

PETITION: TO RAISE SOCIAL ASSISTANCE RATES

To the Legislative Assembly of Ontario:

Whereas Ontario’s social assistance rates are well below Canada’s official *Market Basket Measure* Poverty Line and far from adequate to cover the rising costs of food and rent: \$733 for individuals on *OW* and \$1308 for *ODSP*

Whereas an Open Letter to the Premier and two Cabinet Ministers, signed by over 230 organizations, recommends that social assistance rates be doubled for both *Ontario Works (OW)* and the *Ontario Disability Support Program (ODSP)*

Whereas small increases to *ODSP* have still left these citizens below the poverty line, both they and those receiving the frozen *OW* rates are struggling to survive at this time of alarming inflation

Whereas the Government of Canada recognized in its *CERB Program* that a ‘basic income’ of \$2,000 per month was the standard support required by individuals who lost their employment during the pandemic

We, the undersigned citizens of Ontario, petition the Legislative Assembly to double social assistance rates for *OW and ODSP*

Name (printed)	Address (printed)	Signature

Please return to Organizer or mail to: Dr. Sally Palmer, 403-1000 Creekside Drive, Dundas ON L9H 7S6 (Tel. 519-755-8056). Only original signatures are acceptable in the Legislature, so please use Canada Post. Many thanks!