

## Amana Manori, Board Volunteer and Champion

*Kindness is never wasted*



Amana Manori, Board Volunteer

“As a child, I was a part of the newcomer population that relied heavily on social services. I came to Canada from Denmark as a toddler. My mother was a refugee from Uganda escaping Idi Amin and my father immigrated from Pakistan. Although my parents worked multiple jobs and had Ismaili Muslim community support, it was a difficult life.

We moved around often and lived in subsidized housing. I spent hours in before and after school care and enrolled in programs at various community centres. My favourite Christmas gift as a child was from an agency’s toy bank...a doll with a suitcase of hand-knitted clothes that a donor had taken the time to make for a disadvantaged child...for me.

I choose to devote my time as a board volunteer at St. Stephen’s because it is an organization that is close to my heart and I have firsthand knowledge of the importance of its mission. While all of their services are crucial to the Kensington Market community, the most meaningful services to me are the ones that empower women and youth. I am privileged to also have the full support of my firm, Introduction Capital and its CEO, Karen Azlen, championing the efforts by raising money and awareness of the amazing work provided by St. Stephen’s.”