

Board of Directors Profiles 2020-21

Bob Baker has 30 years of experience in the broader public sector with proven expertise in strategy, planning, and execution at national, provincial, and community levels. As an executive leader in a number of health related organizations and foundations, Bob also brings expertise in donor development, stewardship and board governance. Bob's family has been impacted by dementia and he hopes to make a positive change for those living in Durham Region and beyond. Bob is currently the President of the Board of Directors.

Megan Hanzal is a Chartered Professional Accountant at Collins Barrow in Courtice. Megan has a wide range of experience in accounting and assurance dealing with public and private companies and not-for-profit organizations. Megan is currently serving a term as the Vice-President of the ASDR Board of Directors. She was also the Co-Chair of the 2015 Walk for Memories and a volunteer at the past Chocolate Lovers Luncheon.

Paula Donahoe has worked in the health care field for over 50 years as a registered nurse in a variety of clinical and educational settings including long term care working with adults with dementia, public health working with families supporting a loved one with dementia, and educational settings facilitating courses in adult education and communication techniques for patients and families. Paula is an active volunteer in her home community of Uxbridge where past volunteer activities have included a role as president of the Uxbridge Cottage Hospital Auxiliary, and a member of IODE.

Marilyn Stitt is a Chartered Professional Accountant at KPMG in Toronto. Marilyn has over 30 years of experience in public accounting dealing with a wide range matters for public and private companies as well as not-for-profit organizations. Marilyn has volunteered each week with the VON Durham Region 'Seniors Maintaining Active Roles Together' program since 2013. Marilyn joined the ASDR Board of Directors in September 2018.

Sheryl Bernard is the owner and principal consultant at Bernard Consultancy, serving organizations in health, social and community care. She is a registered nurse with over 30 years of clinical and senior leadership experience across various health sectors. She has lead and developed many geriatric programs and services, particularly those with Alzheimer and associated dementias. She is the founding president of registered charity, Jamaican Canadian Association of Nurses (JCAN), where she can cultivate plans that are designed to meet the unique needs of marginalized individuals with dementia, including their families and caregivers.

Kelly Turcotte has been a Registered Practical Nurse for the past 18 years working with people who live with Alzheimer's and Dementia in the Long Term Care sector. Currently Kelly is the Wellness Manager at V!VA in Pickering Retirement Community. Kelly is a strong advocate for those under her care and has continued to look for opportunities to help those around her. With Kelly's time within the health care field she has been able to identify the need for more education surrounding Alzheimer's and Dementia and has taken steps to educate her self and those around her. Kelly's Family has been impacted by Alzheimer and Dementia as well as close family friend who have inspired her to make a difference in her community.

Shahzil Mohamed owns and operates Remedy's Rx in Bowmanville. As a registered pharmacist and community healthcare professional, he supports a number of people living with Alzheimer's disease and has seen the impact of the illness on his patients and their caregivers. Shahzil has been an active volunteer in various capacities and is keen to apply his knowledge and expertise to help serve the needs of Durham Region. Shahzil joined the ASDR Board of Directors in December 2018.

Deanna Hollister: has been a police officer with Durham Regional Police for 21 years. She has served on the Alzheimer Durham Board of Directors from 2009-2016 and won the Founder's award for her volunteer work and fundraising efforts. Deanna has worked with the Alzheimer Society to develop a free online wandering registry with Durham Police and has acted as a liaison between the two agencies. Deanna is passionate about community safety and ensuring that everyone is found safely. Deanna returned to the Board November 2019.

Liane Strus works in the general insurance industry. Over the last 30 years, she has held a variety of roles including business development, marketing, claims, management and training. She lives on Lake Scugog with her husband. Liane's mother lived with Alzheimer's disease for many years. The Alzheimer Society provided Liane and her family with much needed support during her Mom's illness. Liane previously served on the Board from 2015 to 2018, returning to the Board in 2020. With personal experience as a caregiver, Liane understands the urgent need for the support services provided by the Alzheimer Society.

John Baynham is the President of Retirement Income Group. He is a Chartered Investment Manager and leads a team providing wealth management services to families and businesses in Ontario. John is passionate about making a contribution to families served by ASDR. His family has personal experience with the disease and so he is passionate about the the positive impact ASDR has upon families in the community. John joined the Board of Directors in March 2020.