

March 8, 2023

RE: Mary Anna Mendez

To Whom It May Concern:

Writing a letter of recommendation is both a privilege and challenge. A privilege, because if an individual is willing to ask, then the experience must have been positive; a challenge, because the obligation is to provide information that will distinguish the applicant above other interested parties. Mary Anna deserves that kind of recommendation.

I was a United States History and United States Government teacher the last thirty-one years however, my interaction with Mary Anna comes not through academics, but in volunteering with a community event. Now retired, I love being involved in various forms of community service and often find myself in the leadership thereof. That is how I had the fortune of meeting and working with Mary Anna.

So while my recommendation has nothing to do with Mary Anna's academics, it speaks to something equally, if not more important, her character. In an effort to broaden the search in finding qualified volunteers, I sought the help of others. Mary Anna came highly recommended and now that I have had a chance to work with her, I see why. She was not only willing, but from the onset has been responsive, actively involved to ensure the success of the project, and proactive in looking to find solutions to the task at hand.

Being willing to volunteer speaks volume of her character, but adding to the recommendation is the professionalism and positive energy she brings to the process. She is very comfortable engaging and interacting with others and because she has such an infectious smile and personality, quickly establishes a trust with those with whom she is interacting. Those are amazing qualities.

Too many of Mary Anna's peers are consumed with the demands of schedules and have pushed aside the idea of civic duty or civic engagement. Finding ways to be involved with others isn't something Mary Anna fits into her schedule, it is who she is.

It has been an honor to work together and appreciate her genuine goodness. I have absolutely no reservation in recommending she be given further opportunities to share her positivity with others on their journey. They will be better off because of her association, guidance, and leadership.

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