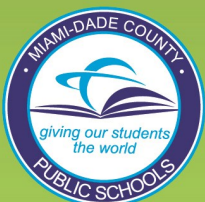


# SAVES Program

December 2019— First Edition



MIAMI DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## New Opportunities

Maria Del Carmen Talavera came from Cuba. She arrived in the United States on October 4, 2014. She attended the University in Cuba and graduated with a degree in Culinary Arts. After her graduation, she worked as a chef to provide for her family. Leaving her family behind was a hard decision, while pursuing her dream of freedom and a better future.

After being in the United States for a year, Ms. Talavera heard about the SAVES program from a friend she met at the office of the Department of Children and Families (DCF). She was intrigued by what she heard about the program and the services it provides. She then went to American Adult Education Center and enrolled in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) under the SAVES program. After completing one year of ESOL, she found a job at a local bakery and stopped attending classes.

Ms. Talavera returned to American Adult Education Center after two years of absence and enrolled in medical and clinical assistant classes, while continuing with her English classes. Her goal is to become a registered nurse and work at a hospital to take care of people in need. That was her

dream as a child. She wants to achieve her dream and thanks the SAVES program for helping her get closer to achieving it. Currently, she is a Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA) and has a part-time position in a nursing home. She greatly appreciates the opportunities she has been given in this country, especially by the SAVES program and all its resources.

She is also grateful to the SAVES staff for their support and to the teachers for their valuable lessons. She will continue to study English and take advantage of the opportunities this country offers to achieve her dream.

