



SAVES



Cuban Doctor Re-Directs His Life



Dr. Carlos Curbelo, with Ms. Mirtha Gonzalez, the SAVES Site Coordinator from Miami Beach Adult

My name is Carlos M. Curbelo. I was born in Holguin, Cuba, on September 5, 1968. In August, 1992, after six years of intense studies, I graduated as a medical doctor.

In November of 2004, I arrived in the United States. Unable to practice medicine, I began working as a handyman fixing houses and apartments. Later, I applied for a medical assistant position, but was unable to get the job because my English was so limited. I had heard of the SAVES program, but I was too busy working and trying to survive in this new country to speak with a SAVES advisor.

Finally, I realized how much I missed working in the medical profession and how much I needed to improve my English to get a better job. Soon thereafter, I met with a

SAVES advisor and enrolled at Miami Beach Adult and Community Education Center to study English. The school staff was always there whenever I needed help and encouragement.

From that time on, my life changed completely. Twelve months after taking ESOL classes, my English had improved enough to pass the state examination for the medical assistant's license. I am now employed in a medical diagnostic center.

I am grateful to the SAVES program for helping me get on with my new life in this great country. I recommend the program to anyone who would like to make a real change in his life. As for my future, I am now studying for the medical doctor state board examination. Thank you SAVES.

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