New American Stories
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For the children

I hear it over and over again when I talk to students at The ILC. What motivates them to come to this country and to study and work hard is their children. It's a universal desire. Everywhere in the world parents want to give their children a better life. Your support of The ILC impacts not only the students, but their families and loved ones as well.

This month, I'm sharing with a story of a student who is achieving his goals for the benefit of his children.

Thank you for your ongoing support.

Diane Portnoy
Founder and CEO
The Immigrant Learning Center, Inc.

P.S. I hope to see you at this year's Autumn Benefit.

Laveau

Laveau is a quick learner. When he came to register for classes at The ILC, he needed an interpreter. In less than a year of classes, he's progressed to Level 3, and he started working as a valet at LAZ Parking.

When he came to the U.S. from Haiti with his wife and three daughters, he didn't know any English. He got by with jobs like cleaning, maintenance and painting that required very little English, and he had stretches of unemployment for up to a year at a time. This spring, Laveau got his Massachusetts driver's license, attended a job fair and had eight interviews before landing the job with LAZ Parking. It's the first job that has required much English, and Laveau says he feels confident speaking with customers. It's only part time, so he is continuing to look for more work.
The biggest challenge and source of joy in Laveau's life is being a single father. He has raised the girls on his own since his wife left. The eldest is studying at Bunker Hill Community College, and the other two are in Malden High School. Laveau said about being a single dad, "My daughters are my best friends. Everything is for them, for them to have a better life in the U.S."

About Us

The Immigrant Learning Center, Inc. (ILC) of Malden, MA, is a not-for-profit organization that gives immigrants a voice in three ways. The English-language program provides free, year-round English classes to immigrant and refugee adults in Greater Boston to help them become successful workers, parents and community members. The Public Education Institute informs Americans about the economic and social contributions of immigrants in our society, and the Institute for Immigration Research, a joint venture with George Mason University, conducts research on the economic contributions of immigrants. For more information, visit the website at www.ilctr.org or Facebook page ImmigrantLearningCenter.