

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Meet Teresa!



Teresa with her daughters Elena and Evelyn.

VOLUNTEER
SINCE
2017

Teresa began volunteering at the Center about five years ago and has been teaching intermediate English as a second language (ESL) classes ever since! In addition, Teresa has also been a part of our annual Martin Luther King Day service projects. Each year for MLK Day, the Center collaborates with Mountain View Shoreline West Association of Neighbors (SWAN) and together with SWAN members and compañeres, we do a community clean up. Even during the pandemic, Teresa has volunteered during our 25th anniversary celebration and currently she occasionally substitutes for the virtual English classes.

LEARN MORE ABOUT TERESA'S VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE:

WHY DID YOU WANT TO VOLUNTEER AT THE CENTER?

To connect with people at a local organization that I am very glad is here.



Teresa volunteering during our 25th anniversary celebration at the children's activity table

WHAT HAS VOLUNTEERING AT THE CENTER MEANT TO YOU?

It has been encouraging. I've gotten to meet several compañeros and other teachers and learned a lot collaborating about how to do ESL in a very fluid setting. During the pandemic, the weekly updates from our ESL coordinator, Gwen, have been really helpful - a reminder of how we are connected.

ARE THERE ANY SPECIFIC MEMORIES YOU HAVE?

When I first expressed my desire to volunteer, I asked if it was possible to be a tutor, because I thought that could work even though I would have my young child with me. I remember Patricia, the ESL coordinator at the time, saying that actually she was looking for teachers and thought I might do great at it. It was neat to be welcomed and called to step up into something new at the same time. Compañeros and staff have all been wonderfully kind and thoughtful to my daughters (and me).



Teresa co-teaching an ESL class with fellow ESL volunteer, Bruce

THANK
YOU
TERESA!