

# Diane Heaton

Foodie, Wine Lover, Choir Singer  
VOLUNTEER



Long time Albertan, Wife, and Mom to two grown kids, Diane Heaton has always been an invested volunteer in some capacity. From being president of her kids' school council, volunteering with the Calgary Boys Choir when her son was a member, to helping out her Community Association, supporting Joy Socks and working with Calgary's Leftovers Foundation, Diane has had many volunteer roles.

For Diane, staying active in the outdoors keeps her healthy, and the arts and volunteering feed her soul. She is a singer and board member with Blend Vocal Association and performs at various community events. Friendships are an important part of Diane's life, she loves going to the theatre with friends, attending documentary food festivals and live music events. She also loves to spend time with her friends and family in nature, hiking, snowshoeing, and skiing.

After first hearing about Made by Momma through 100 Women Who Care, and following on Facebook for a few years, she joined our Volunteer Team in Spring of 2019. Like most of our volunteers, Diane has tried her hand in a few different volunteer roles. She has helped out at a Share Table at the Louise Dean School (for pregnant and parenting teens), she managed the Wine Pull for our Fall Fundraiser, making connections and soliciting donations, and has even golfed in the Golf for Girls tournament. One of the factors that appeals to Diane of the Made by Momma volunteer program, is the ability to make a difference, and get involved without having to commit to a set schedule. Diane is currently our regular NICU Meals delivery volunteer, distributing frozen single serve meals to our freezers in NICU and PEDS units across Calgary. When the request comes in for more meals for Moms and Dads, Diane is able to look at her schedule, and arrange a delivery for a time that fits in her busy calendar

When asked what drew her to Made by Momma, the organization, and the cause, Diane echoed the sentiments of many volunteers. "I think the fact that it's a grassroots thing, it was just some moms around a kitchen table that said, 'let's do this thing', and it's grown to such amazing proportions. I am in awe of the people that started it, and that have made it grow like that. It's a huge contribution to society that a lot of people don't even know about. Honestly, it's an essential service in a lot of ways, yet it's overlooked too much that the need is so high. It makes me sad, yet happy. Sad there is the need, but happy that there are people that are willing to put there all into this thing. I would wish that more people knew about Made by Momma"

If you could take one day off from today's realities, and do anything you want, what would you do?

"I would drive to the mountains, do a big 'ole hike, sit on a patio at one of the restaurants and have a nice refreshing drink and French fries. I'm really missing French fries. And some food. Some food that someone else makes. Looking at the mountains in Banff or Canmore, after doing a hike. That would be a great day. I have a group of girlfriends that we always do fun things, we always have good laughs. I haven't seen them, other than zooming with them, for a while, I'm always appreciative of them, it's what keeps me healthy and young."

At Made by Momma, we know that "together, we can make a difference." And our programs deliver that difference to the families we support. We also know, that Made by Momma makes a difference in the lives of the Volunteers who help deliver those programs. We asked Diane what working with Made by Momma has given her, and if she has learned anything through her time with us. Thank you Diane, for your sharing your thoughts.

"(There are) so many kind hearts out there, and so many wonderful people that quietly go about doing their work, without much fanfare, that have huge impact in people's lives. It's heartwarming to know that there are people that just go about their day and almost anonymously help others that they don't even know. It gives me great peace about humanity. Humans in general are kind people. And there are a lot of kind people that work and volunteer at Made by Momma. I would say I am in awe and inspired by all of the gracious and giving hearts."



Red or White? **Red**  
Sweet or Salty? **Sweet**  
Tea or Coffee? **Coffee**

*Thank You Diane!*  
We applaud you, and all that you do.

What else would you like people to know?

"I would like to thank the board for all their tireless work. I know the board does a lot of behind the scenes work. Thank you to the original people who started Made by Momma. And thanks to the volunteers that work really hard. It's a good organization, and I feel proud to be a small part of it."

*"Imperfection is beauty, madness is genius. And it's better to be absolutely ridiculous than absolutely boring"* Marilyn Monroe