



# TOWN OF MIDLAND COMMUNITY RESPONSE TOOLKIT

Working together to enhance residents' access to homelessness prevention, health resources, and community safety support.



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# A Message from the Mayor and Council

## Dear Midland Community,

I am thrilled to share some positive news about our recent efforts to enhance safety and well-being in our town. On October 19th, we hosted a “Hope, Housing, and Health” community safety symposium, bringing together local service providers to tackle challenges in health, addiction, homelessness, housing, mental health, and poverty reduction.

During the event, these dedicated service providers highlighted valuable resources available in our community. To make these resources more accessible, the Town of Midland, with support from the County of Simcoe, has crafted a guide. This guide is designed to help address issues related to poverty, housing, mental health, and community safety, aiming to build a safer, healthier, and more connected community.

While the guide may not cover every situation, it provides essential information on connecting with local service providers. We extend our heartfelt thanks to local community service providers, the County of Simcoe, and the distinguished panelists from various organizations, including Georgian Bay Native Friendship Centre, Wendat Community Programs, United Way, OPP Southern Georgian Bay detachment, St. Vincent DePaul, Chigamik Community Health Centre, Canadian Mental Health Association, Waypoint Centre for Mental Health, and the County of Simcoe.

We are also deeply grateful to all Midland residents who attended the Town Hall session, sharing concerns, personal experiences, and potential solutions. Your input and participation are crucial in creating a safer and more vibrant community.

Thanks to everyone who contributed to the success of the “Hope, Housing, and Health” symposium. Let’s continue working together to implement the insights gained, making Midland an even better place for everyone.

## Best regards,

Bill Gordon, Mayor, Town of Midland  
Midland Town Council

Catherine MacDonald, Councillor, Town of Midland  
Rhonda Bunn, CAO, Town of Midland

# About the Community Response Toolkit

## What is the Purpose of the Community Response Toolkit?

The Community Response Toolkit was created in collaboration with local service providers and businesses to provide helpful advice on how to support individuals in the community who are experiencing homelessness, mental health or addiction crisis.

**This guide includes important contact information for local support service organizations.**

The goal of this toolkit is to develop safe, healthy, and supportive communities for people from all walks of life in the Town of Midland and the surrounding region.

## Why is there Homelessness in my Community?

Homelessness is a complex social issue that affects not only the individuals experiencing it but also the community as a whole. It can be visible, with people sleeping on the streets, or it can be hidden, with families couch-surfing or living in overcrowded and inadequate housing.

Regardless of the form it takes, homelessness is not a choice but rather a consequence of a lack of affordable housing, low-wage or sporadic employment options, mental health and substance use, poor physical health, discrimination, and unsafe situations including domestic violence and human trafficking.

## What are the County of Simcoe and Town of Midland doing to help?

The County of Simcoe oversees many of the social services in this area, including managing and funding housing programs as mandated by the Housing Services Act, 2011. This includes direct social housing delivery through the Simcoe County Housing Corporation (SCHC) and initiatives to prevent homelessness.

Beyond these legal obligations, local government is dedicated to upholding the Ontario Human Rights Code. The aim is to ensure fair treatment and prevent discrimination across various aspects of public life, including employment, housing, services, and facilities. Every resident deserves dignity and equal rights.

In collaboration with the County of Simcoe, the Town of Midland is committed to assisting individuals and families facing significant needs. This involves providing access to housing, mental health and addiction support, employment or education resources, transportation, and other essential services. To achieve this, the Town actively engages with residents, local businesses, community service providers, emergency services, and municipal staff to foster solutions and encourage empathy and support for those experiencing homelessness in the community.

Caring for fellow residents is more than just a civic duty, it is also a part of building community.

# Tips for using the Toolkit:

This toolkit was created in response to community concerns about increasing street-level homelessness and street-associated behaviours, including sleeping outside, littering or abandoning belongings in public areas, loitering in or around local businesses, non-customer requests for washrooms, and panhandling.

It is essential to realize that as uncomfortable as these situations can be for business owners and their clientele, the individuals experiencing poverty, hunger, and homelessness are only trying to survive.

To reduce the number of people in our community experiencing poverty and homelessness, the community can work together to support best practices to create safe streets.

