Zulekha Kurji

Zulekha Kurji was born and raised in Tanzania. She was pregnant when she and her husband fled to Canada due to political turmoil in a neighbouring country. Although she had a degree and work experience in her country she took courses to upgrade her skills. She worked for many years in the government sector and took an early retirement package so that she could take care of her grandchildren. Zulekha now invests much of her time volunteering for multiple organizations in the community.

Many years ago when she was volunteering for another organization in her local library where she met a volunteer from CIWA who encouraged her to attend the New Friends and Neighbourhood Groups Program. Zulekha attended as an active participant for a few years before the group facilitator suggested that she lead the group as a volunteer.

Zulekha has been a New Friends and Neighbourhood Group facilitator for nearly 9 years. She enjoys volunteering in this capacity as she thrives on being able to help people and to see them connected in the community. She loves to meet new people, especially from various cultures, and help them to live a more enriched life. She is honored that she can make a difference in the lives of women and their families.

Zulekha was chosen as Volunteer of the Month due to her strong commitment to the group. Her love of helping and encouraging others shines through. She is highly dedicated and passionate about giving the women meaningful experiences from week-to-week. Her communication skills are excellent with participants and with CIWA Staff. She is always willing to do what is necessary in order to fulfill all duties in her role. She strives to meet and address the needs of the group through activities and necessary referrals to CIWA or other organizations. She instills a great sense of community in the group and many participants say that the friendships formed are like family to them.

Congratulations Zulekha for being Volunteer of the Month for February!

VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

CIWA
Calgary Immigrant Women's Association