

## Heroes in the Home Caregiver Recognition Award 2018

### Barbara Fanson



Barbara has been providing care and support for a number of months for her sister, Janet, travelling each day from Mount Hope to Grimsby to provide care.

Barbara has helped Janet obtain a new health card and a family doctor and was also successful in connecting Janet with geriatric specialists and has been working with the LHIN to ensure her sister is getting the care and support she needs. Thanks to Barbara's perseverance with doctors and specialists, Janet was

scheduled for a CT scan which led to a diagnosis of bipolar disorder and dementia. Because Janet is not able to express herself, Barbara is Janet's advocate, doing everything she can to help.

Thanks to Barbara's assistance and care, Janet is much happier living in a clean apartment and getting help from Barbara with banking, grocery shopping, bathing, dressing, meals, medications and transportation to and from appointments. Given Janet's memory issues, Barbara is the person whom she trusts the most and because she visits daily, she can tell when Janet needs some extra attention through her behavioural changes.

In fact, when Janet had not moved from the couch for a number of days, it was Barbara who took her to the hospital where Janet was diagnosed with pneumonia. Barbara's dedication, perseverance and love for Janet is making a world of difference to her sister's overall health and wellbeing.

In addition, Barbara visits her brother in an assisted living home and acts as his advocate. She is also helping her 85-year old mother look into retirement home living, and visits her several times a week. A devoted, selfless caregiver, we are most grateful to Barbara for being an exceptional caregiver, and we are pleased to recognize her as a Hero in the Home!



**Nominated by her family**