2018

### **Achievements**



Early adopter of the province's Social Assistance Renewal Plan



Addressed food insecurity in Peel by working with local foodbanks to distribute over 30,000 grocery gift cards



Introduced a new fund to improve access to mental health services for Ontario Works clients



Improved digital access for clients by funding computer hardware, digital literacy and affordable internet supports

# Service delivery model How do we do it

- Help Peel residents to navigate and access financial and community supports and services
- Complete applications and assessments for Ontario Works, Childcare Fee Subsidy and Housing Services
- Help clients to stabilize their lives to become self-sufficient and employment ready
- Oversight and accountability of Ontario Works program



### Service levels and trends

20%+

Increase in caseload size is projected

# Mental Health

Is one of the top barriers Ontario Works clients face

# **Digital Divide**

Increased need for digital literacy and affordable services

# Cost of living

Ontario Works rates are incompatible with inflation rates

## **Business plan outlook**

#### Planning for the future

- Work with community and government to improve social assistance programs
- Maintaining an engaged workforce by supporting staff health, succession planning, and professional development
- Implement digital solutions to increase access to supports and services

 Continue to engage with community providers and clients to create inclusive, accessible programs and services.

### Performance measures and results

80% of prescribed provincial program targets were achieved



88% of program eligibility reviews completed within provincial timelines



82% of clients who exit Ontario Works do not return within 12 months



81% of client survey respondents were satisfied with their inoffice appointment experience



### **Cost containment**

#### **Finding efficiencies**

Efficiencies in the 2024 Budget	Cost Savings \$ Million	Cost Avoidance \$ Million
Savings due to department realignment	\$0.3	-
TOTAL	\$0.3	-

## Proposed operating budget

2023 Net Base Budget (In \$Millions)	\$27.2
Cost to maintain 2023 service level	
<ul> <li>Inflation: Labour costs/Goods and services</li> </ul>	0.6
Cost containment	(0.3)
Sub-total: Cost to maintain 2023 service level	\$0.3
2024 Service demand	
<ul> <li>Legislated Ontario Works Benefit increase due change in monthly caseload</li> </ul>	8.5
<ul> <li>Legislated Ontario Works Benefit increase funding (increase caseload from 14,837 to 15,918)</li> </ul>	(8.5)
2024 Proposed Net Budget Change from 2023	\$0.3
Proposed Total 2024 Net Budget	\$27.5

### **Summary of Key Financial Information**

	Resources to Achieve Level of Service	
	2023	2024
Total Expenditures (\$M)	\$213.0	\$221.7
Total Revenues (\$M)	\$185.7	\$194.1
Net Expenditures (\$M)	\$27.3	\$27.6
Full-time Staffing Resources	373.3	371.4
Capital Investment (\$M)		_
10-Year Capital Investment (\$M)		_

<b>Outlook Years</b>	2025	2026	2027
Net Increase (\$M)	\$1.5	\$1.5	\$1.5
% Increase	5.3%	5.1%	5.0%