

SAVES Program



Miami-Dade County Public Schools

M-DCPS

Yucimi Felipe with SAVES

Yucimi Felipe is a student at Miami Senior Adult Educational Center. She came to the United States in August 2011, along with her 15 and 18 year old children, looking for a better life and future for her family.

One of Yucimi's friends recommended her to visit both the Department of Children and Families (DCF) and the South Florida Workforce offices. They suggested that she should start studying English at Miami Dade County Public Schools Adult Education programs where she might qualify for scholarships through the Skills for Academic, Vocational, and English Studies (SAVES) program. In April 2012, she registered in her first ESOL class and after completing the first two levels at Miami Senior Adult Educational Center, she decided to enroll in a vocational class that would help her obtain the financial support her family needed.

Yucimi is currently enrolled in her last trimester and is about to graduate from Mrs. Lopez's Early Childhood Professional Certificate (ECPC) vocational class. She has already completed the DCF mandatory 45 hour training, which has allowed her to successfully obtain employment as a childcare worker at Cherry Blossom Learning Center in downtown Miami. She is looking forward to completing her 600 hours in ECPC industrial certification and will enroll in college credits to obtain her Childcare Director's credentials. Thanks to the articulation agreement between M-DCPS and Miami Dade College.

Yucimi will receive nine college credits towards her degree. Yucimi's goal is to continue her studies and obtain an Associate in Science degree in Early Childhood Education.

While in Mrs. Lopez's class, Yucimi and her classmates were encouraged to write an essay about their experiences in adult education. Their essays were sent to the Florida Literacy Coalition and were nominated among hundreds to be published in the 2013 Florida Literacy Coalition Adult Learners Book. Yucimi is very grateful to her teachers and the SAVES program. We wish her the very best in her future endeavors.



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If you know anyone else who would like to receive future newsletters, please send your request to patriciaromero@dadeschools.net