

Precinct Person: **Sharon Al-Uqdah KC 14-03**

I am like the bird in the story.

Sharon Al-Uqdah has been a precinct leader in KC-1403 for many years now. In fact, it was Sharon who convinced Gary Washington to co-lead KC-1403 with her. (Gary was featured in last month's newsletter). Sharon knocks on every door in her precinct, not just the doors with Democrats living inside. She provides printed materials regarding elections, important legislation, and sample ballots in her precinct and in several adjacent precincts. She believes that if we do not help each other, we do not have any help. Sharon is purpose driven and does what she can to make a difference. Informing her neighbors is just one way to spend time giving back.

Sharon referred to the story that is well-known in some cultures about a massive forest fire and all the animals flee in terror and despair. They stand at the edge of the forest, watching their home burn, and feel powerless to stop it. Then, a tiny bird begins flying to a nearby stream, taking a single drop of water in its beak, and flying back to drop it on the flames.

The other animals, including much larger ones like a jaguar or an eagle, mock the hummingbird for its seemingly futile effort. "What do you think you can accomplish?" they ask. "You're too small to make a difference". The hummingbird replies, "I am doing what I can." Sharon relates to the bird in the story. She is humble, and does not see herself as someone who makes grandiose gestures or who will scale impact. *She does what she can to make a difference. She urges others to do the same.*

From being a foster parent to raising biological children, a grandparent and spouse, to volunteering with Jobs for Justice, Sharon has always been involved in her community. As a U.S. Postal Worker and officer for the American Postal Workers Union, Sharon has been an advocate for workers' rights. She retired from the Postal Services a few years ago, and at 71 is making room in her life to prioritize her husband of 46 years as he struggles with medical issues.

Sharon would like for others to see themselves as the bird in the story. She wants people to "vote like your life depends on it" because it does. Do what you can, and certainly exercise your right to vote.

Thank you, Sharon, for giving your time to the community. If you would like to learn more about what it takes to be a precinct leader in your district, contact [Susan Martin](#), WyCo Dems Board President. As we approach the November election, the county could use the support of additional leaders in their communities. It is imperative that Democrats in Wyandotte County get to the polls and vote this year. Make your voice count, and remember, your life depends on it!