

# Rana Mahmood

Rana Mahmood was born and raised in Iraq and has also lived in Qatar. She earned a Master's in Educational Psychology and was a Psychology Instructor for students studying Education for a few years. Rana, her husband along with their children moved to Canada 8 years ago. They settled in Toronto and eventually moved to Calgary 4 years ago. She and her family recently had their first camping experience and they are looking forward to camping again in the future.

When Rana first moved to Calgary she received a welcome package that included information about CIWA. She knew that one day she would call but first she wanted to get settled in her new home and take care of her family. Last year a friend reminded her to call CIWA. She knew the time was right and willingly sought volunteer opportunities. She now volunteers in multiple ways such as: Self-Esteem Group assistant, mentor for Adopt a Grandma, the Pebbles in the Sand Program, Cross Cultural Parenting Program, On-Call Interpretation and various special events.

Rana's passion for CIWA and its clients radiates as she talks about her volunteer roles. She has found the perfect environment to learn, meet with people in need, and be part of a great team. She deeply appreciates the Canadian work experience she has gained, and loves to see the impact of helping people. She says it's rewarding to see when people who are facing barriers learn necessary skills to overcome in order to have a better life. Her communication skills have improved and volunteering has helped her to know herself better and increase her confidence to apply for employment.

Rana is being recognized because she brings positive energy to the organization. She is very enthusiastic and keen to support clients, helping them to improve their confidence and self-esteem. She brings creativity to the table that enhances the program making it more fun and interesting. She is a very passionate and caring individual when it comes to her dedication and reliability to her volunteer work.

Congratulations Rana for being Volunteer of the Month for June!

# VOLUNTEER OF THE MONTH