## How to Use:

### What to do if...

- This section provides useful tips for handling several situations related to street-level homelessness
- Each page is colour-coded with helpful icons so you can find help quickly
- Print them individually to use as quick reference posters in your home or place of business

### Look Closer

- This section provides alternative views to harmful stigmas. There are many reasons people experience homelessness, use needs, or exhibit unique social behaviours.
- Let's listen. Considering other people's stories is an incredible way to learn and grow as an individual while creating stronger and more connected communities.

### Who to Call

- Find contact information for Non-Emergency and Emergency responses and community service organizations that provide resources and support.
- Learn more about when to call 9-1-1 for emergencies and when to use non-emergency lines, and why the distinction is important.
- Learn more about 2-1-1 and the vast resources available across the region.

### Community Service Providers Call List

- Contact organizations right in your community that can provide support for homelessness, food insecurity, community safety, employment resources, and addictions or mental health support and crisis interventions.

# Community Data: Understanding Your Community

## Why is Community Data Important?

Using data for decision-making is crucial because it helps organizations identify community needs more precisely. By looking at trends and patterns, decision-makers can focus resources where they are needed most, making services better suited to your community's needs. This approach also lets organizations measure how well interventions are working, allowing for continuous improvement to meet the changing needs in the community.

## Where Can I Find Community Data?

### Simcoe County Community Data Consortium

The Simcoe County Data Consortium is made up of 20 local member organizations representing the sectors of health, child welfare, education, mental health, child development, municipal and social and community development that work together to build data capacity through purchasing, analyzing, and reporting on local data.

The County of Simcoe creates many resources to provide insight into the changing community. You can learn more about the County's data collection and data partnerships and view reports at [www.simcoe.ca/communitydata](http://www.simcoe.ca/communitydata)

### County of Simcoe Data Portal – Shelter Use Tracking

A new tool launched by the County tracks real-time shelter usage and regional trends, informing enhancements and homelessness prevention and response strategies. Accessible at [open.simcoe.ca](http://open.simcoe.ca), it supports the County Council, municipalities, and service providers in understanding evolving shelter and homelessness prevention needs.

In addition, a new Simcoe County Census 2021 tool has been introduced under the Open Simcoe Data Hub. This new tool offers enhanced access and analysis of the 2021 Census data, specifically tailored for the needs of Simcoe County.

Designed to provide detailed insights at the **Dissemination Area** (DA) level, the tool presents a comprehensive view of various socio-demographic characteristics within the county. Its unique capability to aggregate data at both the DA and municipal levels, along with the feature to visualize data through **choropleth maps** (a method of mapping that provides an easy way to visualize how a measurement varies across a geographic area, showing the level of variability within a region using shades of colours), makes it a valuable resource for policymakers, researchers, External organizations and the general public.

## Definitions

### **Dissemination Area**

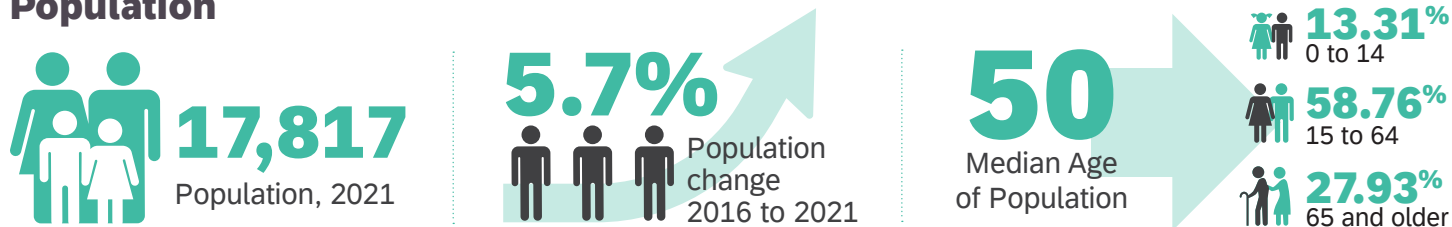
is a small area made up of adjacent blocks with a population of 400 to 700 people, based on data from the previous census.

### **Choropleth Maps**

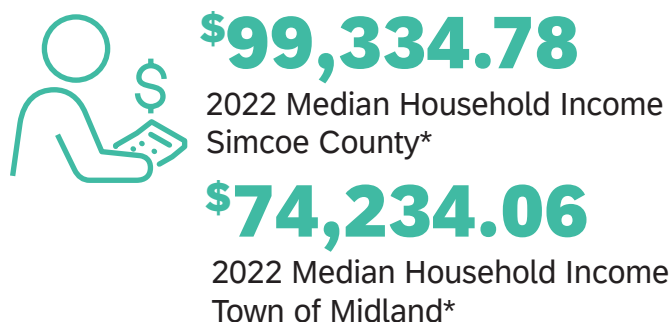
show regions that are colored, shaded, or patterned based on a data variable. This allows us to visualize values across a geographic area and identify patterns or variations within that region.

