

## Heroes in the Home Caregiver Recognition Award 2018

### Donald Tobicoe



As someone in recovery from alcohol addiction, Donald has worked tirelessly over the past 10 years to support others in addiction recovery. He had been employed up until his wife's illness two years ago, when his wife Lorie was diagnosed with Stage 3 cancer and had to undergo aggressive treatment. Donald supported her through it all, dedicating himself full-time to keeping track of appointments, arranging transportation and taking care of all Lorie's needs.

After treatment, Lorie was given the all-clear, free from cancer but has lost function of her legs which means she is unable to stand or walk on her own. Donald is there to assist his wife with such things as toileting, bathing, dressing and all other needs and provides care on his own. In addition, he keeps the house tidy, is the family cook and maintains his commitment to sobriety and to helping others in recovery through mentoring and sponsorship. Donald does all of this with gratitude and without complaint and asks family for assistance when transportation is needed.

He believes strongly in his commitment to his wife, in sickness and in health, and he feels honoured to have the privilege of supporting her during illness and always. Donald never hesitates to tell Lorie how much she means to him and their family, how beautiful she is and how much he loves her, vowing to remain by her side no matter what.

Donald has been a father figure to his nominator Jodi, providing unconditional love, support and encouragement. He continues to provide support to people battling addiction and those in recovery. As a spiritual person, he immerses himself in spiritual teachings and supports others in their journey to wellness.

Lorie and Donald have a family, including two beautiful grandchildren whom they love and cherish. Donald is also close with his siblings and is a key support person for his sister who lives with diabetes and end stage liver disease. All in all, Donald is a remarkable person who has overcome his own challenges, and devoted his life to supporting and caring for others. We thank him for being an exceptional caregiver and we are pleased to recognize Donald as a Hero in the Home!



**Nominated by  
Jodi Rock**