

November 2023

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Meet Pablo!



VOLUNTEER AREAS:

Pablo is part of the ESL team and is currently doing one-on-one remote tutoring with a worker, teaching important English concepts (nouns, verbs, past, present, etc.) and words for use in everyday interactions. In addition, Pablo is helping go through the many CDs the Center has. He is working on labeling and detailing them onto a spreadsheet. As part of the project he has also started looking over VHS tapes and possible ways to record them digitally to be uploaded to a computer.

WHY DID YOU WANT TO VOLUNTEER AT THE CENTER?

I've spoken Spanish and English all my life but I've always wanted to use my Spanish-speaking skills to help others who need help navigating our English-speaking world. The DWC seemed like the best place to use my Spanish to help others, but also to further improve my Spanish by being able to practice with other Spanish speakers outside of my home environment. In addition to using my Spanish, I didn't interact much with my local community so I wanted to be able to understand the community of Mountain View and the people of the same or similar culture as myself. With ESL learning, it seemed the best as a way to use my Spanish speaking skills as I'm able to use my knowledge of English through school and reteach what I had learned in school. By helping inventory the Center's history, I'm able to learn about the local community and the Center's history through the many images, videos, music given to the Center, and so much more. Both of these areas help satisfy my desire to be active in my local community and to also utilize a useful skill for good.

WHAT HAS VOLUNTEERING AT THE CENTER MEANT TO YOU?

I haven't been at the Center for too long but with the experiences I've already had, it's been phenomenal and I hope I can further learn more about people working here and others in the community. Everyone at the DWC seems so nice and I've felt that what I do at the Center has an important impact that further develops our local community. I feel I have a purpose at the DWC, even if I haven't been here for so long. It feels as if now I'm part of the community that is helping Mountain View improve.

ARE THERE ANY SPECIFIC MEMORIES YOU HAVE?

One time when I was at the Center helping with inventory, I was working with the VHS player in the back while a worker was cleaning. I overheard her speak Spanish so when she needed to clean the area I was in, I responded in Spanish and she was surprised I did. She talked to me more and even complimented the boots I was wearing that day. Such a little compliment and interaction made my day and seeing the community the Center creates makes me wish to keep experiencing that same community more.



Pablo is an ESL tutor and is helping inventory materials at the Center to preserve its history!



THANK YOU
PABLO!

VOLUNTEER
SINCE:
2023

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