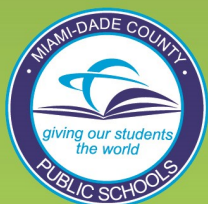


# SAVES Program



January 2023 — First Edition

MIAMI DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



## Searching for Freedom and Finding SAVES

Mrs. Rosa Hernandez was born and raised in Cuba. She migrated to the United States in September 2015, leaving her home and career in search of freedom, a better life, and being reunited with her family, whom she had not seen for years. Rosa became grandmother months before her migration as she worked as a teacher in Cuba. One of her goals as a teacher was to learn the English language then when she arrived at the United States, she was joyful not only for the opportunity to learn the language she always wanted to learn, but she also knew she would watch her grandson grow up in a better and safe environment.

A month after arriving in the United States, her friend told her about the SAVES program and the benefits she has as a Cuban immigrant. With the support of her family, Mrs. Hernandez was excited about starting English classes, which is when she registered at American Adult Education Center. She registered for ESOL classes and was determined to learn the language she dreamed on learning, knowing that with hard work and dedication, she could take advantage of all the opportunities she would not have had in her home country.

After completing three ESOL levels, she was able to have a job interview and began working part-time as an office clerk. Mrs. Hernandez feels that the SAVES program has helped her to communicate and acquire the English skills necessary to succeed in this country. Mrs. Hernandez took advantage of the SAVES program, completed ESOL level 5, took citizenship classes, and became a US citizen, and she feels honored that now she has the right to vote in this country. Mrs. Hernandez feels grateful to the wonderful staff at American Adult Education Center, who made her feel like family. Now because of their motivation and unconditional support, Mrs.

