

- Success Story -

## Miral and Kinnary Thakkar



Miral and Kinnary Thakkar arrived in Canada on August 1st 2005 from India. They decided to leave India because they felt they would have access to better opportunities in Canada. Once they applied for their visas, they were approved and soon thereafter began their journey as newcomers to Canada.

After experiencing some doubt about leaving their homeland, encouragement from family and friends gave them the courage to move forward. They discovered HMC when they were out for a walk together in their new community and were hopeful that they could find the help they were looking for. They accessed settlement services which linked them to many other programs such as employment support, Enhanced Language

Training in Office Management, and Careers in Education as well as volunteer opportunities.

There were many things that were different from back home including the cold winter weather. More significantly however was the job market in Canada, which proved to be quite different from back home. Both Miral and Kinnary agreed that there were many barriers newcomers are faced with including: language, obtaining a drivers licence, and understanding the "very complex job market". In addition to job searching, elements such as resume and cover letter writing and interview techniques were all skills they wanted to develop in order to be considered in the competitive market. Kinnary and Miral's goals when they came to Canada were to get settled, seek employment, and save money for the future. Kinnary and Miral stayed focused on achieving their goals with the help of HMC.

Through diligent work, determination and tremendous optimism, both Miral and Kinnary are currently employed. Miral is working in his profession in the Wires and Cables Industry and he is hoping to save up to continue his education to move towards obtaining an Electrical Engineering degree. Kinnary, with her background in teaching found it too costly at this time to pursue a BA and has instead decided to work as a Math and Science tutor as well as Quality Controller for UPS. Both Kinnary and Miral are confident in their future and state that "it will take time."

We are very proud of Miral and Kinnary but know that it is their hard work that has paid off for them. When asked what advice she would give to other newcomers settling in Canada Kinnary said: "Don't be discouraged, the staff at Halton Multicultural Council helped us a lot."

We wish both Miral and Kinnary great success in their bright futures and health and happiness to their growing family!

2005- Success story featuring HMC clients.

**30<sup>th</sup>**  
Anniversary

Halton  
Multicultural Council