

Andra Liliana Lachovizer, continued

Leaving my country was not an easy decision, as my family was there and I was advancing in my professional career, but love won. I came to marry my then fiancée and together we built an Israeli Colombian American multicultural family. Like many other immigrants, I did not know much English and I learned it with my new family and through ESOL classes at Montgomery College, where I also began to understand the rich cultures that Montgomery County embraces.

I did not seek to work as a journalist here, because I believed that my lack of English skills would not allow it. Hence, I joined the retail workforce as soon as I could to help my daughter's way to college, and when I became more fluent in English, I became a preschool teacher. My daughter graduated college and is now working as an architect!

When I found a job advertisement from the Gilchrist Immigrant Resource Center seeking a bilingual Spanish speaker to support the immigrant community, it sounded like a perfect way to return to my passion for social justice, so I applied. I am looking forward to a great work experience ahead.