



# Poverty Hurts Children and Families

All Ontario children deserve a strong beginning  
2018

**1 in 5**

children under the age of 18  
live in poverty in Ontario  
(544,710)



While child poverty rates slightly declined by 1.6% from 2015 (21.1%) to 2016 (19.5%) - much more must be done to eradicate poverty and provide every child with a fair chance for a healthy life.

## Child poverty often looks like



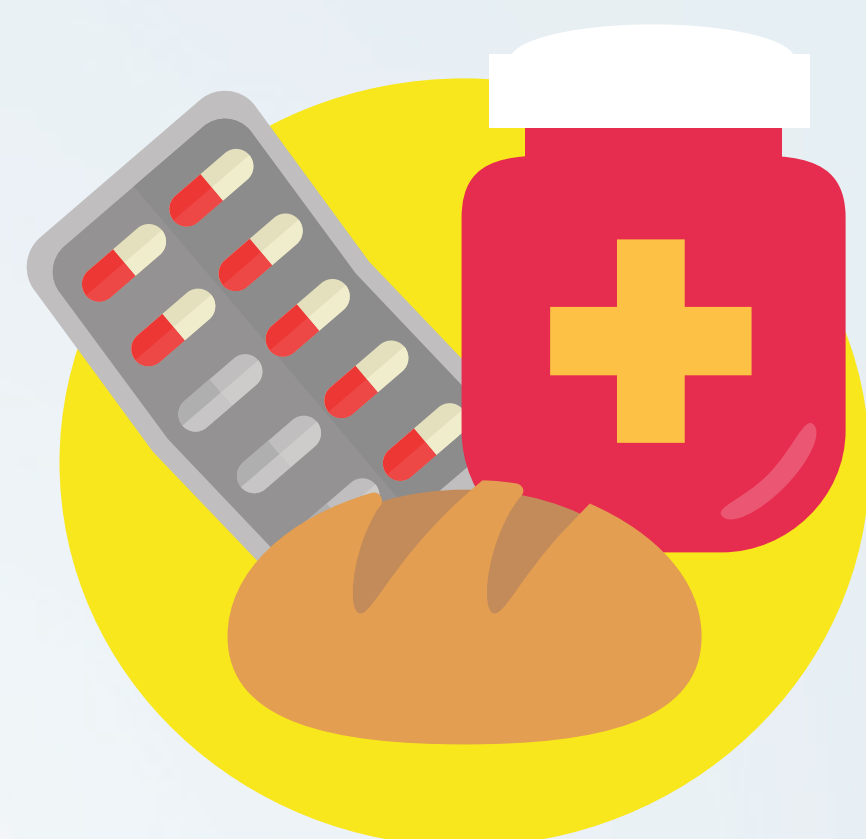
Chronic illness



Stress,  
depression and  
anxiety

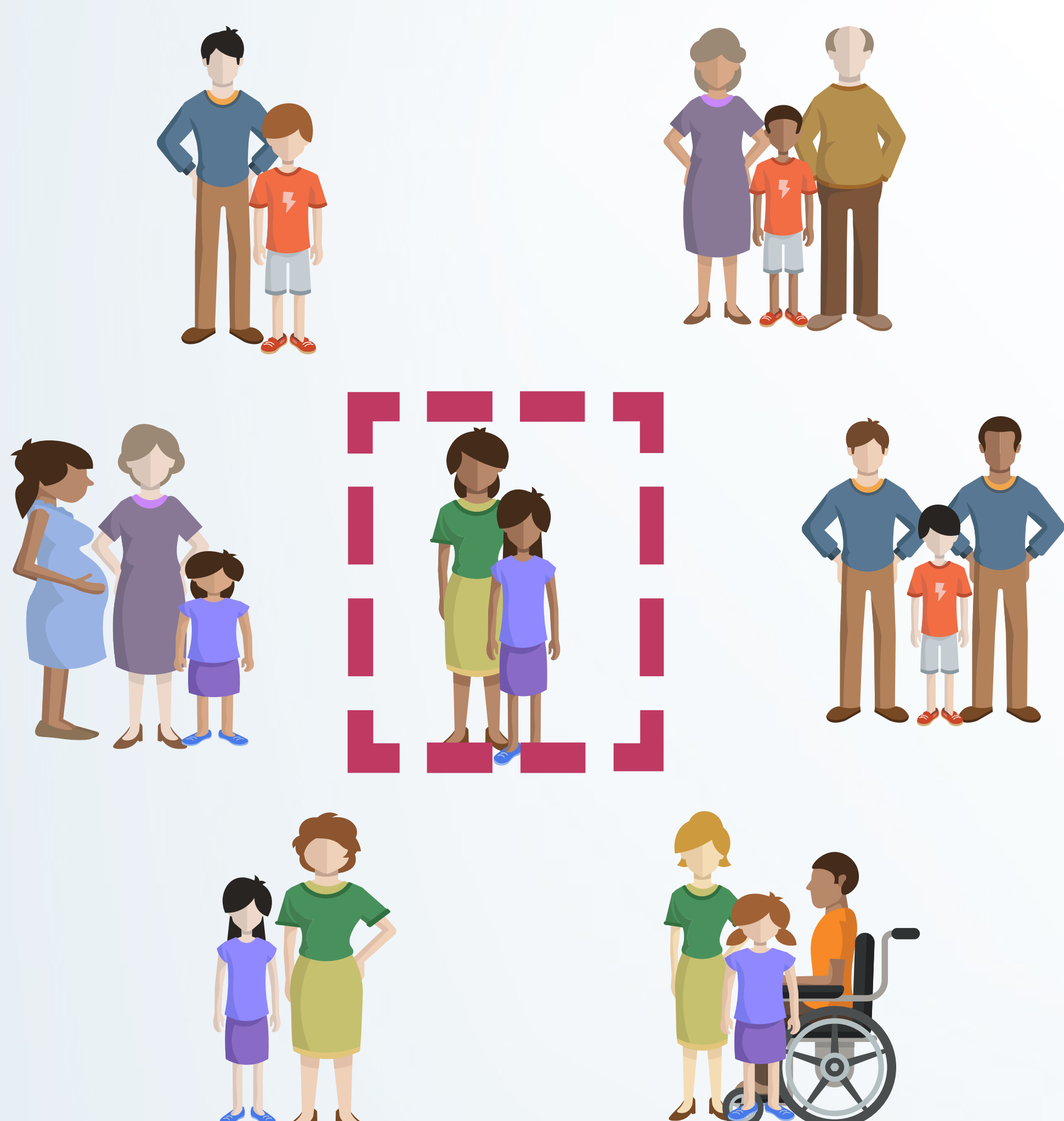


Discrimination



Difficulties  
affording  
necessities of life

## Families in Poverty



**1 in 7**

families with  
children live in  
poverty in Ontario  
(351,490)

# Some causes of Poverty



Precarious  
Employment



Weak social  
assistance programs



Unaffordable housing



Expensive childcare

## Poverty Discriminates

Due to structural inequalities and discrimination, poverty rates are even higher among most marginalized groups.



