



**May 2020**

**Name: Fernanda Arizola**



**Tell us a little about yourself:**

I'm a branch manager for TCF Bank, I have been there over 8 years. I have been doing my best to volunteer wherever I'm able to. I also run a DJ business (FCA DJ Entertainment) which I have been doing for over 14 Years. I'm very passionate when it comes to helping others and I have soft spot when it comes to children, because I know how it feels to grow up and come from a low income household.

**How long have you been volunteering for United Way of Kenosha County?**

I believe this is my 2<sup>nd</sup> year with readers are leaders, but I have been doing my best to assist in other ways whenever I'm needed.

**How did you get involved with United Way of Kenosha County?**

I looked up different sites in the community that I could offer my assistance to and United way welcomed me with open arms.

**What is your favorite experience/story from your work with United Way of Kenosha County?**

Working with the readers are leaders' program, the young man I worked with made me feel as if he needed me. He made me a card on the last day of our meeting and thanked me for helping him with his learning. I keep this card right on my desk in my office to remind me of how important a small act of kindness can be and how it can make a huge impact in someone's life.

**What do you enjoy doing in your free time?**

I spend time with my daughter. I love being around children, so sometimes when her friends are over, we create different games to play and fun activities. I also find time to create events that help others. Last year my DJ business had its first annual backpack drive which was a huge success. We received so many donations to ensure that no child went to school without the supplies they needed. I plan on having my 2<sup>nd</sup> annual drive in the summer, which I have been receiving responses from companies that are willing to donate again.

**What would you say to someone who is thinking of volunteering for United Way of Kenosha County?**

Please do it! You'll love it and feel so good after volunteering! When I started to volunteer, I felt like there were so many more things I could continue to do, so I started to look at other ways of helping. It turns out there are so many people that need our help in this community and not enough volunteers who commit.

**What is your favorite quote?**

Everyone you meet is fighting a battle you know nothing about, always be kind...

**Tell us something that inspires you?**

Possibility inspires me. With all things possible, it gives you the energy and determination to keep pushing. The possibility of the world becoming a better place, one good person at a time, means I can help make a change and a big difference.