

SAVES Program



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MIAMI DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



Boosting Professional Skills with the SAVES program

Ms. Dachely Figueredo was born in Cuba where she started to study Industrial Engineering at the Agrarian University of Havana where she completed 4 years of education. However, at the age of twenty-one, she decided to leave her country due to repression, the lack of freedom of expression, and the terrible political situation. On June 16, 2022, Dachely left Cuba to Nicaragua, and then crossed Honduras, Guatemala, Belize, and Mexico. She faced countless dangers that included crossing rivers and forests, on a bus trip that lasted more than 16 hours, but with the encouragement that one day she would be in a country of freedom and opportunities.

She arrived at this great nation few days later and after having been processed by immigration agents, she took a fly to Miami to finally be reunited with her family and her boyfriend, who supported her so she could study while waiting for her work permit. As soon as she arrived at this country, she began to look for a way to learn English to be able to find a job and study a career. Through CareerSource South Florida Perrine Center, she found out about the SAVES Program and the benefits it offered. She came to Miami Sunset Adult Education Center on August 2022 and registered for ESOL classes. She quickly moved up the levels until she completed the ESOL program, and then registered and completed the Adult Basic Education (ABE) Program. By the time she was studying ABE, Miami Sunset Adult began to open the Integrated Education and Training (IET) courses. She showed a great interest in the Microsoft Office Specialist, in which she was able to enroll at no cost, thanks to the SAVES Program.

When Ms. Figueredo registered for the IET Program she received her work permit, however, she decided to complete the course so she could have a greater oppor-

tunity to find a job. Three months later she completed the coursework and took the Certification Test that gave her the industry-recognized certification that confirms her skills in Power Point, Outlook, Word, and Excel. Due to Ms. Figueredo's commitment and excellence, Miami Sunset Adult offered her a position as Clerical Assistant where she helps students to pass the certification evaluations and at the same time, she reinforces the knowledge that she obtained from the class. Dachely's biggest dream is to one day reunite with her sister and mother and go to the university to complete the Industrial Engineering career that she started in Cuba. Ms. Figueredo is incredibly grateful with the SAVES Program and their staff who have helped her throughout the years, as well as this country which continues to provide Dachely with opportunities to be successful and achieve her goals.

