FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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DURING NATIONAL VOLUNTEER WEEK (APR 10 – 16), CARIZON CELEBRATES ITS VOLUNTEERS, INCLUDING BHARAT PATEL

Carizon is celebrating our volunteers this week who have contributed over 16,000 hours each year to Carizon clients, programs and services. One such volunteer is Bharat Patel.

Bharat has been volunteering in our Pathways Kitchener program since September 2014. A software engineer by profession, Bharat volunteers multiple nights each week as a volunteer tutor. “I have a pretty good life overall,” says Bharat, “but I felt that something was missing. I figured I’d volunteer to try to fill that void. I always had a passion for learning, and I was always good in academics. So I said to myself, ‘Why not tutoring?’ and tutoring with Pathways has been everything I expected, and so much more!”

Pathways to Education helps youth in low-income communities graduate from high school and successfully transition to post-secondary education or training. Pathways addresses systemic barriers to education by providing leadership, expertise and a community-based program proven to lower dropout rates. Its success is built on the dedication of its volunteer tutors and mentors.

“Bharat has a strong desire to see Pathways students succeed at school and in life and he goes out of his way to ensure that students and other volunteers are comfortable in the tutoring environment,” says Carizon Volunteer Coordinator Dale Gellatly. “He is often the first one to arrive and stays with staff until the last student goes home.”

Bharat recognizes the rewards that come with volunteering. “If you take anything from my tutor experience, know that tutoring is truly life-changing,” says Bharat. “You’ll learn so much more about yourself than you “teach” the students. Most importantly, you’ll see first-hand what difference you can make by helping others.”

Carizon is a source of hope for our community. When children, youth, adults, couples or families face life’s challenges, Carizon programs and services provide the care and compassion to help them achieve wellness. Carizon specializes in children’s mental health, youth engagement and development, family violence services, individual and family counselling, parental support and education, credit counselling, workplace resilience, settlement support and community wellness.

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If you would like more information, please contact Jennifer Berry, Director of Communications at jberry@carizon.ca.