

# Jerod's Story

At the beginning of the pandemic, the YMCA of Oakville was forced to place the majority of our staff on temporary layoff. This was difficult news for everyone at our association but the heart and soul of the people who make the YMCA of Oakville so vital to our community quickly shone through.

Despite the personal issues faced by our staff at home, it didn't stop them from stepping up and volunteering to ensure that the programs and services we provide for our community continued despite the pandemic and despite them personally being laid off.

Our staff volunteered in a number of ways during the COVID-19 pandemic to offer fitness classes to our members in our parking lot, in community parks, with online programs for priority neighbourhoods and to deliver food to families in need. One example of an amazing staff member going above and beyond for our community is Jerod Hannah.

Jerod works in our community department and last year, he chose to go above and beyond to volunteer his time and make a positive impact on our community. Throughout the first lockdown, Jerod volunteered his time to arrange a team of volunteers to work with community partners to delivery healthy food to families in need in our community.

Thank you to Jerod and all of our staff who volunteered their time, while dealing with their own stress and uncertainty from the pandemic to fill a need to support the needs of the Oakville community.