



## GRAND ROUNDS

### Employer adds to volunteer support of ATS program

Becoming a volunteer with RVH's Addictions Treatment Services (ATS) was an easy choice for Marci Joyce. Being recognized for it by her employer is icing on the cake.

The Renfrew RBC Branch Manager was selected as a recipient of the bank's Employee Volunteer Grant that recognizes employees by supporting the charity for which they volunteer.

"RBC is passionate about volunteering and helping our communities prosper. It's one aspect of my job that gives me a lot of pride," states Joyce.

"We have been fortunate to receive three donations from RBC/Marci—\$500 each time," says ATS Service Director Kim MacLeod, noting that Marci has been a valuable advisory committee member for the past 6 years.

"Her commitment to helping those who struggle with substance abuse or gambling issues is to be respected and honoured," adds MacLeod.

Joyce shares that her involvement with ATS comes from a very personal place, having lost her father to a drug overdose when he was 37 and she was just 13.

"It's something that impacts the rest of your life. I needed to find a way to get involved, to contribute in some way."

While the program is funded by the Champlain LHIN, local support is key to help the ATS program promote awareness in the community.

"I want to keep building awareness, inclusivity, and acceptance for those struggling—as well as their loved ones, as they struggle too," notes Joyce.

The funds received from RBC/Joyce have been used to advertise in the community in an attempt to educate people about the availability of ATS services, and connect with those who may benefit from them.

"We are so appreciative of Marci's continued support and feel that her contributions have led to many people

connecting with our service and getting the help required to improve the overall quality of their lives," says MacLeod.

MacLeod and Joyce also co-facilitate a monthly support group in partnership with Parents' Lifelines of Eastern Ontario for parents and caregivers of those suffering with mental health and/or addiction challenges.

"We are connecting with people in a way that they feel safe and know they are not alone, or judged. I don't foresee me stopping my work with ATS anytime soon—there is still a lot more ground to cover," concludes Joyce.



**Julia Boudreau, RVH Vice President of Corporate Services, Marci Joyce, RBC Branch Manager, and Kim MacLeod, ATS Service Director.**

For more information, contact the Foundation at 613-432-4851 ext. 263