

Marlen Hernandez is a proud graduate of the Class of 2005 and a dedicated advocate for the Wyandotte County community. She currently serves as program specialist for juvenile community corrections. In the past she worked as a hunger Director for Crosslines working to support food security for local residents. Her passion for helping others has shaped her career, including her role as an Interpreter for the Wyandotte School District.

Marlen has been a champion for youth and education through her decade of outreach with the Girl Scouts in USD 500. She is also a graduate of Leadership 2000, a program that further strengthened her commitment to service and community building.

Her journey hasn't always been easy. As an English language learner during her high school years, she faced unique challenges, but those experiences helped shape her resilience and determination. "My school experience was different than most—I was trying to learn English while navigating a new culture," she shares.

One of the most meaningful moments in her high school journey was meeting her high school sweetheart in 11th grade. The two have been together ever since and are now raising three teenage daughters.

Marlen's life motto says it best: "Growing old is mandatory. Growing up is optional."