

## **Testimony-Francheska Gonzalez**

Good evening. My name is Francheska Gonzalez.

Since a little girl I've always wondered how my future would turn out. I had no answers to my questions until one day my parents decided it was time for my siblings and I to get involved in after school activities. I remember my parents searched for an after school program that could equally handle my five siblings including myself.

Finally, the one after school program that met our standards was Junta. Junta is an after school program that has positively changed my attitude towards my future. Junta's staff taught me how to love my family through leadership skills and coping skills. I learned to love myself because Junta taught me how to understand the blurry side of my childhood.

What I have learned in Junta has turned me into a positive thinker. Not only did I learn how to focus on the most important aspects of my life but I also learned how not to take the small things in life for granted. Junta is where I evolved from a little girl into a young lady. I feel it is an unforgettable experience for every child that has had a struggled upbringing to experience. And still to this day I turn to Junta for help, they have a great way of showing they care by taking their time to provide my daughter and me with the things we need such as diapers.

I've grown up to be a wonderful mother to my one year old baby girl and I am a determined college student. Without Junta's after school program I wouldn't know how my life would turn out to be, but I'm glad that Junta's after school program was my first step to a successful future. Thank you!