# Community Data Snapshot: Town of Midland

## Population



## Household Income



## Employment

Of the **7,915** respondents in the labour force, **87.2%** were employed, while **1,010** were unemployed.

### The top three occupational classifications:

1. sales and service
2. trades, transport and equipment operators and related occupations, and
3. business, finance, and administration

## Housing



## Occupied private dwellings by structural type

100% data (n=7,850)

Single detached house	<b>5,105</b>
Semi-detached house	<b>280</b>
Row house	<b>430</b>
Apartment in a duplex	<b>470</b>
Apartment in a building (fewer than 5 storeys)	<b>945</b>
Apartment in a building (more than 5 storeys)	<b>530</b>
Other single-attached	<b>85</b>
Moveable dwelling	<b>10</b>

## \*\*2022 Average Market Rent in Midland



## Private households by household size - 100% data (n=7,850)



**Data Sources:** Statistics Canada, 2021 Census of Population

\*2022 Median Total Household Income, 2021 Census, County of Simcoe

\*\*Data Source: Average Market Rent Survey 2022, County of Simcoe

## Core Housing Need

Core housing need refers to a situation where individuals or families do not have access to housing that meets their basic needs for affordability, condition, and suitability/size. Housing may lack essential facilities or be in poor condition, while unaffordable housing consumes a sizable portion of a household's income. Unsuitable housing may not meet the specific needs of the occupants, such as having enough bedrooms for family members.

Addressing core housing needs is crucial for ensuring that everyone has a decent and affordable place to live, promoting overall well-being and stability in communities.

### Households 'spending 30% or more of income on shelter costs' or 'not suitable' or 'major repairs needed.' *25% sample data*

**215**

Not Suitable

**625**

Major Repairs  
Needed

**1,665**

Spending **30%** or more of  
income on shelter costs only

**Data Note:** Each area of core housing need was assessed separately within the census and carried different response rates. The numbers shown above reflect the individual responses of survey participants in each category but are not reflective of the total number of households in core housing as this method would not account for duplication across categories.

According to the 2021 Census Profile for the Town of Midland, Core Housing Need was experienced by **3.8%** of homeowners and **25.4%** of renters.



HOW YOU  
CAN MAKE  
A DIFFERENCE

# How you can make a difference

It is common to feel vulnerable or uncertain about how to help or interact with individuals experiencing street-level homelessness in the community. However, there are proactive steps that you can take to aid those in need, create safer spaces, strengthen our community, and overcome feelings of discomfort.

## **Create Connections**

Simply connecting someone to the assistance they need is often a small act with a big impact. Just as you might provide a lost motorist with directions to the local arena, you could also provide someone seeking food with directions to the nearest food bank or meal program. Familiarizing yourself with local resources and support services means you can easily connect others to community services, health services, non-emergency responses, and other organizations that can provide help and support.

## **Learn More about the Issues**

Recognizing the reasons behind poverty, homelessness, mental health challenges that include addictions, and other social issues demands a careful understanding of the many factors involved. It is important to grasp that these challenges can impact anyone, regardless of background or circumstance. People from all walks of life can be affected by issues like economic instability, limited access to good education, and systemic inequality. Poverty and homelessness may arise from situations like job loss, family problems, injury or mental health difficulties. Substance abuse often starts as coping with trauma or persistent stress, underscoring the link between mental health and broader social challenges.

By fostering understanding, we can dispel the notion that individuals actively choose to face these difficulties. Instead, we can focus on developing inclusive solutions that address the various aspects of these complex issues.

## **Get Involved**

Getting involved through volunteering and participating can be an effective way to show your support for direct relief programs. It is also an opportunity to interact with people in the community who are experiencing homelessness and get to know them better.

For residents with the means and the desire to make a positive impact, generosity in the form of food items, clothing, or monetary donations is profoundly appreciated by both those in need and the dedicated staff or volunteers operating our local food banks, shelters, and faith-based organizations and programs. Contributions from the community help foster a sense of unity and bring comfort to those facing challenging circumstances. The collective support contributes significantly to making a meaningful difference.

