



CLEVELAND
COMMUNITY COLLEGE

SUCCESS
STORY

Casey Ponce, TRiO Student Support Services

Casey Ponce won't tell you that coming back to school at CCC was always easy, but what she will tell you is that with the kindness and concern from CCC instructors and staff she is reaching her educational goals. As a wife and mother of three, Ponce knew that setting her sights on attending school full time was going to be a challenge, but she also considered the alternative. She made the decision to come back to school while working part time in a restaurant. "After I enrolled, things didn't always go smoothly and many times I wasn't sure if I could manage my home life and juggle taking classes, but I have stuck with it, maintained a 4.0 GPA and will graduate with an associate degree in a field I love."

Ponce says the TRiO Student Support Services program really impacted her ability to attain her goals and that she experienced first-hand the caring attitudes from all of her instructors. "From my first semester, I had so many people go the extra mile to insure my success. I can't name them all, but they set the tone for the rest of my time at CCC. I had an excellent advisor, Mrs. Betty Taylor, who kept me informed, guided me, and pushed me to keep working to achieve my goals. There was never any room to even consider giving up."



Through the Student Success Center, Ponce says she was also able to get the tutoring she needed when her classes became a little overwhelming and recommendations for helpful educational websites. "So many times I was able to use these tools when I went back to class and knowing that everyone around me cared about my success, I wanted to work harder to be successful. The folks who helped me at CCC feel like part of my family now. It's been an unforgettable experience."