

May 2024



# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

## Meet Sara!

### VOLUNTEER AREAS:

Sara is part of the amazing ESL team at the Day Worker Center! She co-teaches English classes every week, teaching and preparing classes in contexts pertinent to the needs and interests of workers. In addition, she is also partnering with a small team to draft a curriculum for the ESL program.

### WHY DID YOU WANT TO VOLUNTEER AT THE CENTER?


*I myself have lived in a new country while trying to learn the language. I initially felt scared and intimidated. But when I finally started connecting with the language, I was able to connect with the community, and I felt empowered. Naturally, I didn't do it alone. There were people who created safe spaces for me to make mistakes, who encouraged me to try. As a Mountain View resident, I wanted to volunteer at the DWC to help others feel welcome and connected to our community.*

### WHAT HAS VOLUNTEERING AT THE CENTER MEANT TO YOU?

*I am so impressed and inspired by the entire team – the compañeros, my fellow volunteers, and the DWC staff. It is a joy to partner with such motivated and sharp learners, to laugh with them, to learn from them, to be driven by their drive. It is also a privilege to learn from other teachers, who kindly share their ideas for creating effective and engaging lessons. And, of course, I am grateful to the amazing staff, who support us and make sure the program can function. It really feels like a family.*

### ARE THERE ANY SPECIFIC MEMORIES YOU HAVE?

*I remember first meeting Gwen and Maria at the end of February 2020, and being so excited to get started. The next step was to shadow an in-person class. Then Covid happened. I was able to start three years later when the DWC reopened. It was worth the wait! :)*



Sara teaches ESL classes and is part of a team that is creating an ESL curriculum for the Center!

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worker  
center  
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mountain view

THANK YOU  
SARA!

VOLUNTEER  
SINCE:  
2023

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