# WHAT TO DO IF...

**Recommendations for Business Owners / Employees**

# What to do if ...

Although some residents will have employment or volunteer experience working with vulnerable persons, many people have never had exposure to unhoused individuals or persons experiencing a health crisis.

It is helpful to get to know the people experiencing homelessness in your community and treat them like any neighbour. Unless you feel that the situation is unsafe, or are uncomfortable doing so, ask the person if they require assistance and if they would like help connecting to local housing and support services.

For local business owners or residents who would like to help but are unsure of how to provide support, below are some recommendations.

**Each What to do if... section can be hung up like a poster for quick reference at your home or place of work.**

## **Recommendations for Business Owners and Employees**

As a business owner or employee, you retain the right to call emergency services if an individual is causing trouble at your workplace. However, there are many other non-emergency options to help prevent conflicts, build trust and understanding, and set a good example for your staff, customers, and colleagues to treat everyone with dignity.

If someone experiencing street-level homelessness enters a business, they are typically doing so to access help in the form of warmth, a washroom, and potentially food or money. When treated with respect and dignity, these situations are often easily and amicably resolved.

If additional support is required to move someone along or connect them to a warm place to stay, call **2-1-1** or refer to the **COMMUNITY CALL** list provided within this guide on **page 20**.

However, it is also important to trust your instincts. If a situation feels aggressive, threatening or escalates, call **9-1-1**.

## What to do if ...

### Someone enters my store who appears unkempt or they are behaving out of the ordinary.

► **Greet them with a friendly smile as you would for any other customer.**

If some time has passed and your guest has not made a purchase, it may help to strike up a conversation. A question like “What brings you in today?” might help you discern if your guest is wasting time before an appointment, taking a break from work or family responsibilities, or if they are in need of assistance.

If the person appears to be hallucinating or appears to be confused or disoriented, make eye contact and speak gently. Ask short, simple questions and listen carefully to their answers. Reassure them you are there to help. Call non-emergency police and request an officer to assist a vulnerable person. Non-Emergency Reporting **1-888-310-1122**.

- If you discover through conversation that community service support is needed, ask if they would like you to connect them to a local service provider to get them shelter, food, or health support; call **2-1-1** to connect to community services.
- If the individual refuses to engage or leave, but you do not feel threatened or unsafe, you can call a non-emergency police response at Non-Emergency Reporting **1-888-310-1122**.
- If you feel unsafe, or if the individual becomes aggressive or threatening, call **9-1-1** immediately.

#### Take a closer look



Remember, appearances can be deceiving. A person’s style or quality of dress is not a reliable indicator of their living situation, ability to purchase at a place of business, or how they will act or behave in a situation.

Through science, society is also discovering more about mental health and the wide array of neurodivergences that cause individuals to learn, move, respond, and behave differently from one another. Some behaviors that may seem “out of the ordinary” can be quite common for individuals in unique medical communities.

## What to do if ...

### Someone is sleeping outside of my business.

- If you feel safe and comfortable doing so, establish a respectful relationship. Introduce yourself. Ask for the person's name or if they need assistance. Ask if they have accessed any emergency shelter services or if they would like help finding housing support.
- If you would like them to move, use a gentle tone to let them know where you would like them to move to. Remember, sleeping outside is a rough sleep, and it can take some extra time to move.
- Providing a bottle of water or a warm drink may help establish trust.
- If the individual refuses to leave, but you do not feel threatened or unsafe, you can call a non-emergency police response at Non-Emergency Reporting **1-888-310-1122** or **2-1-1** to connect with a local street outreach team.
- If you feel unsafe, or if the individual becomes aggressive or threatening, immediately call **9-1-1**.

# What to do if ...

## I found a needle in front of my business.

- ▶ If you see a discarded needle on private property, you will need to dispose of it yourself. If a needle is found on public property, you can dispose of it yourself or call for further assistance.

### If disposing of a needle yourself

- ▶ You can contact the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit (705-721-7520 or [www.simcoemuskokahealth.org](http://www.simcoemuskokahealth.org)) for free sharps containers along with the recurring disposal of needles from the sharps containers. Some local pharmacies may also provide access to sharps disposal containers. You can also use any hard plastic container with a lid.



