HEALTHY AGING 2026-27 Q1 QUARTERLY REPORT



United Way BC Healthy Aging is pleased to share highlights with the Community-Based Seniors' Services (CBSS) sector from **2026-27 Quarter 1 (April 1 – June 30, 2026):**

Sector Impact at a Glance

Supporting More Older Adults Than Ever Before

Healthy Aging programs reached a record **44,309** unique participants in Q1, a 23.5% increase from the previous quarter, making this the highest level of participant reach reported in a single quarter to date. Growth was driven by increased participation across multiple grant streams, particularly Better at Home and Social Meals programs. In addition, nearly **320,000** community-based services that support healthy, connected, and independent aging. These services help older adults remain active in their communities, strengthen social connections, access practical supports, and improve overall wellbeing across British Columbia.

Expanding Access Across British Columbia

Healthy Aging now supports 390 programs delivered by 180 community organizations across British Columbia. During Q1:

- Five new Healthy Aging Community Collaboratives were launched, bringing the provincial total to 73 collaboratives.
- Eight new Social Prescribing programs started, increasing the provincial total to 92 programs.
- Community Connector (CC) capacity grew to over 84 CCs, supporting local coordination, navigation, and collaboration efforts province-wide.

Social Prescribing continues to connect older adults with the social, recreational, wellness, and community supports they need to thrive. During Q1, Community Connectors delivered more than 27,000 services while working alongside local partners through Healthy Aging Community Collaboratives to improve referral pathways, identify service gaps, and strengthen coordination between health and community services.

Meeting Growing Demand

Reaching Seniors Experiencing Greater Vulnerability

Early Priority Population Screening data confirms that Healthy Aging funding is reaching seniors facing multiple vulnerabilities.

Among participants assessed during Q1:

73% were living on low-to-modest incomes.

72% were experiencing low-to-moderate frailty.

64% identified as members of underserved or equity-deserving groups.

61% experienced social isolation or loneliness.

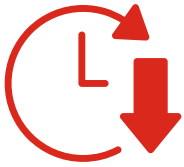
Importantly, fewer than 5% of assessed participants fell outside Healthy Aging's priority population criteria, demonstrating that programs are effectively reaching those with the greatest need for support.

Demand for Services Remains High

Healthy Aging programs continue to see growing demand as BC's senior population increases and more older adults seek support to remain connected, healthy, and independent in their communities.

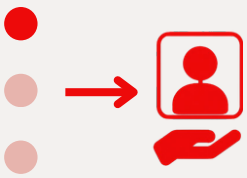
Despite record participation levels, waitlists across most Healthy Aging programs continued to improve:

Social Meals waitlists decreased by **64%**.



Aging in Motion waitlists decreased by **50%**.

- Waitlists across all grant streams, except Better at Home, are now below 300 participants.
- Thousands of seniors moved from waitlists into active services during the quarter.



While demand remains particularly high for Better at Home's light housekeeping services, agencies continue to collaborate locally to expand access wherever possible.

United Way British Columbia

Supporting the CBSS Sector

Building Capacity Across the CBSS Sector

United Way BC continues to invest not only in services for seniors, but also in strengthening the community organizations that deliver them.

Highlights from Q1 include:

- Launch of Priority Population Screening Training, reaching more than 180 staff and volunteers from 99 agencies.
- Six sector webinars supporting learning and knowledge exchange on Healthy Aging CORE BC.
- Volunteer engagement training and roundtables attended by more than 200 volunteer management professionals.
- Ongoing development of sector learning initiatives designed to strengthen evidence-based practice across BC's CBSS sector.

For more Healthy Aging stats, see below:

- **Better at Home:** Delivered 138,821 services to 20,260 seniors, with 4,360 new seniors joining the program (+60% since Q4). Participant increases were largely driven by Navigation & Peer Support, including seasonal tax clinics that served 4,286 participants.
- **Social Prescribing:** 92 programs are now operating across the province, delivering 27,348 services to 4,374 participants.
- **Therapeutic Activation Program for Seniors (TAPS):** Provided 51,232 services to engage the body, mind, and spirit of 2,214 seniors.
- **Family & Friend Caregiver Supports (FFCS):** Delivered 23,782 services to 2,029 family and friend caregivers to strengthen their capacity and wellbeing.
- **Aging in Motion (AIM) Transportation Supports & Innovations:** Provided 8,459 rides to 3,134 participants. United Way BC convened co-design consultations to expand transportation supports across three priority corridors in the Kootenays, supported by a two-year Columbia Basin Trust investment covering 2026–28.
- **Social Meals:** Delivered 59,949 healthy meals and opportunities for social connection to 9,914 seniors.
- **Volunteer Coordination & Supports (VCS):** 2,384 volunteers were supported through the delivery of 9,496 services.

Record participation levels, expanded provincial coverage, declining waitlists across most program streams, and continued growth of Community Collaboratives demonstrate the important role community-based seniors' services play in helping older British Columbians remain connected, supported, and independent in their communities. Together, funded agencies, volunteers, caregivers, and community partners delivered nearly 320,000 services in just three months, improving quality of life for thousands of seniors across the province.

Healthy Aging programs are generously funded by the Province of British Columbia.