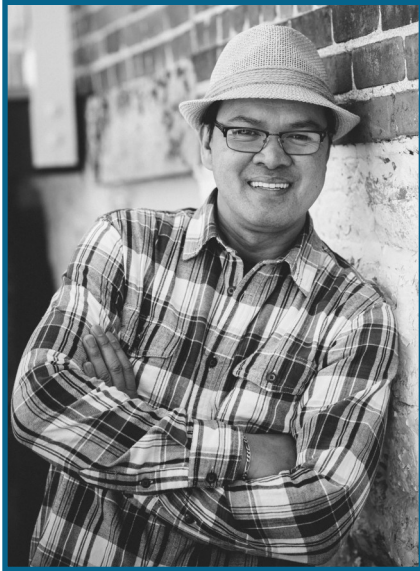


Profiles of Hope



Even though Filipino-born Manuel Perez already had a college degree in Hotel & Restaurant Management when he arrived in the United States in 2004, he had difficulty finding work in his chosen field. He learned about Project Self-Sufficiency after stopping by an information booth at Newton Day, and he immediately leaped into action. Taking part in the agency's Men's Employment Lab gave Manuel the opportunity to fine-tune his resume. He registered for the Campus to Campus program and is currently enrolled in a course at Sussex County Community College, thanks to a scholarship he received from Project Self-Sufficiency. In late March, Manuel achieved his life-long dream of becoming an American citizen.

Manuel is now pursuing a nursing degree and he credits Project Self-Sufficiency for helping him to identify his chosen path, giving him guidance and the boost in self-confidence that he required. "I needed somebody to guide me and Project Self-Sufficiency opened a door. One by one, I am opening more doors and I am getting myself where I need to be. I am thankful for all of the opportunities given to me and to Project Self-Sufficiency for helping me to achieve my dreams."

Manuel Perez
48
No children

Manuel Perez
