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Paula Sibal

I have been involved with Re-Member since 2005, having first come here as a volunteer from my home church: Plymouth UCC in Grand Rapids, MI. After my first trip here, I knew without a doubt that Pine Ridge Reservation and Re-Member were destined to be my home and my life's work. I took over the position of Volunteer Trip Coordinator in July of 2010 and, in 2012, the door opened for me to make my move west. I liquidated my hobby farm in Plainwell, MI; and on June 10, 2012, bade farewell to my life, family, and friends in Michigan and left to begin the next leg of my life's journey on Pine Ridge.

Prior to coming on staff with Re-Member, I spent 25 years as a medical secretary and medical transcriptionist.

I graduated from Suomi College (now Finlandia) in the upper peninsula of Michigan in 1977, with a degree in Law Enforcement. Why did I not pursue that career path, you ask? Long story. Suffice to say that what I thought I should do was vastly different from the path life took me down.

Currently I do not have any other organizations that I volunteer with, as Re-Member takes up much of my time. Back in Michigan I was very active in volunteering with a local free clinic, as well as with Disabled Sports USA teaching mentally challenged kids to ski. My hobbies and interests outside of work include horses, skiing, farming/gardening, and pretty much anything that gets me outside.

I don't have any special qualifications to do what I do; but I can tell you that my heart is with this organization and the Lakota Oyate on Pine Ridge. I am personally committed to do everything I can to educate our volunteers about the injustice that our government and many other people continue to heap on the indigenous peoples of this country, and specifically the Oglala Lakota Oyate; and I hope to be in this position for many years to come.

Héčhetu yeló (so it is).