

Emily Rodriguez

Director and Owner

Rodriguez Language Services LCC



Emily Rodriguez, a single mother of four children, transformed her life from a high school drop out and struggling young mother in an abusive relationship to a successful business owner with big future plans. Originally from Lancaster, PA, Emily grew up in Puerto Rico and returned to Lancaster in her 10th grade year of high school due to her poor medical condition and the need for better healthcare. After her recuperation, she trained and worked in the medical field instead of returning to high school. She then became involved in an abusive relationship where she had 3 children. However, realizing she was in an unhealthy situation, she chose to leave. Depressed, alone, and weary, she came to New Choices in the summer of 2007, pregnant with her fourth child. Emily describes New Choices Career Development as a “life-changing experience”. She learned she was not alone in her struggle.

She left New Choices with “life-long friends” and a new goal to “live and not just survive” life. With newly discovered determination, she got her GED and pursued a college education in Nursing. However, a friend suggested she explore interpreting since she spoke both Spanish and English fluently. Emily took her friend’s suggestion, and it was a fit. Using her medical knowledge and language skills, she found her first interpreting job at Hershey Medical Center, and continued interpreting in hospitals, businesses, and court cases. However, Emily kept dreaming. After 2 years, she opened a small business, Rodriguez Language Services LLC, where she offers interpretation, translation and a 40 hour Medical Interpreting Training Course. The company began with just one small contract, but Emily persevered and her determination paid off.

Today, she is able to employ an array of Interpreters and Translators, including two recent New Choices graduates, in a variety of languages. The company offers services throughout the Lancaster, Philadelphia and Delaware areas. She and her family now have more time to spend together and have a bright future ahead of them. She is able to offer the hope she discovered and the encouragement to “always believe in yourself” to those around her. Regardless of the situation, if you truly want it, you will achieve your goals. Looking back, Emily sees New Choices as a key step in her journey towards a better life, and now she looks toward the future with excitement.