

national volunteer week 2022

Meet Bella: ReStore Volunteer



"I started volunteering for Habitat Greater Ottawa back in February as a co-op student. I spend my time at the Restore as a Store Associate, which means my time is spent receiving donations, helping with testing and pricing merchandise. It's been such a welcoming experience for me, I feel very included in the Restore family. That's been my favorite part of volunteering, honestly; the people I work with have been so nice.

I've also found myself learning some new skills along the way. In school, I would have so much trouble with electrical work, so I was nervous when I was testing lights at the Restore. However, with the help of my fellow volunteer, I was able to make the light turn on. I actually had to take a moment to look at the bright light in awe - I still feel incredibly accomplished.

Habitat Greater Ottawa's ReStore creates a very helpful and inclusive environment. When I see a co-worker struggling, I have the immediate feeling of wanting to go help them. Putting yourself in their shoes, knowing that if you were struggling, you'd appreciate the help from your peers; that's what *Empathy in Action* is all about."