



VOLUNTEERS GROW COMMUNITY



Miltonians give back to their community through the United Way



**United Way
of Milton**

Most of us are familiar with expressions such as "give back to the community" and "charity starts at home". Many of us, however, don't know where to start when it comes to involvement in our own communities through volunteerism. Hal Watson, Christy Babcock, and Ross Dawson are three members of the Milton community who know the ropes, and have experienced the personal rewards of volunteerism.

In 1991, Hal Watson was looking for a way to get involved in the Milton community. His father had been a volunteer for the United Way (then the United Appeal), so Hal saw the United Way of Milton as a familiar organization and a logical place to apply his efforts. He knew the importance of the work being undertaken by the United Way.

Today, Hal remains committed to the organization and its goals. Hal was a member of the United Way of Milton prior to becoming Campaign Chair in 1994. After conducting a very successful campaign, Hal became Chairperson of United Way of Milton annual golf tournament in 1995. This golf tournament is always on the list of avid golfers and is constantly sold out months in advance. Certainly, the Milton community has benefited from Hal's enthusiasm - but Hal doesn't see it that way. "The interesting thing," he says, "is that I have come to realize that I have received back much more than I have ever given to the United Way. I have had the pleasure of working with lots of wonderful people and have made some lasting friendships. My children have been involved in different ways over the years and have been introduced to the notion of the obligation to help others. I think they will take that with them through life. There are few things I do that give me a better feeling, than being involved with the United Way. You really do get more than you give."

Christy Babcock couldn't agree more. As a past employee of a United Way funded agency, she knew how non profit agencies struggle for funding. She decided the United Way of Milton was where she wanted to donate her time. She first joined the Allocations Committee, and was astounded at the in-depth scrutiny of funding applications, financial reports, and visits to the agencies requesting funding by the dedicated committee volunteers. This com-

mittee afforded Christy the opportunity to learn about programs offered to the residents of Milton by United Way funded agencies, and to feel confident that her own financial donations were being well managed.

Impressed by her experience with the Allocations Committee, Christy saw sitting as a member of the Board of Directors as her next opportunity to learn more about the United Way and the Milton community. She also applied her considerable energies to the role of Chairperson of the Christmas House Tour, and helped out with the annual Dinner and Auction. Says Christy, "Working on these committees showed me what a great community this is; the local businesses are very generous and caring!"

While many people speak of "giving back to the community", Christy has found that volunteering has been beneficial to her: "It has provided me with opportunities to meet a lot of new people, many whom have become friends, to have the satisfaction of leading and working with a team to produce a financially successful event that many community residents look forward to each year, and to learn new skills and have fun. I'd recommend volunteering to anyone."

Ross Dawson concurs: "Volunteering for the United Way of Milton has proven to be a very fulfilling experience. The volunteering experience has allowed me grow personally and given me a chance to help in a very giving and caring community."

Ross served two terms as president of United Way of Milton then becoming Campaign chair for a very successful campaign in 2005. Ross has found volunteering with the United Way in these various capacities gratifying. It has allowed him to resolve challenges, and taught him about the workings of a not-for-profit entity. Further, he has developed a good understanding of and appreciation for the important role that the United Way agencies play in our community.

But perhaps most important to Ross has been the relationships forged through his volunteer participation. "Through the United Way of Milton I have developed many acquaintances and friendships," he says. "These personal contacts have proven invaluable in my day-to-day life in Milton."

Like Hal Watson and Christy Babcock, Ross Dawson chose to get involved in the United Way because he saw it as playing a leadership role in the support and development of human care programs in the Milton community. These three individuals chose to devote their skills and their time to volunteering for the United Way of Milton because they wanted to give back to their community. But it is what they got back from volunteering - skills, friendship, and a sense of pride in our community - that really hit home.



The Regional
Municipality of Halton

Thank You

To all the wonderful volunteers who have assisted seniors in the Adult Day Programs, Supportive Housing, ESAC and the Villages of Halton.

From Halton Region's Services for Seniors.

1151 Bronte Road, Oakville, Ontario L6M 3L1
Tel: 905-825-6000 • Toll Free: 1-866-4HALTON • TTY: 905-827-9833 • www.halton.ca

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Your dedication and talent help us continue to lead the way in protecting the health of millions of Ontarians at risk of heart disease and stroke.

Volunteers are the "heart" of our Foundation. Thank you for helping us *find answers - for life.*

We would especially like to thank the over 1200 canvassers and businesses who supported us during February: Heart month, helping us raise over \$130,000!

