Carolina Loweree

San Fernando Valley Volunteer

I grew up in East LA in the early 60’s and decided at a young age that I was going to do something important in my life and in my community. I was an educator for a private school and taught for twenty-two years. I retired in 2004 and dedicated myself to helping parents and at-risk children in the San Fernando Valley and South Los Angeles. I hooked up with Nancy in 2007, working as a volunteer over the last sixteen years. Here is a brief list of my activities:

* Tutored hundreds of children at the LAPD Devonshire PALS, LAPD Foothill Division and LAPD Mission Division, usually 4x’s a week for 3-4 hours for sixteen years so far.
* Gave about 250 drug-education seminars at schools, churches, and apartment buildings, pledging over 23,000 children and parents to a drug-free life.
* Volunteered at East Valley High School, teaching ESL, tutoring, and mentoring students, organized the anti-drug Red Ribbon week Ceremony, as well and parenting classes and ESL.
* Referred by the District Attorney’s office to take on ex-gang and gang members to program and fill in lacking basic education areas of math and reading, the two people I had are out of the gang.
* Helped organize and manage several Children’s Day events for the LAPD Valley Bureau, which brought in about 30-50 thousand children and parents each year from 2008-2012.
* Served as Treasurer for the San Fernando Valley Coalition on Gangs from 2012-2016.
* For the last 3 years, served on the Board for the North Valley Regional Chamber of Commerce.
* Created annual Christmas Toy give-away which started in 2008, giving out from 200-300 toys each year. Despite COVID, we were able to give out toys to 300 children by doing a drive-through event, which even included Santa on a Sleigh.