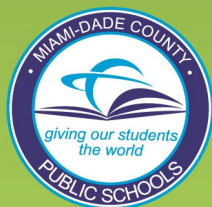


SAVES Program

December 2021 — Second Edition



MIAMI DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Thankful for New Beginnings

Born in Cuba, Mariela Gonzalez immigrated to the United States just two years ago with her husband and son. She left her own country with the desire to abandon the ideological and Physical oppression of a system that subjugates, enslaves, and subdues its own people and arrived at the land of opportunities, where children can laugh, young people can create brilliant and beautiful things, and are valued for their individuality, a land where there is respect for the Human Rights this is United States of America. Although, it was difficult leaving her country and family behind her, they eventually settled down in Miami. She thanks God for the life she has created. She thanks the United States for opening its doors to each immigrant and giving them hope for a better future.

Her goal upon arriving to this country was to achieve a better life for herself and her family; for this, she contacted the Lutheran Agency, who advised her about the SAVES Program.

Mrs. Gonzalez is grateful to this Agency for putting this fabulous Program in her hands, which supports and takes away the fears of a beginner who arrives without resources or family. SAVES gives everyone inside the program assistance in achieving their dreams. She decided to enroll into their English class with the mindset that this would create better work opportunities and allow her to more easily, assimilate into the culture of this great country.

She feels confident and motivated to continue her studies once she completes the English class. She will enroll in the Vocational Health Care Program at the Miami Senior Adult Education Center with the financial assistance of the SAVES Program, which will pay her tuition, books, bus passes and materials. She is very thankful for this. If she didn't have this big help provided by the SAVES Program, she couldn't succeed in this country.

Her play is to study health care because of her love for the health field, she is passionate about helping and taking care of people in need.

She gives thanks to every staff member that works in the SAVES Office at Miami Senior Adult Education Center, and to the principal for developing, involving,

and helping adult students in this Program. She gives special thanks to Mrs. Gonzalez and is thankful to all teachers who taught with love and dedication to every adult student ensuring their success. She is grateful for every person who contributed to improve her education.

