

national volunteer week 2022

Meet Harry: ReStore Volunteer



“My daughter Alice, who worked at Habitat Greater Ottawa, connected me with the volunteer opportunity. I had recently retired from working in the Government, and I was looking to keep myself busy. When I found out about the Restore, I was definitely intrigued – they had a lot of interesting items. It was also vastly different from my previous job, which was a nice change.

I’ve been volunteering for the last seven years at the Trainyards Restore. I test donated items like appliances, making sure they are suitable for sale, and then label them once approved. Sometimes I’m on the sales floor helping customers with any questions they have. Volunteering has given me a sense of accomplishment, and it’s been good for my mental health to get out and be productive in our community.

Overall, *Empathy in Action* in my eyes is what Habitat Greater Ottawa is all about! The act of the ReStore repurposing goods and then selling them means that Habitat can build more homes. It is the understanding that all of these small actions contribute to the big picture of building homes for families.”