Volunteers opportunities available.
Call 905-634-7732
or email vroy@hsf.on.ca

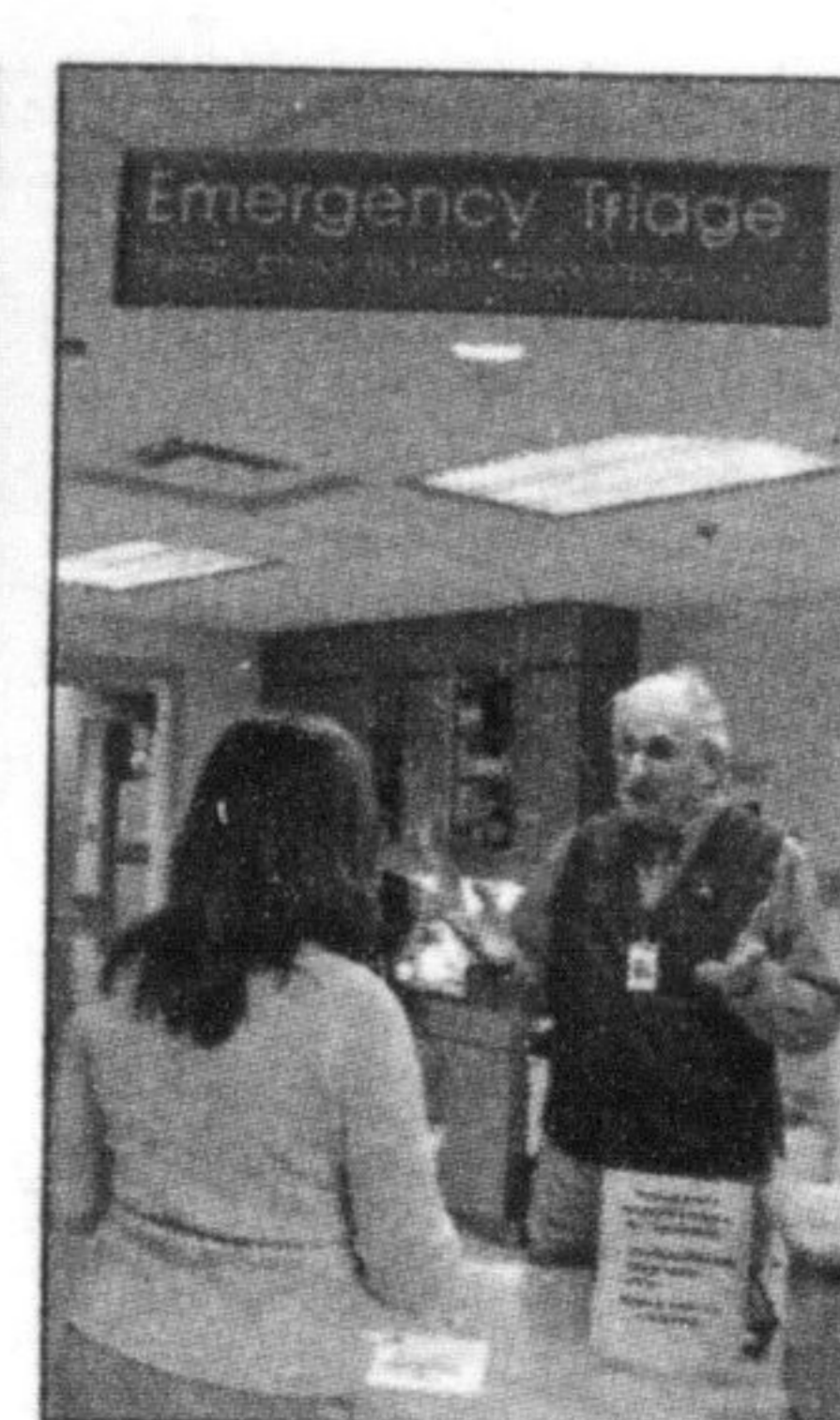


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We Care that you Care!

The volunteers of Halton Healthcare always take that extra bit of time to care for our patients, their families, and our staff. We have come to rely on the compassionate nature and smiling faces of our volunteers to help us provide quality healthcare to the residents of our communities.

Your contribution is invaluable!



**Volunteer Appreciation Week
April 23rd - April 29th, 2006**

During Volunteer Appreciation Week, please join us in thanking the many dedicated and helpful volunteers at Halton Healthcare.

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- Comforting those in need
- Giving of their time & talents
- Supporting the organization through leadership

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Thank you to all of our volunteers who help us toward our vision; "An inclusive community, where everyone belongs."

We greatly appreciate all that you do and the difference you make in the lives of others.

For volunteer opportunities please call: 905-878-2337