

## Ocean County Vocational Technical School

### Working in the Field

### Sharing Success Stories



**Student's Name:** Maria Martinez  
**OCVTS Program:** Child Care Professions  
**Instructors:** Laura Morelli and Amy Mayer  
**Employer:** Leap Inc., Head Start, Lakewood, NJ

**Class of:** 2016  
**Center:** Brick  
**High School:** Jackson Liberty

**In her Maria's own words:** My decision to enroll in the Child Care Professions Program at the Brick Center was an easy one. I wanted to learn more about early childhood education and have experience working with children. I was so happy that I did take this program because of the many skills that I learned such effective communication and time management are helpful to me in my job at Head Start. I really enjoy my job. It is such a pleasant place to work with its diversity, awesome staff, great children and their caring families. At OCVTS, I learned that communication is important. Working on the job, I realized that communicating with parents is so very important. Preparing the classroom was not easy but remembering what I did during Tiny Tech time was a big help. OCVTS helped prepared me to be successful working in the childcare field.



*Maria happily working at Leap Head Start!*

Mrs. Marissa Regii, the Education Manager at Leap Head Start in Lakewood, wrote, "Ms. Martinez has been my assistant teacher under my supervision for the past year. During this time, she has shown a great commitment and dedication to the children in her care. She has demonstrated outstanding teamwork with the teacher assigned to mentor her in the classroom. Ms. Martinez's initiative and dependability are exemplary. She is highly responsible and qualified to engage the children in her classroom. I look forward to continue working with her, as she is a valued member of our staff and a wonderfully trained professional."

Laura Morelli, Instructor and Amy Meyer, Instructor's Aide, in the Child Care Professions Program both agreed, "Maria has done a superior job as 'lead teacher' in our childcare learning lab, 'Tiny Tech' which is the OCVTS onsite licensed preschool operating three days a week for children 3 – 5 years of age. Maria displayed natural leadership skills, a true sense of confidence with a genuine kindness and consideration for others. She was constantly helpful, generous to others, honest and trustworthy. Maria maintained a grade average of 97 and completed our program with perfect attendance. That is why we proudly nominate her as one of our success stories."