



# The Rewarding Career of Sally Barrie

*Volunteerism is a quality Community Care Durham relies on every day as it continues its work. Supporting People, Strengthening Community™*

DURHAM – It should come as no surprise then that volunteerism brought CCD one of its longest-serving and hardest-working members – Sally Barrie, the Vice President of In-Home Supports.

On July 30th Sally celebrated her retirement from CCD after almost 32 years with the organization. According to Sally it was volunteering that first brought her through the front door in the Clarington office in the early 1980s. Sally was a new mom who worked part-time in a medical lab, and she was interested in helping out.

***“I had a vested interest in the community, so it was a good fit,” she said.***

It didn’t take long for an opportunity to open up for Sally when the Clarington office put out a call for a Meals on Wheels coordinator. She applied and got the job and easily made the transition from volunteer to staff member. It was one of many positions Sally would hold during her career.

In November 1996, Sally became the Administrator for Clarington Home Support, followed in September 2016, when she became Director of Home Support. Not long later, Sally moved to Director, In-Home Supports and has finished her career at CCD as Vice President, In-Home Supports.

Smiling, she said she’s seen the organization grow during her tenure. She said she marvels at how things have changed over the years. When she started at CCD in the Meals on Wheels program, meals were prepared at local hospitals and volunteers delivered them out of churches.

***“I have to say, all the services have become more sophisticated and rightly so,” she said.***

But there’s only one thing that hasn’t changed, the one constant through it all – the care that people have for one another - , that didn’t change, she said.

Sally explained it was easy to come to work each day knowing she and her colleagues, and all the volunteers, were helping families and providing services to people in need.

***“It’s just the reward of being able to help somebody, the gratitude of families,” she said.***

One of her career highlights came in March 2009 when CCD relocated its Clarington offices and programs, bringing the Home Support and COPE programs and the Adult Day Program into one location at the Garnet B. Rickard Complex.



***“For me, there was an opportunity in Clarington for the services, the Adult Day Program and what was the Home Support and the COPE Mental Health program, to come together under one roof. We were able to negotiate and have that happen. That was a real milestone,” she said proudly.***

Now that Sally’s retired, you’d expect her busy life to slow down. But you’d be wrong.

Volunteering was what brought her to CCD, and according to Sally it’s a part of her life that won’t change. Both Sally and her husband Tom have many connections and involvement with the agricultural community. Tom’s a Dairy and Crop Farmer. Together they sit on many provincial and regional committees.

***“I’m sure some of my time will be spent with that,” Sally said with a smile. She also sits on the Lakeridge Community Panel (Bowmanville Hospital) and a few others.***

Then she has her seven grandchildren to keep her busy, three boys and four girls. One daughter Gillian lives in Durham Region, but her other two daughters, Jessica and Kate, live in Guelph. Road trips will be in Sally’s future!

Sally originally planned to retire at the end of the fiscal year on March 31. Then COVID-19 struck pushing everything back. She said it was an easy decision to stay, given the people she works with at CCD. She credits the organization’s leadership with “empowering the staff.”

With retirement now a reality, Sally said her connections in the community, her friends and colleagues, are life-long, and that won’t change.

***“It’s been a really rewarding career,” she said. “I’m saying goodbye, certainly to parts, but I don’t think I will really ever say goodbye to some pieces of it.”***

***“I’m sure, when I took this on as a little part-time job, because my kids were in school, I didn’t ever think I’d stay for 32 years. Here we are.”***