



SAVES

World Refugee Day 2009

The SAVES Program, along with Miami Dade County Public Schools, has made a tradition out of celebrating World Refugee Day. This year, various schools and staff members organized events aimed at highlighting the impact refugees make on a daily basis to our society and providing our SAVES clients with a wealth of information concerning social services.

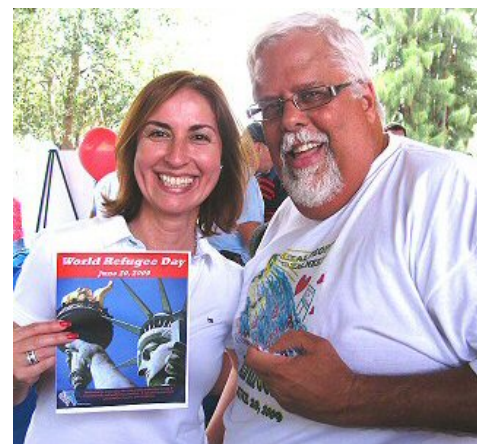


Students at Robert Morgan actively participated in the World Refugee Day celebration

During the week leading up to June 20th, various SAVES school sites held the following activities:

- * Robert Morgan held both afternoon and evening events on Thursday, June 17th, that included presentations by SAVES students, folkloric dress, dance, music, food and information about local agencies that promote health, employment and successful resettlement in the US.
- * Miami Beach Adult Center, also on Thursday afternoon, held a fantastic program honoring World Refugee Day. Members from the service provider community participated, as well as members of the media.
- * Hialeah-Miami Lakes Adult Center staff created bulleting boards in commemoration of World Refugee Day, and throughout the month of June, SAVES students read quotes from prominent refugees during the daily announcements.
- * The culminating activity was presented by the

Department of Children and Families, through the Office of Refugee Services, and was held on World Refugee Day, June 20th, at Amelia Earhart Park in Hialeah. This was a fantastic event, and all the more so with this being the first time it was done. Hundreds of SAVES students signed up to attend the meeting. Hialeah-Miami Lakes Adult Center alone signed up a total of 317 students and family members. Representatives and SAVES students from Hialeah Adult Center, The English Center, Miami



Ms. Maria Miranda of SAVES, and Mr. Hiram Ruiz, Director, Office of Refugee Services, DCF, at the World Refugee Day Celebration

Beach Adult Center and Robert Morgan Vo. Tech. Center also attended and volunteered their services. Dozens of refugee service providers were on hand to offer great advice on what services their programs provide. Along with informative flyers and brochures about each program, many were also able to give out small tokens advertising their services, an appreciated gesture that the hundreds in attendance were thankful for in these tough economic times. No other major city in the United States resettles as many refugees as the city of Miami. Their impact on the culture, history and future of this vibrant metropolis will continue for generations to come. Happy World Refugee Day!

Prepared with funds from the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services through the Florida Department of Children and Families, Office of Refugee Services.

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