

#BasicIncome

The cost of maintaining poverty in ON is \$22-37 billion annually.



Source: Feed Ontario (Lee and Briggs, 2019)



Cuts to social assistance reduce the resources available to those most in need, as opposed to investing in their well-being and helping break the cycle of poverty.

The cycle of poverty can lead to losses in tax revenue as well as heightened costs in the health care and justice systems.

Some Stats on Poverty in Ontario

- **Income inequality** has increased **10%** between 2000 and 2016.
- The **severity** of poverty in ON is increasing and is evident through food insecurity. The number of **regular visits to food banks** has increased **3 fold**.



How a **Basic Income** could improve the health of our communities:

1. Improved physical health (including lower levels of morbidity, intimate partner violence, and feelings of tiredness & pain).
2. Reduced consumption of tobacco and alcohol.
3. Decreased rates of hospitalizations and physicians visits.
4. Individuals are able to spend more time with family and friends and get involved with their communities; including increased rates of physical activity.