



IVYP STAFF SPOTLIGHT

Alejandra Alvarez

What is your role at IVYP?

I am IVYP's Family Resource Center's Site Based Family Advocate. My position was created to better support families outside of Isla Vista that have trouble finding local resources. I have been with IVYP a total of five years. This August I completed my first year as a family advocate, but prior to my current position, I worked as an IVYP after school teacher's assistant for four years.

What do you like most about your job?

What I like most about my job is getting to know all the community members of Goleta. It warms my heart to be recognized and greeted around the community whether I'm moving from site to site or even when I am at the grocery store. A smile, wave, or small chit chat always brightens up my day because it makes me feel like I am a part of a home and it also reminds me that our hard work has made an impression outside of Isla Vista as well.

What is one thing you wish people knew about IVYP?

As a site-based family advocate I want people to know we offer help outside of Isla Vista and not just strictly for youth. IVYP has been helping communities as a whole for years and we strive to continue to offer our support to anyone who needs it!

Who was your favorite teacher and how did they inspire you?

My fourth grade teacher, Mrs. Wesner was probably the best teacher I have ever had. Aside from being so patient and warm, she was hilarious. She was the first person to teach me about sarcasm and dry humor. Humor is a HUGE part of my families' culture so I think I always bonded with her over that. She inspired me to be real, she was always so real. She also told me to never let anyone tell me I talk to too much because that was my talent.



When you were 5, what did you want to be when you grew up?

A superstar.

SITE BASED FAMILY ADVOCATE LOCATIONS

El Camino Elementary
Ellwood Elementary
Goleta Boys and Girls Club
Goleta Community Center

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