

# national volunteer week 2022

## Meet Susan: Family Partner Committee & ReStore Volunteer



"In June, it will be three years that I have been volunteering with Habitat Greater Ottawa. I started working with the Family Partner Committee, then gradually started volunteering at the Restore and I even was on the build site for a day. With the Family Partner Committee, I relay information to the families, help them meet their requirements before they move into their home, and give overall support and encouragement as they go through their journey of homeownership.

I've been so inspired by the families I've met along the way, and with how much time and effort they give towards their new home, it's hard not to be impressed; they should be proud of themselves for accomplishing so much for their future. When the families meet their volunteer hours? It's a time to celebrate! It's just like you're at the top of a mountain – and I couldn't be happier to be a part of that celebration.

Now, with the topic of Empathy in Action in mind, I believe it doesn't matter where you're volunteering, it's still just as important to learn about the struggles and backgrounds of the people around you. That's the great thing about Habitat, everyone comes from different walks of life. You get to put yourself in the families' shoes, and really understand their situations."