

Meet Yvonne: Passionate About Community Dining

May 2017



83-year-old Yvonne was admitted to hospital in 2010 for heart surgery, and learned about medical rides offered by Community Support Connections - *Meals on Wheels and More* (CSC). Needing a reliable ride to get to her rehabilitation appointments, she signed on as a transportation client and a caring volunteer ensured she made it to every session.

After her recovery, her sister and brother-in-law invited her to one of CSC's Community Dining sites at Forest Hill United Church. Yvonne loved it and has been a regular attendee ever since. She enjoys the quality of the food and her favourite part is the hot, fresh soup served by volunteers and staff.

"I look forward to this, getting out of the house," said Yvonne. "I've made lifelong friends. Jennifer and all the volunteers are so kind and attentive."

Yvonne immigrated from India in 1985 and has been living in the same home for 29 years, first with her husband, and alone since he passed away 13 years ago. With a large family including four great grandchildren, Yvonne's family is grateful she can remain in the comfort of her own home while finding place she feels connected to the community and a sense of belonging.

"I'd be lost without CSC and all the help I get through them."

CSC is now recruiting people who can make a difference in the lives of people like Yvonne. Our Feature Volunteer Opportunity of the Month is in our Community Dining program, available at 14 sites across the region weekdays at lunch.

Community Dining Assistants help with set-up, serving, and clean-up, and Volunteer Drivers transport clients to and from dining and are invited to stay and enjoy the hot, nutritious meal. If you or someone you know would like to learn more about becoming a Community Dining Assistant or Driver, please call 519-772-8787 or apply online today at <http://communitysupportconnections.org/volunteer/>.

