

Johanna Schmid—Newcomer to Village Volunteering

Johanna Schmid read about Beacon Hill Village in the *New York Times* several years ago and started following the Village movement. “I was so taken with the idea,” she recalls. “I knew I wanted to work with older adults, and it all came together when the two groups I volunteer with, Los Altos Legacies and the Los Altos Community Foundation, decided to help Avenidas Village expand their efforts in our area.”

“If only there would have been an Avenidas Village in San Diego where my mom lived,” Johanna laments. “It would have given both of us such peace of mind. I would have gladly paid a membership fee to ensure that my mom could get everything she needed with just one call.”

What keeps Johanna volunteering with Avenidas Village? “I love being able to give back to the community, and helping others. Every minute of my volunteer work for Avenidas Village is dedicated to the memory of my mother. Her spirit lives on in my life and my work. I like spreading the word to older adults that they have a new option, and that Avenidas Village makes it so much easier to sustain the quality of life that they want. Aging doesn’t have to be so hard, and with Avenidas Village, it’s not!”



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