#### Instructions:

1. Prepare yourself with gloves, tongs, and a hard plastic container designed for sharps.
2. Using tongs, pliers, or tweezers, pick up the item so that the sharp end is pointing away from you.
3. Place the hard plastic container on a stable surface.
4. Identify safe needle disposal locations in or near the business areas and create a map for easy reference. Dispose of the container in a needle drop box.
5. Take care when removing your gloves and disposing of them.
6. Wash your hands with soap and water.

### What should I do if a needle puncture does happen?

If a needle does break the skin, let the cut bleed freely. Wash the area well with soap and water and apply an antiseptic, like rubbing alcohol or peroxide. Visit the doctor right away.

The risk of getting a disease is low, but each situation needs to be medically examined. You may be advised to have blood tests or get immunized, depending on the situation.

If you require support removing needles/sharps on the premises, dial Town of Midland Customer Services at 705-526-4275 Ext.. 2255.

### Take a closer look



Not all discarded sharps are associated with illegal drug use. Sharps, including needles and syringes, serve essential roles in administering life-sustaining medications like epinephrine and insulin.

Dispose of sharps in designated containers to keep public spaces clean and safe. If you see improperly discarded needles, report it to local authorities. There is no need to fear encountering discarded sharps, simply use caution, follow disposal rules, and consult with local health services for guidance. Together we can create a cleaner and safer community.

# WHAT TO DO IF...

**Recommendations for Everyone**



# What to do if ...

## There is litter, garbage or waste in a business area, public park, or near my home.

### Garbage

- ▶ Contact [service@midland.ca](mailto:service@midland.ca) to discuss trash issues. The addition of more waste receptacles, increased lighting, or some additional signage may help decrease litter.
- ▶ Hosting business area clean-up days can enable fellow business owners in the area to work together to clean up and troubleshoot creative solutions tailored to local needs.

### Abandoned Belongings

- ▶ If you come across abandoned items within the business area, carefully consider how long they have been left unattended before removing them. If the items appear unattended for only a few hours, the owner may return.
- ▶ Please do not consider removing items unless they have been abandoned for several days. For people experiencing homelessness, the items they carry are often all they have and can be crucial to their survival.
- ▶ Call **2-1-1** to connect with street outreach to determine a plan for the items. A local shelter provider in your area may have storage for these items.
- ▶ Contact municipal staff to determine which departments can assist you with the removal of items based on local by-laws. Town of Midland, Customer Services **705-526-4275 Ext.. 2255**.

### Graffiti on Public Property

- ▶ The Town of Midland is responsible for removing graffiti from public spaces, such as town-owned buildings, lamp standards, signs, parks, sidewalks, and other public amenities. For litter or graffiti removal, you can call the Town of Midland Customer Services at **705-526-4275 Ext.. 2255**.

### Graffiti on Private Property

- ▶ For privately owned commercial or residential spaces, it is best to call non-emergency police services to file a report at Non-Emergency Reporting **1-888-310-1122**.
- ▶ You may also choose to file a claim with your insurance carrier to remediate damages.

### Instructions for Reporting a Non-Emergency Incident to Police:

1. Check to see if your non-emergency crime can be reported online at [www.opp.ca](http://www.opp.ca)
2. Be ready with all relevant information when you call:
  - Your full name
  - Your exact address
  - Date and time of incident
  - A list of important details about incident, including what, where and when
  - Do you have proof? Take photos/videos

## What to do if ...

### Someone is taking from my garbage or recycling at my home or place of business.

Some people survive on the money they receive from collecting recyclables and discarded clothing and items they find. Understandably, it can feel invasive to see a person go through your waste, but there are steps you can take to protect your privacy while also allowing space for the recycling and reuse of your discarded items.

#### **Here are some suggestions that may help:**

- Always make sure to shred papers and items that contain your personal or financial information.
- Use a separate bin for returnable glass containers and cans, and this will allow collectors to grab the items they are seeking quickly, leaving less time for them to linger around your property.
- Separating food waste through composting results in less household trash overall and ensures that items that may be useful to someone in need are not contaminated with food waste.

# What to do if ...

## Suspected Overdose

### Emergency Response

- ▶ If you comfortable doing so, check if the person is responsive. Can you wake them? If they are unresponsive, call **9-1-1**. If you are alone, you can put the phone on speaker. Remember, you will not get in trouble if you call **9-1-1** for a suspected overdose.
- ▶ Follow the instructions provided by the **9-1-1** operator. If a Naloxone kit is available, follow instructions to administer it.

### Proactive Preparation

- ▶ Consider carrying or keeping Naloxone Kits handy and being trained to respond to a suspected or confirmed overdose appropriately.

