

Women's program helped Guadalupe woman reach goals

by *Clarissa Dodge* - Nov. 5, 2008 10:28 AM

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It is hard to image the hardships that Josie Madrid of Guadalupe went through before she got help from Arizona Women's Education and Employment.

She was a single mother who had lost her job of eight years, separated from her husband and soon after lost her apartment in a fire. Madrid said that she did not have any self-esteem and that the organization helped her realize her own self worth.

Arizona Women's Education and Employment provides career training, planning and support to women and families.

In 2000, Madrid received the Faces of Success award from the group for overcoming obstacles to change her life and build a brighter future. This year, Madrid will be an honoree emeritus at the annual Faces of Success Luncheon on Thursday.

Today she has held a job with Scottsdale **Healthcare** for 10 years, has gotten multiple promotions and more than doubled her salary. She bought her first home, a new car and said that her two sons, ages 19 and 20, are very proud of her.

Madrid said that Arizona women's Education and Employment provides long-term assistance to people.

"You think that no one can help but AWEE can," Madrid said.

She said that people who are

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struggling need to have self-confidence and motivation.

"(People should) take their situation and work to improve it day by day, little by little," she said.

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