



# SAVES

## Miami-Dade County Public Schools

MDCPS

### Ms. Hilda Iglesias, ACE of Florida's 2008 Administrator of the Year

The SAVES Program would like to congratulate and recognize the efforts of Ms. Hilda Iglesias for all of her help and dedication towards helping adult education students, including asylees, refugees and entrants, successfully resettle in the US. Ms. Iglesias was awarded the 2008, John F. Lawrence Award at the annual Adult and Community Educators (ACE) of Florida Conference held in Weston, FL, from September 22<sup>nd</sup> through the 25<sup>th</sup>.



(Left to Right) Dr. Alex Penn-Williams, Mr. James F. Notter, Ms. Hilda Iglesias, Mr. James Giompalo and Mr. Robert Breitbard.

Ms. Iglesias is the assistant principal in charge of the SAVES Program at The English Center, which on the average, provides services to 600 SAVES clients per trimester. She has made it a priority to observe and celebrate World Refugee Day by orchestrating and hosting school-wide ceremonies aimed at highlighting the positive impact refugees have had in South Florida. Ms. Iglesias was born in Havana, Cuba, and along with her family was forced to move to

the United States in search of a better life. She knows first hand the cultural and economic obstacles SAVES clients face when they arrive in South Florida. As a result, she is committed to helping SAVES clients transition to this new land by assuring that they receive the best services possible. Ms. Iglesias has devoted herself to improving the level of education provided to the students at The English Center. She has focused on continuously facilitating professional growth training activities for teachers. She also piloted various programs at her school aimed at improving English retention, including Distance Learning, an online program provided to ESOL students unable to attend regularly scheduled classes.

We, at the SAVES Program, feel Ms. Hilda Iglesias is a most deserving recipient of this prestigious award. She has proven to be articulate, decisive, and analytical in her approach to problem-solving and the pressures associated with being a school leader. She has demonstrated great care and concern for teachers, staff and students. We congratulate Ms. Hilda Iglesias, and we hope that this award is one of many more to come in the future.



Ms. Hilda Iglesias and her staff.

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