

ADULT LEARNER SUCCESS STORY

Maria Guerrero | Tennessee



Maria Guerrero came to the Integrated English Literacy and Civics Education (IELCE) program in Shelby County to learn English, improve her communication skills, and expand her job opportunities in the United States. Through the faith-based organization, Hopeworks, Inc., she was able to enroll in IELCE classes to pursue her goals.

Adult education provided Maria a stepping stone to her future. She states, "Starting over in another country without speaking the language was very difficult," she continues, "...education gave me a second chance and allowed me to achieve my dreams." Her hard work in the English as a Second Language (ESL)

adult education classes paid off quickly. After only a few months studying, she passed her high school equivalency exam.

Today, Maria is currently working for Hopeworks, Inc. as a student coordinator for the ESL program. Maria said, "This program allows me to improve my English everyday... It has also allowed me to find the job of my dreams! This program gave me a second chance to build a career in this country." Maria's goals are to continue her education at the university level and to obtain her Tennessee real estate license. ■

Inspiring educators so adults succeed and communities thrive