Take-home Naloxone kits and training are available free of charge and without a prescription for people at risk of overdose and their family and friends. Naloxone kits are available at the Simcoe Muskoka District Health Unit, Community Health Centres, and many pharmacies across the region.

- ▶ Consider becoming First Aid and CPR certified.
- ▶ Carry the appropriate Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) such as disposable gloves, mask and eye protection, and masks for respiratory first aid.

Providing first aid with a focus on disease prevention involves taking precautions to minimize the risk of infection for both the first aider and the injured or ill person.

Health Cards are not required. Call your pharmacy ahead of time to make sure a Naloxone kit is available.



Society tends to focus on visible symptoms of addiction instead of the complex reasons behind it, leading to judgment and exclusion. It's important to see individuals experiencing addiction as people first, deserving of empathy and support. By educating ourselves about addiction, we can break down stereotypes and promote positive, compassionate interventions.

Recognizing the potential for recovery and growth in each person helps reduce stigma and can even save lives.

# COMMUNITY CALL LISTS

# Community Call List

## 9-1-1 Emergency Response

For emergencies, such as an imminent threat, crime in progress, or need for urgent medical attention, dial **9-1-1**.

## 9-8-8 Suicide Prevention Hotline

Available in every province and territory, individuals who are experiencing a mental health crisis and need immediate, real-time support can call or **Ext. 9-8-8** for support, available 24/7 and free of charge.

## Non-Emergency Emergency Response

- ▶ **Southern Georgian Bay Detachment | 705-526-3761**  
*Ontario Provincial Police (OPP)*

Examples of a non-emergency response include break-ins and theft that have already occurred and where a suspect is not on the scene, property damage, and refusal of a person to leave property or business (non-violent), or suspicious circumstances that may indicate an ongoing criminal activity such as window peeping or repetitive attempts to enter parked vehicles.

- ▶ **North Simcoe Crisis Management and Resource Team (CMART) | 705-526-1305**  
*Wendat Community Programs*

North Simcoe Crisis Management and Resource Team (C-MART) is a Team made up of a non-uniformed OPP Police Officer and a Mental Health Crisis Worker. This CMART will manage & provide mental health crisis support to individuals, provide resources to community members, and assist people to navigate the mental health system. Referrals are initiated by the Southern Georgian Bay OPP, Wendat Community Programs, or the community situation committee.

- ▶ **Community Paramedicine | 705-726-9300 x 1579**  
*County of Simcoe*

The Community Paramedicine Coordinator receives referrals and helps referred patients navigate the community healthcare system to ensure that the patient's needs are met whenever possible.

- ▶ **Fire Prevention | 705-526-4275 x 2236**  
*Midland Fire and Emergency Services*

In addition to fire protection, Midland Fire and Emergency Services provides fire prevention services as well to educate the public on precautions to prevent potentially harmful fires and how to survive these fires if they do occur. Fire prevention services can assist with building and alarm system inspections, fire risk assessments and safety planning.

## 2-1-1 Information Services

Note that phone numbers and organization names may change over time. For the latest information and to get additional numbers and information, please call or **Ext. 211** or visit **communityconnection.ca**. When you call or **Ext. 211**, you reach a real person, 24/7, who is highly trained to listen and help. Connecting with **2-1-1** can connect you with many resources, including local:

- Outreach teams
- Service providers
- Food security initiatives
- Local churches
- Volunteer organizations
- Medical clinics and services
- Emergency shelters
- Financial resources
- Employment resources

# Community Service Providers Call List

The following is a list of several community services supporting mental health, housing and homelessness prevention, food security, youth and culture-based support services. This list is not all-inclusive, and program details are subject to change. As such, calling 2-1-1 remains the best option for seeking out helpful resources and programs within the community.

