"Ready to Work was an unforgettable experience. It provided me with the confidence, tools and certificates I needed. It opened doors and encouraged me to persevere."

Ellen Lainez

"It felt like coming in from a blizzard to a warm home"

These are the words Ellen Lainez used to describe her experience with *Ready to Work*. Her enthusiasm is understandable. The program allowed Ellen to transition from being unemployed and living in a shelter to gaining full-time employment as a National Travel Coordinator.

Although life was difficult in El Salvador, Ellen was able to earn a Bachelor degree in Public Relations and completed a certificate in tourism. She even worked with an airline for five years before arriving in Canada as a refugee.

Getting settled in a new country was a long and difficult process. Restarting her career was an even more formidable challenge. When she heard about *Ready to Work*, Ellen moved from Fort Erie to Niagara Falls just to enrol. It was probably the most important step she could take in overcoming the employment barriers she was facing.

With her *Ready to Work* training and perseverance, Ellen found a good job in the travel industry and worked her way to becoming self sufficient and happy.

Graduate Profile

Name:

Ellen Lainez

Country of origin:

El Salvador

Arrived in Canada:

October 29th, 2009

Current Employment:

Henry Schein as National Travel Coordinator