Low-income households in Ontario are more likely to include Indigenous Peoples, women, racialized people, immigrants, people with disabilities, and lone-parent families







# Key Recommendations

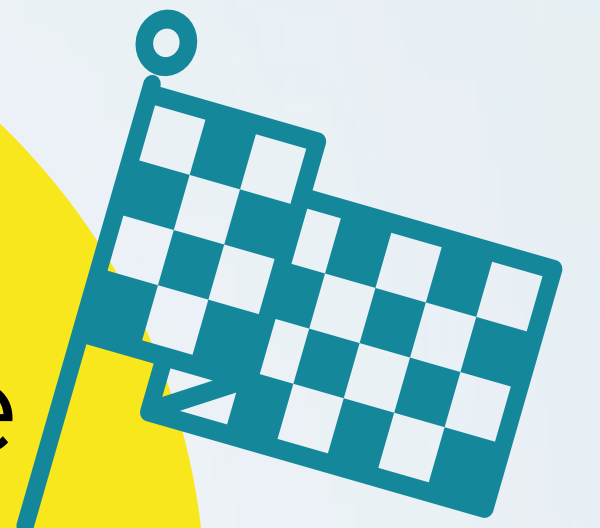
Our solutions target the roots from where poverty stems



Raise minimum wage to \$15/hr and pass labour laws which protect workers' rights



Implement targeted programs, like employment equity, to reduce poverty among marginalized groups



Raise Ontario Child Benefit by \$100 per child in 2019

Strong Ontario-wide poverty reduction strategy

Strengthen income security, including raising social assistance



Build affordable housing and multi-year strategy to end homelessness



Publicly funded childcare - accessible, affordable, high quality



ONTARIO CAMPAIGN **2000**

**END CHILD & FAMILY POVERTY**

[www.ontariocampaign2000.ca](http://www.ontariocampaign2000.ca)

For more information on sources, visit <https://bit.ly/2KgrMVV>

**#PovertyHurtsOntario**