

ADULT LEARNER SUCCESS STORY

Raiza Montoya | Tennessee



Raiza found adult education when she came here from Caracas, Venezuela in 2018. She says, “Our lives in this country, maybe like other foreign people, have been represented with dreams, hopes and expectations to come true.” She came with her son, who was a teenager, and felt lost as a single mother without her own mother to support her at this time. Support was not far away, however.

With Spanish as her first language, Raiza knew that more English skills would be necessary to compete in America’s job market and quickly enrolled herself in adult English as a Second Language (ESL) classes through a faith-based organization named, HopeWorks, Inc. Once in these classes, a world of possibilities opened up to her. She began studying for her high school equivalency (HSE) exam. She pursued higher classes for English instruction to improve her reading and writing. She began to dream about attending a university and opening her own business one day. Her hard work paid off.

Today, Raiza has attained her HSE diploma. She is continuing her English education and it improves each day. She has embarked on a career in human resources. She was hired at Millenium Search Staffing in Tennessee in May of 2022 and looks forward with hope to continuing her education at the university level. She also dreams of opening her own human resources staffing company someday with her whole family. Her excellent example of hard work has inspired her son to work hard in school as well and he is now studying at the university level. Raiza states, “ I am always grateful to God and everyone who has believed in us.” ■

Inspiring educators so adults succeed and communities thrive