

Profiles of Hope



In 1988, Matilde Vargas found herself homeless with a baby in her arms. Although she was reluctant to ask for assistance, she was referred to Project Self-Sufficiency. She took advantage of Project Self-Sufficiency's legal services programs to obtain a divorce. Her case manager learned of Matilde's desire to continue her education and helped Matilde to apply to Dover Business College. To Matilde's surprise, she was accepted. Matilde excelled at her studies and graduated with high honors. She embarked on a career in the field of information technology, where she thrived.

Several years later, Matilde was forced to resign from her job in order to care for her ailing father. By that time, Matilde was the mother of three children. She spent the next few years caring for her family while pondering a career change. In 2003, she returned to school in pursuit of a nursing degree. Once again, she was sidelined by family issues. After her father passed away, Matilde approached Project Self-Sufficiency once more. Once she was enrolled in the agency's Campus to Campus program, Matilde inquired about continuing her nursing degree. She was immediately accepted into the nursing program at Sussex County Community College and is looking forward to finishing her schooling in the fall.

"Project Self-Sufficiency is a program that all men and women need. Everyone needs somebody to help them believe in themselves. And one day, we can do the same for others. Once you get help, you can start walking. And then, you can run. I am a woman with so much faith. I depend on the Lord for everything I do. I am blessed in ways you can never imagine."

Matilde Vargas

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3 children, 2 granddaughters

Matilde Vargas
