

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Meet Armando!



VOLUNTEER AREAS:

Armando has been involved with the Day Worker Center, informally and volunteering since about 2006. Later, in 2014, he took on a formal role as a member of the Board of Directors. This is his first year as a member of the Executive Board as Vice President! Throughout the years, Armando has assisted with answering a variety of issues and questions to provide clarification around the Law and Policing. He has done a variety of presentations from driver's license, to the role of local law enforcement and immigration, and our vulnerable population. He has worked/liasoned with Maria to provide support in real time when issues have surfaced in any of these areas or general issues that arose at the Center.

WHY DID YOU WANT TO VOLUNTEER AT THE CENTER?

As a 1st generation Mexican American, and the son of Mexican immigrants who worked in the fields, I wanted to not only serve the community, but particularly give back to the Latino Community. Volunteering is important to me and something that I teach my kids is extremely important. I have tried to model this leading a life of service.

WHAT HAS VOLUNTEERING AT THE CENTER MEANT TO YOU?

Extremely rewarding. I have met a lot of great people and I believe I have helped bridge the gap between law enforcement and our Latino Community, demonstrating that we are truly here to help, to serve and we should not be feared. I am honored to be a part of the DWC. I have been serving the MV Community as a police officer for 24 years and while all is special it is very special and rewarding to serve the Latino community. After working in the fields, my father worked in construction for 40 years. He is my hero, a hard worker who always told me anything is possible in this country if you work hard...si se puede!

ARE THERE ANY SPECIFIC MEMORIES YOU HAVE?

Boy, there are so many! I have always enjoyed presentations and one such presentation included Chief Bosel about eight years ago. The topic was centered on recent concerns of HSI coming to people's homes and the role of local law enforcement. The presentation was well received and appreciated and helped alleviate a lot of those concerns. Other memories include our Board retreats and the many Board meetings pre-covid that we would hold at the DWC!



Armando with the rest of the Board of Directors in 2018.