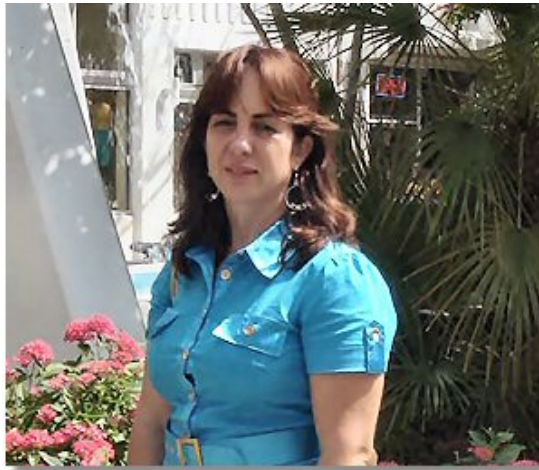




SAVES

Success is About Giving Back

Ms. Alnerys Ferro truly embodies the meaning of a SAVES Success Story. She is a former student who worked her way to becoming a Spanish teacher with Miami Dade County Public Schools. A few years later, she applied for and was selected for the job as the SAVES full-time contact at Robert Morgan Vocational and Technical Center. Under her guidance, the program at this school has grown tremendously. Ms. Ferro's experience as a SAVES client gives her the ability to connect with students at a human level, and her experience as a teacher provides her with the knowledge to guide them through their studies in their effort to successfully resettle in South Florida.



Ms. Alnerys Ferroan inspiration to all new arrivals in this country

Recently, at the June 2008 SAVES District Meeting, Ms. Ferro shared her gratitude with the entire staff in the following speech:

Please allow me a few minutes of your time to share my joy with you. I am happy that I have this chance to express my gratitude to the SAVES Program and the excellent team that represents it. Many of us have risked our lives seeking freedom and an opportunity for a better life. I came to the U.S. 10 years ago as a refugee with my hands full of dreams. I started here, at Robert Morgan Vocational Tech, as an ESOL student, and as a SAVES client. I received the guidance of my teachers and my role models: Dr. Beatriz Diaz and Ms. Sonja Pantry. Their love and dedication to adult students helped me overcome many obstacles in my path to fulfill my goals. The professional attitude and devotion to duty that I learned here helped me to face the dual challenge of learning a new language and embracing a newly adopted homeland. Most of my dreams came true: to be a teacher in a land of liberty, to have freedom of speech, to become a fully participating member of society, but the rewards of helping our targeted SAVES clients are priceless. Thanks to those who represent the SAVES Program, especially to Dr. Edwina Hoffman: your enthusiasm, your perseverance, and your willingness to help others inspires us to accomplish our goals. You represent the true meaning of SAVES: Success, Achievement, Values, Effort, and Support.

Nothing is more gratifying for educators than helping a student and watching that person blossom. Ms. Ferro is now giving back to a select group of eligible students that desperately need our help, and nothing could make her happier. Welcome to the SAVES team Alnerys!

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For more success stories, go to <http://saves.dadeschools.net>

If you know anyone else who would like to receive future newsletters, please send your request to Jtravieso1@AOL.com.