There have been funny moments in class. The mistakes you make and everyone has a sense of humor about it so those are funny memories. However, most of the memories I have are because of the stories of the workers. Most recently, last December, the worker I have been tutoring came down with COVID. He was intubated in the hospital for weeks, and no one really knew what was going to happen. His son would text me and I would try to find out what was happening because I kept me engaged with the Center and with workers that come for lunch. That has actually been a highlight for me this last year. It is also an opportunity to contribute especially during the difficult challenges of the pandemic.

Due to the pandemic, the Center paused onsite volunteer opportunities, including ESL classes. However, Gwen has been sending weekly updates for ESL volunteers in order to keep them engaged. Ever since August 2020, Gwen has been tutoring a couple of compañer@s through Zoom and WhatsApp during an hour a week class. Gwen is a very special member of the Day Worker Team!

LEARN MORE ABOUT GWENS VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE:

Originally volunteering to teach English classes, Gwen has volunteered in so much more! She’s helped with resume and job interview workshops, nutrition workshops and she is currently the English as a Second Language (ESL) Program coordinator at the Center. Most recently, she’s been going in on Saturdays to help serve lunches for workers and their families. When asked about that experience, Gwen states, "It is an important part of my week because it helps keep me engaged with the Center and with workers that come for lunch. That has actually been a highlight for me this last year. It is also an opportunity to contribute especially during the difficult challenges of the pandemic."

WHAT VOLUNTEERING AT THE CENTER MEANT TO YOU?

I have volunteered all my life. For me it is important when you live in a community to connect with people and especially understand the disadvantages and challenges confronting the underprivileged. I always try to do that and it has always been a great life experience for me. I love working with organizations and people at a grass root level. You begin to understand the issues in your community, how people are impacted and is a way for you to get involved. I also speak Spanish so when I was hunting around for a volunteer opportunity, I came across the DWC. It was certainly interesting to me so I filled out the application and the rest is history!

WHAT ARE THERE ANY SPECIFIC MEMORIES YOU HAVE?

There have been funny moments in class. The mistakes you make and everyone has a sense of humor about it so those are funny memories. However, most of the memories I have are because of the stories of the workers. Most recently, last December, the worker I have been tutoring came down with COVID. He was intubated in the hospital for weeks, and no one really knew what was going to happen. His son would text me and I would try to find out what was happening because I kept me engaged with the Center and with workers that come for lunch. That has actually been a highlight for me this last year. It is also an opportunity to contribute especially during the difficult challenges of the pandemic.

Due to the pandemic, the Center paused onsite volunteer opportunities, including ESL classes. However, Gwen has been sending weekly updates for ESL volunteers in order to keep them engaged. Ever since August 2020, Gwen has been tutoring a couple of compañer@s through Zoom and WhatsApp during an hour a week class. Gwen is a very special member of the Day Worker Team!

LEARN MORE ABOUT GWENS VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE:

Originally volunteering to teach English classes, Gwen has volunteered in so much more! She’s helped with resume and job interview workshops, nutrition workshops and she is currently the English as a Second Language (ESL) Program coordinator at the Center. Most recently, she’s been going in on Saturdays to help serve lunches for workers and their families. When asked about that experience, Gwen states, "It is an important part of my week because it helps keep me engaged with the Center and with workers that come for lunch. That has actually been a highlight for me this last year. It is also an opportunity to contribute especially during the difficult challenges of the pandemic."

Due to the pandemic, the Center paused onsite volunteer opportunities, including ESL classes. However, Gwen has been sending weekly updates for ESL volunteers in order to keep them engaged. Ever since August 2020, Gwen has been tutoring a couple of compañer@s through Zoom and WhatsApp during an hour a week class. Gwen is a very special member of the Day Worker Team!