

Zaina Karaki - Outstanding Youth Philanthropist

Zaina is a grade 12 student at Sir Robert Borden Highschool who discovered her passion for volunteering in grade 9 when she first joined the Kiwanis Key Club - which provides members with opportunities to serve, build character and develop leadership skills. Zaina now serves as the Co-President of the Kiwanis Key Club and has enjoyed playing a vital role in the planning and implementation of a number of key fundraising and service programs leading it to become one of the strongest in the Ottawa area.

Zaina's involvement in the Kiwanis Key Club also introduced her to FocalOttawa, of which she is a founding member, which is a student-led intergenerational initiative dedicated to helping local business and students in need. To date, FocalOttawa has raised over \$36,000 with all proceeds given to Bridges Over Barriers, touching the lives of over 460 families in our region and providing exposure to over 42 businesses.

Zaina has also raised funds for the Canadian Cancer Society by participating in their annual Relay for Life event and helping her school reach their goal of raising \$50,000.

Zaina finds giving back and helping those in need a worthwhile cause and continues to seek ways that help make a positive difference in our community.