

VOLUNTEER VOICES

ASHOK

A civil engineer by profession, Ashok has been volunteering with classes at KiwiClass for more than four years. Ashok volunteers for several hours a week, assisting our students in classes and catering to their individual learning needs, be it helping them with spelling and grammar or guiding them to use a computer properly.



Ashok particularly admires the services KiwiClass provides to migrants and former refugees as he understands the importance of support services at this juncture in their lives.

What Ashok enjoys most at KiwiClass is meeting people from all walks of life different countries and ethnicities and more importantly getting to know more about the individual customs and traditions of our KiwiClass students.

Ashok arrived in New Zealand several years ago as a skilled migrant from India. He relates his 19 years-ago-self to the students at KiwiClass, he says he went through a steep learning curve before he got adjusted to the culture and Kiwi way of life and he is glad to help anyone navigate those challenges.

For Ashok, it is humbling when students he works with appreciate the contribution he makes. It adds a sense of satisfaction to his life.

“Volunteering is my passion and I always feel the need to give back to society whatever that society has given me.”

In future, Ashok pictures himself forming a not for profit himself. So being part of KiwiClass family definitely helps him understand the organizational models and not for profit sector better.

When asked how volunteering has influenced him as a person, he says all these years of volunteering have taught him to be patient when interacting with individuals and to understand each individual is different in his or her own way.