

# SAVES Program



September 2021— First Edition

MIAMI DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## Always Keep Improving

Ms. Loren Fuentes, born in Honduras, was looking to complete her general studies until she put her studies on hold when she had her son in 2013. Having her son motivated her to move from Honduras to the United States because she knew it was here where she and her son had a chance at a better life and future.

After arriving in the United States in 2015 with just herself and her son, she worked hard to become an independent mother and continued her studies to find a steady career. She wanted to have more job opportunities open, and improving her English was the first step. She started to look for a school that could fulfill both her language and career studies. A friend of hers suggested she register at South Dade Technical College, where they could assist with her studies, and she was glad she heeded their advice.

She started paying her way, taking the ESOL course to improve her English. Once she obtained her asylum approval, she was eligible to apply for the SAVES program. The SAVES program helped her pay for the rest of her studies in English and start a new course at the career center for barbering. With hard work and dedication, Loren completed the Barbering program and graduated in December 2020. She is now happily working at Mi-

ami Clippers Barber and is looking to continue her studies in nursing and obtain her GED.

Loren highly recommends any eligible students take advantage of the benefits the SAVES program provides. SAVES helped her pay for her classes and course materials which led her to new career opportunities. She feels more confident now in supporting her son with a better future. Loren is very grateful for the support of her teachers, the school's staff, and the SAVES program that allowed her to pursue and achieve her goals.

