

IN THEIR OWN WORDS: LIBRARY VOLUNTEENS CARLOS - NORTHSIDE BRANCH

“I decided to be part of the Summer Reading Challenge (SRC) VolunTeen team with Columbus Metropolitan Library at the Northside Branch because, when I was younger, every summer I would sign up for SRC and I would read for the whole summer, even if I already completed my game board. And every year I would ask if I could be part of the team, until 2016, when the Northside Branch reopened. That’s when I started volunteering.

I would also volunteer to get my service hours for school. While I was a Lead VolunTeen I learned how to be more professional and how to be a better leader. Being a Lead VolunTeen helped me with my communication skills by communicating better with the team. This impacted me because whenever I would need to take initiative I wouldn’t be afraid to think that I might not be communicating well with my team.

Volunteering helped me in my education path by making me a stronger leader, by helping me take initiative when needed. Volunteering has helped me in my career path because it’s giving me the experience of what it’s like to work as a librarian.

My favorite part of volunteering was mostly working in the kids’ area, to either read with the kids or to interact with them. I would watch them play video games, read with them, play board games, all sorts of different activities. Another thing I really enjoyed while being a volunteer was taking books that people reserved and putting them into a cart. I would almost always compete with other VolunTeens see who could be done faster. I hope to help more people in my community by inviting them to join SRC, either by them enrolling in the program or becoming part of the team.”