

# BUILDING



## Youth Futures

### The Building Youth Futures Initiative

Building Youth Futures is a 4-year national initiative funded by the Government of Canada supporting youth age 14-29 graduate from high school, and successfully transition to post-secondary education and/or employment.

## What is Happening Now in Chatham-Kent

**\$10,004**

is the avg. annual income for an individual without a high school diploma in CK

**11%**

of youth (20-34) in CK are unemployed

### On Education

youth feel intense pressure to "do good" at school, but struggle with the structure of school, feel misunderstood, and need a more interactive learning environment.

**16%**

of youth do not graduate high school.

**100+**

services, programs, and supports for youth in CK.

### Real Barriers

youth recognize that there are programs and activities for youth in CK - but, youth feel powerless to voice their wants/needs, and they face access barriers, such as transportation and waitlists.

## A Shared Vision for Chatham-Kent

Youth have opportunities to develop, discover, and explore their own paths, and are empowered and supported to reach for and achieve their personal and professional dreams in Chatham-Kent.

## Critical Shifts

What we want to achieve together!

### Youth Can Explore Employment Options

- Employment preparation programs are accessible, coordinated, and expanded.
- Youth can identify, explore, and develop multiple employment pathways.
- Mentorship opportunities exist to help youth discover and shape their education & employment pathways.
- Youth have opportunities for gainful & meaningful employment.

### Supports & Services are Proactive & Impactful

- Services and supports are known by and accessible to youth.
- Youth have opportunities to actively participate in and develop community services & their treatment.
- Agencies provide linked, coordinated, and streamlined services.
- There is authentic youth participation & engagement on community committees & tables.
- Services are available to prevent youth entering into crisis.

### Education is Engaging & Accessible

- High school is a supportive environment where all youth can thrive.
- Varied education & training pathways are valued.
- Youth graduation rates are above provincial and national average.
- Youth have access to education and training programs without incurring debt.
- Youth are prepared to transition to employment.

### Being Accepted & Connected

- Youth are celebrated, seen as a positive part of the community, and valued as decision makers.
- Youth have access to meaningful volunteerism and affordable social/recreation activities, especially for younger youth.
- Youth feel connected to each other, their family, neighbourhood, and community.

### Our Community's Role in Collective Impact

Building Youth Futures is a collective impact initiative, meaning we work across sectors with multiple partners (currently 30+) working together to achieve a shared vision.

### Backbone Organization

CHATHAM-KENT  
**PROSPERITY**  
ROUNDTABLE  
UNLOCKING POTENTIAL  
REDUCING POVERTY



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Government  
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