

# From Poverty to Possibility... and Prosperity

## WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW

### About Poverty

- There is more to poverty than meets the eye.
- Poverty is not just about money or the distribution of wealth in society – it's about the distribution of power. Poverty exists because attitudes and systems exist that exclude people from participation in economic, social, and political decisions that affect them.
- Poverty does not affect only the poor though; it exacts a toll on all of us in terms of decreased health, safety and community economic growth.

### About the Saskatoon Poverty Reduction Partnership

- In 2010, the Saskatoon Poverty Reduction Partnership formed to enhance efforts to coordinate multi-sectoral collaboration around a poverty reduction vision. Current partners include a mix of organizations and interest groups.
- Reducing poverty to us means, “Creating conditions which enable all members of our community to develop their talents and abilities, to actively participate in economic and social life, and to enjoy a good standard of living on a sustainable basis”.

### About What We can do to Reduce Poverty

People who care about ending poverty can make a difference in 3 ways:

#### 1. **Never doubt that your individual actions are important and effective.**

- a. Visit the Saskatoon Poverty Reduction Partnership's website [www.saskatoonpoverty2possibility.ca](http://www.saskatoonpoverty2possibility.ca) for ideas on how you can learn, share and influence to make change.

## 2. Connect to a community.

- a. This year, the Saskatoon Poverty Reduction Partnership's annual work plan is focused on 3 priorities:
  - i. Engaging faith and business communities in poverty reduction activities.
  - ii. Strengthening involvement and collaboration with First Nations and Metis partners.
  - iii. Ending homelessness in Saskatoon.
- b. Advancing these priorities requires collective community action involving people with diverse backgrounds and experiences – you have something of value to give.

## 3. Link community work to advocacy for policy change.

- a. It is important that we understand the systems that keep people in poverty in the first place.
- b. To make change, we can advocate for better economic, labour, social, housing, and other public policies. We can support leaders committed to the prosperity and well-being of the whole community.
- c. The Saskatoon Poverty Reduction Partnership monitors, reports on, and influences progress on 15 policy options from the *Health Disparity in Saskatoon: Analysis to Intervention* report.

By connecting individual action to community, and community action to advocacy, we can make sustainable change that will move all people in Saskatoon from poverty to possibility and prosperity.

## About Available Resources

- Our website: [www.saskatoonpoverty2possibility.ca](http://www.saskatoonpoverty2possibility.ca) (e.g. work plan, *from poverty to possibility...and prosperity* document, ACT Now section with ideas on ways to reduce poverty, newsletters , The Starting Point films etc.)
- Our email distribution list
- Facebook profile

## Contact Us

Amanda Clarke,  
SRIC Partnership and Strategy Development Coordinator  
c/o Ministry of Education  
8th Floor, 122 - 3rd Ave. North  
Saskatoon, SK S7K 2H6  
P: (306) 933-5030  
E-mail: [amanda.clarke@gov.sk.ca](mailto:amanda.clarke@gov.sk.ca)