<p><b>Canada</b></p>	<p>Calls to <b>Ext. 988</b> are directed to a network of partners in communities across the country offering suicide prevention services such as counselling.</p> <p>Children, teens, and Indigenous people may also access services geared towards them.</p> <p>The <b>988</b> service is federally funded, free to use, available 24/7 and provided in English and French to all.</p>	
<p><b>Canadian Mental Health Association. Simcoe County Branch, Midland, Addiction Services</b></p>	<p>Provides services to youth and adults with substance abuse issues and concerned family members or friends affected by the problem of alcohol, drug use or gambling.</p> <p>For immediate mental health assistance, call the 24/7 Mental Health Crisis Line. If your call to the crisis line is answered by an automated service, leave a message, and a crisis counsellor will return your call promptly.</p> <p>Referral to French mental health services in the North Simcoe Muskoka Region: <b>705-527-8738 Ext. 1413.</b></p>	<p><b>24/7 Mental Health Crisis Line:</b> 705-728-5044 1-888-893-8333</p> <p><b>Telecare:</b> 705-726-7922</p> <p><b>Kids Help Phone:</b> 1-800-668-6868 or Ext. CONNECT to 686868 to chat</p> <p><a href="https://cmhastarttalking.ca/">https://cmhastarttalking.ca/</a></p>
<p><b>CHIGAMIK Community Health Centre</b></p>	<p>The Centre offers primary health care to registered clients, including the services of doctors, nurse practitioners, nurses, dietitians, community health workers, health promoters, physiotherapists, and mental health and addictions counsellors.</p> <p>Harm reduction supplies are available, including naloxone, safe injection supplies, sharp containers, pipe stems and bowls.</p>	<p><b>24/7 Mental Health Crisis Line:</b> 705-728-5044 1-888-893-8333</p> <p><a href="http://www.chigamik.ca">www.chigamik.ca</a></p>
<p><b>Empower Simcoe</b></p>	<p>Regional Housing Support Services is to support those seeking permanent housing, financial support for housing or utility-related expenses, and more.</p>	<p>705-739-0485</p> <p><a href="http://www.empowersimcoe.ca/regional-housing-support-services">www.empowersimcoe.ca/regional-housing-support-services</a></p>

<b>Georgian Bay Food Network</b>	A nonprofit, store-front-style food bank. Located in Midland, Ontario. Assists individuals and families with food support and food security in the local community.	705-812-6500 <a href="http://www.gbfn.org">www.gbfn.org</a>
<b>Georgian Bay Native Friendship Centre</b>	The Georgian Bay Native Friendship Centre (GBNFC) administers programs to the Georgian Bay region in areas such as health, family support, employment and training, education, children and youth initiatives as well as cultural awareness and activities.	705-526-5589 <a href="http://www.gbnfc.com">www.gbnfc.com</a>
<b>Georgian Bay Native Women's Association</b>	Georgian Bay Native Women's Association is a nonprofit organization responsible to the native women and children in the area, offering social, cultural, educational and recreational programs, including traditional and clan teachings, legends and storytelling, craft making, full moon and other traditional ceremonies. Includes health outreach support for women and seniors programs.	705-527-7043 <a href="http://www.gbnwa.ca">www.gbnwa.ca</a>
<b>Huronian Transition Homes/ La Maison Rosewood Shelter</b>	15-bed emergency shelter that provides support to women and children fleeing violence across Simcoe County.  Services include a residential program, confidential counselling services, legal advocacy, and information support groups for women and children.	<b>Admin</b> 705-526-3221, <b>Ext. for Support 24/7</b> 705-999-0012 <a href="http://www.huroniatransitionhomes.ca">www.huroniatransitionhomes.ca</a>
<b>Knox Presbyterian Church, Gift of Grace Soup Kitchen</b>	Offers free meals for anyone in need.	705-526-7421 <a href="http://www.knoxmidland.ca">www.knoxmidland.ca</a>
<b>La Clé</b>	Nonprofit organization offering multiple services to Francophones and Francophiles in Simcoe County. Including employment, health, education, and family resources.	705-549-3116 <a href="http://www.lacle.ca">www.lacle.ca</a>
<b>New Path Youth and Family Services, Child and Youth Mental Health Quick Access Clinic</b>	Professional counselling services clinic provides single-session counselling and can be the first step to accessing other services as needed.	<b>Central Intake and Information</b> 705-725-7656 <b>mental health crisis line</b> at 705-728-5044 or 1-888-893-8333  <a href="http://www.newpath.ca">www.newpath.ca</a>

