



The word family carries a different meaning for many people. For Immokalee, a small rural town 45 miles east of downtown Naples, it is woven into the fabric of the community and its culture. I can recall growing up in Immokalee feeling cared for and included in the community no matter who I was with, where I was, or what I was doing. This feeling still exists today not just for me, but for the thousands of proud families that call Immokalee “My Home.”

At The Immokalee Foundation, we carry on the essence of what makes Immokalee so special by creating an impact in the lives of children that continues for generations. For 31 years, our family of staff, mentors, educators, donors, and volunteers has transformed over 13,000 lives through our education, career readiness, and professional development programs.

This type of transformation has been passed on through family members. Take as an example the story of Carlos Moreno and his daughter Carol. Carlos is a Foundation alumni and BCB Homes employee who now works as the Assistant Superintendent of the Immokalee Foundation’s Career Pathways Learning Lab construction site, an innovative 18-home subdivision that is shaping the future of current Immokalee Foundation students who also dream of a career in the building trade.

Carlos became an Immokalee Foundation student at age 16 with the support of his farmworker father and mother. After graduating from Immokalee High School in 2008, Carlos was offered a summer internship with BCB homes—a role that eventually led to his full-time position and current role overseeing The Foundation’s Learning Lab.

Carlos currently lives in Immokalee with his wife and two children. It was only natural that he would encourage and support his eldest daughter Carol to become an Immokalee Foundation student.

Twelve-year-old Carol is a rising 7th grader, and part of the second generation of the Moreno family to benefit from The Immokalee Foundation’s educational programs. The Immokalee Foundation has helped push a typically shy and quiet Carol out of her comfort zone, and created excitement for her about the opportunities available to help uncover her passions and explore career options.

I want to personally invite you to make an investment through **The Immokalee Foundation’s Family Society** to support children so that families like Carlos’ can experience the same generational impact. This new initiative helps make giving easier than ever. With low monthly amounts starting at just \$25, you can make an investment in the lives of our students who need support through our Career Pathways program.

Will you join our family and continue to help us change the lives of children and impact future generations?

Gratefully,

Noemi Y. Perez
President and CEO, The Immokalee Foundation

