

BEGINNERS CONVERSATIONAL SPANISH LEVEL I (157)

Fridays, 10:00 – 11:30 (6 Classes on 2/20 – 3/27) in Room 30

Tuition

\$50

Limited to 10

Students will learn basic vocabulary and verb structure that will enable them to converse on an elementary level. The class will hopefully find a comfort level with the above through dialogue with other class members. Continued practice will be encouraged during the week using handouts, internet resources, and a textbook. Course will use textbook: Carson Dellosa Skills for Success, Spanish Workbook for Middle School and High Schools Students. The textbook is \$16.00, payable to Center 4Life Learning on February 20. The textbook may also be purchased in advance at the Center 4Life Learning office.

Carmen Menendez was born in Havana, Cuba, immigrated with parents and siblings to the United States at the age of 7. Her first language was Spanish but after immigrating at such a young age, quickly became fluent in English as well. Her parents always ensured she and her siblings grew up knowing their culture and traditions, and especially their language; Spanish was always spoken in their home. Prior to moving to Florida, the family's first 8 years in the United States were in the small town of Newton, N.J., where there was a very small Hispanic community of which most were relatives. Her parents were determined that they would be bilingual and know their culture, something that Carmen has been very thankful for. As a result, Carmen is fluent in both Spanish and English and, as an adult, raised her three sons to be bilingual and to value their culture.

Being bilingual has helped Carmen serve many communities during her career life. Early on, while living in Silver Spring, Maryland, she had the opportunity to serve the migrant community as a backup teacher for the ESOL program (English for Speakers of other Languages). While living in Western North Carolina, she worked with the County Social Service Agency and worked with migrant worker families. She translated for the many services and programs available to them. Carmen often served as a court translator. She taught conversational Spanish classes in her church, hosted, and translated for the missionary guests. Returning to Florida in 2000, Carmen was employed with the State of Florida, where she recently retired after 25 years. After retiring, Carmen joined the Hope Fund and currently provides after school tutoring one day a week at the Wimauma Migrant Academy.