## SKILLS FOR ACADEMIC, VOCATIONAL AND ENGLISH STUDIES

## **SAVES Program**

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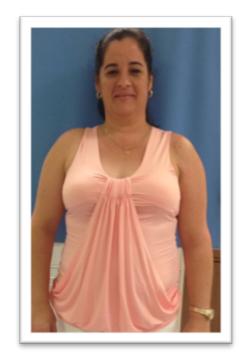
## Ms. Iraima Rios with SAVES

Ms. Iraima Rios was born in Cuba and arrived in the United States on January 13 2007 with her husband and two young daughters. Iraima acknowledges that coming to The United States was an important decision in her life, especially since both her husband and she had steady and meaningful occupations in their country.

Upon arrival, Ms. Rios inquired about educational programs available in order to enhance her opportunities for employment. She had always had a passion for children and with the help of the SAVES program; she registered in the Child Development Associate Program (CDA). Ms. Rios successfully completed the program and was hired by Peter Pan Day Care, where she is presently employed.

Although her employment was meaningful and fulfilling, she felt compelled to continue her journey to self- realization. She wanted to embrace the country that so lovingly had offered a new beginning. She continued her studies in ESOL and Citizenship at Southwest Miami Adult Center. She is presently a proud US citizen. This dedicated student dreams of someday opening her own daycare where she will serve as the director.

She acknowledges that none of these accomplishments would have been possible without the support and guidance offered by the SAVES program. Dedicated and committed teachers helped her reach her goals. She says that the SAVES program and all the personnel connected to Miami- Dade County Public Schools will always have a special place in her heart.



Prepared with funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services through the Florida Department of Children and Families, Office of Refugee Services. For more Success Stories, go to <a href="http://saves.dadeschools.net">http://saves.dadeschools.net</a>

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