A guiding document to assist in the development of policies and programs to promote a healthy and just food system in Grey and Bruce Counties. The Charter acknowledges the right for all to food.
In acknowledgement of the basic right to food, the Charter is a commitment to work together to build a vibrant, sustainable, food secure community. Based on community participation, a sustainable local food system will prioritize health, social justice, education, economic development, the environment, and culture.
BECAUSE WE VALUE HEALTH WE SUPPORT

- Public policy that recognizes food’s contribution to physical, mental, spiritual, and emotional well-being
- Making food readily accessible for our rural and urban residents, including adequate transportation links, neighbourhoods that encourage walkable and bikeable access to healthy food
- Strategies to prevent and manage chronic diseases through access to affordable, healthy, safe, adequate, and culturally appropriate food
- Baby friendly policies that protect, promote, and support breastfeeding through informed decision making

BECAUSE WE VALUE SOCIAL JUSTICE WE SUPPORT

- Making sure everyone has access to healthy food
- A fair wage for the production of food, and a safe and respectful environment for all farmers and food workers
- Allowing land access for people interested in growing and/or processing food
- Income, education, employment, housing, and transportation policies and practices that support access to healthy, sustainable food
BECAUSE WE VALUE EDUCATION WE SUPPORT

- Food literacy and skill building initiatives that engage youth and students integrated in school curricula
- Programs that train current and future farmers, home gardeners, food producers, and others involved in the food value chain
- Integrating food literacy, community gardening and seed saving into communities
- Developing community gardens at schools and other public settings
- Public education about the connections between our health, the environment, and our food choices
- Public awareness of the role of agriculture in our lives

BECAUSE WE VALUE CULTURE WE SUPPORT

- Celebrating and promoting respect for and inclusion of traditional, cultural, and spiritual food diversity
- Enhancing the dignity and joy of growing, preparing, and eating food
- Strengthening links between rural and urban communities
- Opportunities for all community members to be included and to make connections through the experience and sharing food.
BECAUSE WE VALUE SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WE SUPPORT

- Increasing the production, processing, distribution, and consumption of foods from Grey and Bruce
- Promoting our region as a food, agricultural, and culinary destination
- Food and agricultural research that is innovative, sustainable, and includes alternative food systems
- Services and infrastructure that support local farms and the development of local food related programs and businesses
- Practices that recognize the detrimental impact of food transportation and strive to minimize environmental burden

BECAUSE WE VALUE ENVIRONMENT WE SUPPORT

- Farming practices, protect, and enhance watersheds, wildlife habitat, soil and bio-diversity
- Food production methods that sustain the natural environment in rural and urban settings
- Sustainable development of agriculture, water, land use policies and practices that support the production of healthy food
OUR VISION
REDUCE AND ELIMINATE POVERTY IN OUR COMMUNITY

OUR PURPOSE
FACILITATE COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS TO ADVOCATE FOR POVERTY REDUCTION AND ELIMINATION

JOIN THE BRUCE GREY POVERTY TASK FORCE
The Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force focuses on building partnerships with key community stakeholders and networks; working together to eliminate poverty, enhancing our common understanding of poverty issues through solution-based research, knowledge development, and information sharing.

Jill Umbach
Planning Network Coordinator
Bruce Grey Poverty Task Force
519-377-9406
jill.umbach@gmail.com

United Way of Bruce Grey
380 9th Street East, Owen Sound
N4K 1P1