

# A SENSE OF PURPOSE

DIANA WALKER AND SHANNON RAMOS DISCUSS  
THE SIGNIFICANCE OF VOLUNTEERING

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## *“WE ARE HERE FOR THEM”*

The longest tenured volunteer on our Lubbock staff, Diana Walker has enjoyed every minute of it. With most things in life, it comes as no surprise that volunteering is a two-way street. “I can have a bad day and go see my people — they’ll give me a hug, a smile, or a simple “I love you” and it brightens my day.

More often than one would like to imagine, the sad reality is that many patients are alone towards the end of the journey. That same reality is where Diana feels her calling. “There are so many people who are alone in nursing homes and private homes who need



Shannon Ramos (left) Diana Walker (right)

someone. It may even be as simple as a conversation, anything helps. As a volunteer, we are here for them.” Shannon Ramos, volunteer coordinator, expanded on her sentiments. “The great thing about volunteering is that we can anyone of all ages can help, we offer all your basic caregiving needs but sometimes it’s neat for them to have someone different come in.

Volunteers add a little diversity and can meet those varying interests people have. Maybe you liked to paint when you were younger or loved to watch westerns, etc.”

### *“IT GIVES ME A SENSE OF PURPOSE”*

Diana patients’ have directly influenced her life. “It just makes me feel good, they help me as much as I help them. It gives me a sense of purpose.” For those interested in volunteering, Diana offers some words of advice: “In this business you must have compassion, as well as patience. Maybe you’ll hear the story of their childhood multiple times in a few hours, but I love it each time like it was the first time I’ve heard it.”

Public relations director Christi Snodgrass had this to say about our volunteers: “No one quite understands the importance of volunteers in hospice care; these special people have chosen to spend their time providing extra care and love to patients and families during their darkest hours.”

At Interim, we love and treasure our volunteers around the state of Texas and New Mexico!

