

# DEI Community Spotlight

## Sharon Porter, Library Assistant

¡Hola! Bonjour! Dobar dan! Guten tag! Hello!



I am Sharon Porter. I work every morning as a library assistant at Allen College.

I was a high school Spanish teacher for 33 years, then decided it would be fun to have a retirement “hobby job” at Allen College. My nurse-gerontologist mother would have approved!

Helping students, faculty and providers is a perfect fit for me because I can support the real heroes - those who directly care for patients - even though I don't have a medical background.



DEI is really important to me. I grew up reading about people in different times and regions of the world and watching an amazing TV show called the Big Blue Marble, which celebrated children in all parts of the world. From being raised by my dad who grew up in a children's home and my mom who survived childhood abuse, to being surrounded as a kid by at-risk foster siblings, to living in South America as a foreign exchange student, to caring for ESL and minority students in my classes, to participating in anti-racist discussions, to celebrating life events with LGBTQ+ friends, to

loving my Jewish, Muslim and Buddhist family members: diversity, equity and inclusion is at the core of my being.

A great (paraphrased) quote by Mother Teresa rings true: “Not all of us can do great things. But we can do small things with great love.”

Stop by the Barrett Forum Library to meet Sharon Porter!

