

Last week, **Marlenni Garcia**, an English language student from the Dominican Republic, spoke to Marlenni, owner of Roxbury-based business Marlenni Family Childcare, talks about finding success through learning English.

a crowded room of ENB supporters. She shared her experience of taking an ESOL for Entrepreneurs class, which enabled her to improve customer service and financial planning for her home-based childcare business, and to enroll in Pine Manor College in the fall of 2018:

"I am clear about what I want for my future. I want to start college and get my bachelor's degree. I plan to get my bachelor's in childhood education. I want to do this so I can be a teacher and make more money so I can buy a house."

I share this story to illustrate what, despite often painful rhetoric in the news, we know to be true --- that immigrants are what make America great. Strong. Bold. Determined. It is, indeed, these characteristics that fuel an immigrant's journey into the unknown, and to forge ahead in creating new, better lives for their families.

Because of the difficult times we are in, and because the waiting list in Massachusetts is over 17,000 for adult English classes --- now, more than ever, immigrants need your support.

Funding an English class supports business owners like Marlenni, who are not only improving their business' outcomes by learning English, but are also providing jobs and a service in their community.