



Volunteer Impact Report

2017-2018

A MESSAGE FROM THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER MICHAEL MAIDEMENT



We are excited to bring you our annual Volunteer Impact Report to both recognize and celebrate the incredible impact our volunteers make in the

community every year. Volunteers are the lifeblood of our organization. Volunteers – more than 3,000 strong – grow food on our farm, collect food and cash donations during events, sort food and organize it for shipping, help with deliveries, are a friendly voice on our phones, and guide our organization as board members. There would be no Ottawa Food Bank without your gift of time. Our volunteers span every age group; from Girl Guides and Boy Scouts, to kids' sports teams, to corporate teams from Ottawa's leading businesses and to federal public servants, to retirees. The

37,524 people who to depend on the Ottawa Food Bank and our community food programs benefit from your commitment to the community. On behalf of our 114 member agencies, the clients we support, and our staff here at the Ottawa Food Bank – I would like to thank you for your time and efforts to help people in need. We would not be where we are today without each and every one of you!

"You make a living by what you get. You make a life by what you give." - Winston Churchill

A MESSAGE FROM YOUR VOLUNTEER COORDINATOR JO-ANNE TURPLE



"Volunteering is the ultimate exercise in democracy. You vote in elections once a year but when you volunteer, you vote everyday about the kind of community you want to live in." -Marjorie Moore

I read this and I was immediately struck by how this so clearly represents the volunteers of the Ottawa Food Bank. Our volunteers, day after day, year after year, choose to work along side the Ottawa Food Bank staff team in an effort to improve food security for people in our city. And while you share your energies with us, we also hope you experience the personal benefits of volunteering including

a sense of belonging and well-being, friendship, and skill development. Thank you for another amazing year and for choosing the Ottawa Food Bank as the recipient of your time and talents. I will be forever impressed with the dedication and enthusiasm you bring to your volunteer roles. Yours in volunteering.

The Ottawa Food Bank was honoured to receive the 2019 Outstanding Volunteer Program of the Year Award at Volunteer Ottawa VOscars Ceremony. Congratulations to our Volunteer Coordinator, Jo-Anne Turple, but also thank you to our volunteers for making our volunteer program so great. We couldn't do it without you.

OTTAWA FOOD BANK VOLUNTEER VOICES

Volunteering for the Ottawa Food Bank allows me to see the efforts, close-up, of the many volunteers at the agencies served by the Ottawa Food Bank. It's rewarding to know I'm a link in the chain.

As years go by and the need seems endless, it is satisfying to know that what's distributed out of this "bank" is priceless and life saving. I am proud to be a food banker and the only collateral needed is a smile and a heartfelt thank you.

As a volunteer at the Ottawa Food Bank, no matter if I'm sorting food or handing out donation bags, I'm always helping a family in need.

The real benefit is that while our students are volunteering in the community, they are getting mentoring, building relationships, and gaining work-like experience with other volunteers and not just their classroom staff.

We must realize that at the end of the day we are all neighbours and helping each other is not only an obligation, but it's also fulfilling and rewarding. The Ottawa Food provides me with an opportunity to give back to the community.

VOLUNTEER IMPACT IN THE COMMUNITY

Thanks to you, our volunteers, we are able to deliver food and hope to our member agency food programs across the city. Our volunteers not only make an impact on us at the Ottawa Food Bank, but their kindness and hard work is also felt in the community.

"Thank you. I feel sometimes people don't realize the impact that they're making. The food bank is giving me my dignity back.

I've been coming to my community food bank in Britannia quite consistently for the past four years, on and off, and it really, really, really helped me. I seriously don't know if I would be at the same level in my progress if I wasn't able to have the social experience and the peace of mind that I'll still be able to eat."

- Britannia Woods Food Bank client

HOW OUR VOLUNTEERS HELPED THE COMMUNITY BY THE HOUR



- VOLUNTEER INFORMATION:**
- Volunteers donated a total of 15,744 hours of their time between October 1, 2017 and September 30, 2018.
 - Volunteers are with us every step of the way offering a helping hand in the warehouse and on our farm, but also representing the Ottawa Food Bank at special events, food drives, and over the phone.
 - On an annual basis, the Ottawa Food Bank is honoured to work with approximately 3,000 volunteers.
 - The number of hours collectively contributed by our volunteers equal the same amount as adding approximately 7.5 full time staff members to the Ottawa Food Bank team!

THANK YOU TO OUR 2017 - 2018 VOLUNTEER BOARD OF DIRECTORS

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