

## YSC Employee Questionnaire

**Name:** Raquel Kelly Martinez  
**Title:** Academic Coach  
**Education:** Los Angeles Mission College  
**Hometown:** Pacoima, CA



**Family:** I'm the 4<sup>th</sup> of 8 children. I have 4 sisters and 3 brothers. I am a single parent of 2 children, Albert (10) and Jesus (4). We were raised in Pacoima most of our lives and only recently moved to Little Rock, CA this past May.

**Hobbies:** I enjoy activities with my children. We try to have "family fun night" at least once a month. I like jogging when I have time. I enjoy sports; I watch Basketball (LAKER fan), Baseball (DODGER fan), and Football (49er fan). I love long road trips with family, friends, or alone for peace and quiet. I also love comedy clubs and live music. I tend to watch free movie screenings as much as my available time allows me.

### How did you come to Youth Speak Collective?

My mom, Isabel Martinez, is one of YSC's partners at SFHS. She suggested I apply because my goal was, and still is, to become a High School Math Teacher. I fell in love with the organization, my job, and the unified staff. This opportunity has only encouraged me to further achieve my goal.

### What is your role at Youth Speak Collective?

I am an Academic Coach by title, but I play many roles. I currently tutor CAHSEE Prep for both sections of Math and ELA. I've done Math Enrichment, tutored Geometry, homework assistance, 9<sup>th</sup> Grade Academy, and help facilitate staff development for our tutors at Discovery Prep and facilitate SAT Prep courses at San Fernando High School.

### What is the best part of your role?

The best part of my role... There are too many to choose from. One part is when I connect with or breakthrough to a student. The students we service are those that have difficulty understanding the material they need to know, so when a student tells me "*Now I understand*" is the best three words I can hear. I enjoy being a part of an organization that makes a difference in my home town. It's definitely fun when we can reward our youth with field trips to baseball games, hockey games, basketball games, and much more. It allows us to connect with them outside of school and knowing that they aren't in the streets getting in trouble. This makes me feel I helped keep a few kids from being a statistic. I also enjoy meeting new people regularly. The way David encourages us to network and implements that opportunity for us is unlike any other place of employment.

### What is your favorite TV Channel?

I don't get to watch too much TV but I record my shows. I love Ghost related shows from the Discovery channel, the Travel channel, A&E, etc. I also have the guilty pleasure of watching Jersey Shore.

### Favorite place you have been and why?

I'm torn between 2 places. The first is San Diego. I took my oldest son (Albert) to Legoland for his birthday 2 years ago and we spent the weekend together exploring, just the two of us and had a blast! I also definitely loved my trip last year to Vegas. I rarely get out much but when I do, I try to make the best of my adventures.

### Where is the next place you would like to go?

Amsterdam

### What makes you laugh/cry?

Listening to my youngest son sing "*I wanna be a billionaire*". When I hear Jesus laugh, it's contagious. True stories are the best for both laughing and crying.