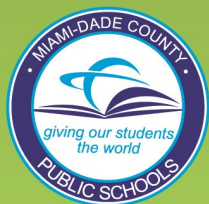


SAVES Program

July 2020 — First Edition



MIAMI DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Creating a Pathway for Success

Joane Exama has always had a passion for helping others. She was born in the countryside of L'Estère, Haiti, and moved to Port-au-Prince to attend high school. After graduating, she enrolled in nursing school where she earned a nursing degree in August 1998. She went back to l'Estère, her hometown, in 2001, to give back to her community, first at the hospital, then at an Orthopedic Center. In September 2016, she came to Miami, Florida in search of a better life and opportunities for herself and her young son.

As soon as Joane arrived here, she was eager to improve her English and her education in order to use her background and experience acquired in Haiti. Without delay, she enrolled in English for Speakers of Other Languages (ESOL) under the SAVES Program at South Dade Technical College in Spring 2017. After one year of studying English, and one trimester in Adult Basic Education (ABE) classes to brush up and improve her academic skills, she was ready to transition to the Medical Assisting Career Technical Program. She worked diligently in her classes to complete the accredited program.

Joane's journey has not been easy. While attending South Dade Technical College as a full-time student she worked evenings as a full-time Direct Support Professional at Sunrise Community. She reminds herself every day: "Keep your goals and you will have success". Her

determination, with the support of her family and educators kept her motivated and persistent. In May 2019, she graduated as a Registered Medical Assistant. Joane is grateful to her family, teachers, counselors and the SAVES Program for helping her attain this goal.

South Dade Technical College is not the end of Joane's educational career. SAVES provided Joane with translation and evaluation services of her nursing degree from Haiti and this summer, she anticipates attending Miami Dade College to pursue a Registered Nurse Bachelor of Science degree. Joane will continue to grow as a healthcare professional and pursue her dream of creating a better life for her family, especially for her son. SAVES wishes her the best in all her pursuits.

JOANE EXAMA

