

Lina Chavez

Lina Chavez came to Tabor unemployed and receiving cash assistance. She had the 6th grade education she received from El Salvador and five children depending solely on her since her husband was deported back to El Salvador. She wanted to work and take care of her family. Her Family Self-Sufficiency case manager, Susan, helped her to get a job as a maid at a hotel. She started saving \$10 a week through Tabor's Family Savings Account [now **Matched Savings Accounts**] and took English as a Second Language classes.

Rya took over as Lina's case manager when Susan transferred to Tabor's TLC program. Rya saw that Lina's hours at the hotel were reduced in the off seasons, so she helped Lina with a job search. Lina was hired full time with benefits as a housekeeper for the retirement community at Willow Valley. She paid off her debt and continued to save. Lina eventually purchased a home utilizing the Section 8 homeownership program.

Lina takes great pride in her work and gets many compliments on her work from the residents of the homes at Willow Valley. The entire time she was in the Family Self-Sufficiency program – nearly five years – she saved \$10 a week through the FSA program! Lina says “I learned how to budget my money and maintain my household. I know I will stay on the right track.”

Congratulations, Lina Chavez, for persevering and overcoming difficulties to become self-sufficient.

Additional note from RYA: One of the funny things with this client is that she and I were in the process of buying a house at the same time and just by coincidence our settlements were scheduled at the same settlement agency on the same day at the same time, so we bought our houses together.