<b>North Simcoe Youth Wellness Hub, North Simcoe</b>	<p>Offers services virtually and in-person with little to no wait times.</p> <p>Services include mental health services, substance use services, peer support services, primary care - physical health services, education services, employment services, 2SLGBTQ services, and support for youth with special needs, also, housing, a variety of workshops and cultural teachings.</p>	<p>705-427-5639</p> <p><a href="https://youthhubs.ca/site/north-simcoe-youth-wellness-hub">https://youthhubs.ca/site/north-simcoe-youth-wellness-hub</a></p>
<b>Ontario Works, Corporation of the County of Simcoe</b>	<p>Ontario Works offers money to help individuals and eligible family members with living expenses, including food (special dietary needs accommodated), rent, health benefits for individuals and eligible family members, and employment support.</p>	<p><b>Office:</b> 705-722-3132</p> <p><b>Interactive Voice Response:</b> 1-800-808-2268</p> <p><a href="https://www.simcoe.ca/dpt/ow">https://www.simcoe.ca/dpt/ow</a></p>
<b>Salvation Army, Midland - Street Outreach</b>	<p>Working on the streets and green spaces within the communities of North Simcoe locating and assisting individuals at risk of homelessness or experiencing homelessness.</p>	<p><b>Street Outreach</b> 705-526-5683</p> <p><a href="http://www.salvationarmymidland.ca">www.salvationarmymidland.ca</a></p>
<b>Salvation Army, Midland Community Food Bank</b>	<p>Provides emergency food assistance once a month. Assistance for clothing and household goods is provided on an emergency basis through the food bank by voucher.</p>	<p><b>Food Bank</b> 705-526-2751</p> <p><a href="http://www.salvationarmymidland.ca">www.salvationarmymidland.ca</a></p>
<b>Shelter Now, Transitional Support Program</b>	<p>Transitional housing with supports.</p>	<p>705-528-6941</p> <p><a href="http://www.shelternow.ca">www.shelternow.ca</a></p>
<b>Society of St Vincent de Paul/ St Margaret's Conference Food Pantry</b>	<p>Food Bank provides non-perishable foods to families and individuals in need.</p>	<p>705-526-7585</p>
<b>The Guesthouse Shelter and Community Hub</b>	<p>Provides short-term overnight shelter, including two meals daily for all guests. Laundry and shower facilities are available for overnight guests.</p> <p>Assists persons and/or families in seeking permanent housing or retaining housing in partnership with local support services or supports in other communities, including provincial programs.</p>	<p><b>Shelter Line</b> 705-527-4111 Ext. 1</p> <p><a href="http://www.theguesthouseshelter.ca">www.theguesthouseshelter.ca</a></p>



<b>Victim Services of Simcoe County, Barrie, Victim Crisis Assistance Ontario</b>	On-site early intervention and crisis intervention, needs assessment, safety planning, and referrals to community services.	705-725-7025 Ext. 2120  <a href="http://www.victimservicesofsimcoecounty.ca">www.victimservicesofsimcoecounty.ca</a>
<b>Waypoint Centre for Mental Health Care - Our Place Social Club</b>	Specialty mental health hospital with 141 beds serving Simcoe County, Muskoka and areas of Parry Sound and Dufferin County and 160 beds dedicated to provincial high security forensic mental health programs, mental health services, and behavioural research.  A social gathering place for individuals living with a mental illness staffed by their peers. Home to the 'Good Sense Cafe' providing healthy and affordable lunches	<b>Central Intake Team</b> 705-549-3181 ext. 2308  <b>Peer Support Worker</b> 705-526-6062  <a href="http://www.waypointcentre.ca">www.waypointcentre.ca</a>  <b>Youth Outreach Services</b> 705-549-3181 ext. 2308
<b>Wendat Community Programs</b>	Wendat offers programs for clients who have mental health needs. Meals are \$3.00 each.	<b>Case Management Social Club</b> 705-526-1305  <a href="http://www.wendatprograms.com">www.wendatprograms.com</a>
<b>Wendat Community Programs – North Simcoe Good Food Box Program</b>	A volunteer-run community initiative promoting good nutrition by organizing for and delivering Good Food Boxes (\$16), which consist of an assortment of fresh fruits and vegetables. Orders must be pre-ordered in-person and paid for by the seventh day of each month, in-person at Wendat, 237 Second St., Midland, ON.	705-526-1305 <a href="http://www.wendatprograms.com">www.wendatprograms.com</a>
<b>Shelter Now, Transitional Support Program</b>	Transitional housing with supports.	705-528-6941
<b>Youth Haven</b>	Virtual or in-person counselling for youth, appointment required. Services include: guidance and support with housing, mental health support, Employment/job search, education, goal planning, emotions management, self-harm, life skills development, and referrals to additional supports. The office also keeps a stock of clothing and necessities for youth to access.	705-817-1148  <a href="http://www.youthhaven.ca">www.youthhaven.ca</a>

