

# My Dream Job

## Reuniting Immigrant Families

*Miriam Lizeth Huerta*

**BEFORE YOU READ:** What is a dream job? What is your dream job? Share and discuss. (For more stories about work and careers, see Issues 36 and 45 of *The Change Agent*.)

### Finding a Job in a Call Center

When I first came to this country, I thought I would get a job, such as housekeeper or dishwasher. I did not speak English, so I thought I could not get another job.

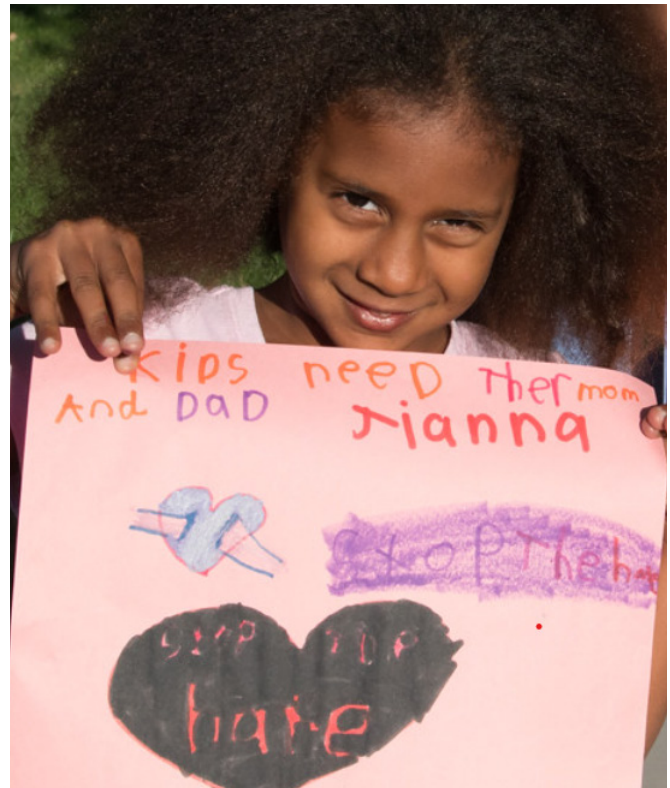
But then I got a job in the call center of a migrant shelter. Everyone supported me. They said many people on the job spoke Spanish. They said I would speak mostly Spanish on the job. They said that with time, I could learn English.

### Promoted to Education Department

After a while, I got promoted to the education department of the migrant shelter. I started working in Child Services. My job was to give classes to immigrant kids to help them adapt to living in the U.S. I had conferences via Zoom, and I used computers, projectors, and other technology. I also used translation apps so that I could communicate with people in different languages. It was challenging to do all this because I had to learn a lot of new technology.

### Collecting Documents to Reunite Families

This was the work of my life! Sometimes I was able to reunite children with their families. I collected documents via email to verify that the child would be reunited with the right person. We used Zoom so the family members could see each other. I loved seeing those excited faces when they connected with someone they left behind in their country. At these times, I felt very proud.



*A child with her home-made sign at a rally for immigrant family reunification, 2018. Photo by Peg Hunter. CC BY-NC 2.0 [www.flickr.com/](http://www.flickr.com/)*

### Proud and Glad

I was so glad that this job allowed me to grow and develop my skills. Technology saves us enormous amounts of time and enables us to be more productive and efficient. Even better, in my job, technology helped us reunite families!

**AFTER YOU READ:** How did technology help Miriam in her job?

*Miriam Lizeth Huerta is in an English Literacy class at Ysleta Community Center in El Paso, Texas. She was born in Torreón Coahuila, Mexico. Miriam has three kids and is working hard to learn English to become a citizen and bring her mother to the U.S. for a better life.*

