Gabi Sanchez has devoted her career to understanding the challenges faced by long-term care and senior housing providers, so involvement with the Vital Life Foundation has been a natural partnership. A shareholder at the Portland, Ore., law firm Lane Powell PC, she brings to the Board a pragmatic, no-nonsense approach and a passion for service.

She grew up in El Paso, Tex., and as a child first dreamed of being a veterinarian. Her parents came to America as immigrants, persevering over great adversity to create a life of opportunity for Gabi and her sister. “They taught us to never give up on our dreams, and I owe them a tremendous amount,” she says.

Gabi holds a Bachelor’s degree in Biological Sciences from the University of Texas at El Paso, and is a graduate of the University of Oregon School of Law. In addition to her active involvement with Vital Life and other organizations, she is a Board Member of the Oregon Health Care Association and also serves on its Legal Committee.

Seniors have always occupied a soft spot in her heart, starting with her grandparents, and a desire to honor and give back to those who have given so much is what drew her to the Foundation. Of its many charitable partners and programs, she resonates most with Meals on Wheels People, where for four years she served as a home delivery volunteer.

“I’ve been blessed in so many ways,” she says. “To be able to take a little of my time to serve people has always been my calling, and I’m proud to support the Foundation.”