

Have you Met Mary Neptune?

Mary has been on the Fulford staff for almost fifteen years. She was born in St. Vincent and arrived in Montreal in 1987. Mary worked as a sales representative prior to working at Fulford. She was trained as a PAB (préposée aux bénéficiaires) to meet the many and varied needs of the ladies in her care. Those who met Mary are struck by her graceful bearing and her warm smile.

Mary speaks of "the Fulford family" and is grateful to be part of it. She is drawn with affection to her "mothers and grandmothers". Mary comes to know who to tease and who not to tease, who to hug and who not to hug, and is very respectful of the many personalities in the house. Mary enjoys working closely with her co-workers with whom she shares activities and responsibilities. "I love the ladies," says Mary. "They make me laugh, and sometimes their replies really surprise me. I enjoy their different personalities."

"When a new worker joins the staff, I like to introduce them to the ladies, and help to train them in the role of a PAB at Fulford."

Mary remembers times when many ladies were sick at the

same time. Sometimes staff were ill also, and there would be double the duties. She says such times are difficult but always managed. Mary says the ladies seem to trust her and have confidence in her ability to care for them. On one occasion several years ago Mary was in the dining room with a lady who was failing rapidly. She could see how tired and weak this lady was.

Mary leaned over her quietly and said, "If you feel ready to go, feel free to go." Within moments the lady closed her eyes and died. Mary's strong personal faith helps her to sense her ladies' needs and to be with them, supporting them. Mary is a gift to Fulford.



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