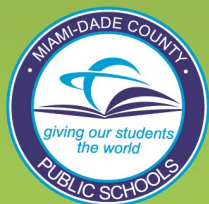


SAVES Program

April 2021—First Edition



MIAMI DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS



A “Cool” SAVES Story

Frank Ramos was born and raised in Cuba. While living in Cuba, he studied the maintenance and installation of Air-Conditioning units. In February of 2017, Frank came to the United States in hopes of living a better life with more career opportunities. When he first arrived, Frank’s first job was as a car washer with a payrate of \$6/hour because he did not speak English. He decided he wanted improve his English to land a better job. He studied four levels of English at MDC but he knew he needed more than the language, he also needed the training.

He started working at Arya Hotel in August 2017 and still does to this day. After performing different duties at the hotel in laundry and dining, he finally found an interest in working the maintenance duties. He enjoyed the maintenance work because it was like his Air Conditioning experience in Cuba. He applied twice for maintenance jobs, but he was turned down because of his lack of experience. Thankfully, some of his friends recommended that he take courses at The English Center to update his knowledge and sharpen his skills. When Frank went to The English Center to register, he was told that the Heating, Ventilation, Air-Conditioning/Refrigeration (HVAC/R) program would greatly benefit him and further his expertise beyond what he learned in Cuba. In addition, Frank qualified for the SAVES Program which paid

for his tuition and materials. Frank feels TEC is helping him to improve his skills in this trade and provide him with better employment opportunities.

