

# Erika Ortiz

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June 30<sup>th</sup>, 2020

## **UPHA CHW Section**

Dear Paul,

Being an immigrant to the US has given me a broad vision on different needs immigrants face. I started visiting the US as a tourist, exploring the chance to become a student companion to my husband, later under a student visa with low or no income other than a scholarship, and later with a work visa, I got to navigate the system that the city or county had to offer to us, I could never forget the resources and information available for our family during those times. Learning about this position makes me excited to contribute to a population I identify with.

I have been honored to participate in volunteer service without knowing how valuable it was through my LDS faith, helping kids and youth in their Church programs, activities, service projects, etc, coming from a big family in my home country, with social and economical challenges due to the size of the family, I now value the help of the village that surrounded my education until I became the first graduated from college in my family.

I feel sensitive to the needs of our raising generation, having to grow in a bi-cultural environment, trying to find their place between two or sometimes more countries and cultures. I have one adult and two adolescent children, and recognize the importance of the well being of the whole family and our role in society.

I feel accomplished when I see the grown up Cub Scouts I took care of 10 years ago here in the US, the various opportunities that shaped their character, personality and goals in life.

The current events all around the world due to COVID-19 make me want to serve in any capacity for the wellbeing of my fellowmen, I have been a homestay mom for the last 10 years since we arrived as a family to the country my volunteering activities, a few trainings and community involvement, is what I can offer to this position if I am given the opportunity to do so. Thank you for your time reading my letter and I hope I can be considered for an interview or any next step you determine.

Sincerely,

Erika Ortiz