

# CAN YOU MAKE THE MONTH? VIRTUAL FACILITATION GUIDE

**MaketheMonth.ca** – the first online poverty simulator in Canada - is a unique way to engage your team, build empathy, raise awareness about poverty in your local community and spark a discussion around the issues that people living on low income face. This online tool challenges you to make the month on a limited budget and presents you with choices that you have to make on your own or as a group.

## Why do a facilitated Make the Month activity?

- Interactive Virtual Team-building experience
- Education around poverty in the community
- Raising awareness for your colleagues about the work of United Way
- This is also something you can try at home, with your family and friends as a way to start a conversation about the issues that many people in your community face

## What is required to facilitate an online Make the Month activity?

- Two facilitators from United Way
- A minimum of 15 participants from your workplace
- 45 minutes to 1.5-hour block of time

### **Sample agenda:**

- Introduction by company representative and United Way
- Make the month activity done as a group
- Debrief discussion

## How it works

- What choice would you make? This activity is meant to offer a glimpse into the challenging decisions that people living with limited resources can face in their daily lives by putting participants in a virtual situation where they make those hard choices themselves.
- Participants will vote on choices as a team and see and discuss the impact of those decisions and how choices are limited for the 1 in 5 people in our Region experiencing poverty. Choices come from real life examples like deciding on tutoring for your child, paying your cell phone bill, or where to live.
- United Way facilitators will take the group through a discussion of the real-life situations that this exercise is based on and the complicated issues related to poverty in our communities such as: Housing, Mental health, Food Security, Child poverty, and Employment.

## Who can participate?

- All employees can participate
- Can accommodate any group size up to 100

## Booking information

Please connect with your United Way Partner or contact [donorengagement@uwgt.org](mailto:donorengagement@uwgt.org)