



# THIS IS MY IMMIGRATION STORY

#SHAREYOURSTORY



NAME: YOGER AGUILAR

COUNTRY OF ORIGIN: VENEZUELA

STATE: WISCONSIN

Yoger was born in Caracas, Venezuela in 1995 and was later blessed with a younger sister in 1999. He was an amazing older brother who also happened to become a former professional soccer player in Venezuela. Yoger loves soccer as well as spending quality time with his beloved family.

Seeking political refuge in the United States, Yoger's family fled from Venezuela to escape the violence and political persecution from his home country. Seeking a better life, Yoger's family had to travel separately,

separating his mother and father for almost a year. His father began his journey first with his sister in Fall of 2014. Then in summer of 2015, 20-year old Yoger started his immigration journey with his mother. Yoger and his mother bought a roundtrip from Caracas, Venezuela to Miami, Florida but encountered a challenge when Venezuelan federal officials did not want to allow them to board any flight out of the country. After much convincing and emphasizing of the confirmed roundtrip ticket, hesitantly, they allowed them to board the flight and this is when they knew they wouldn't be able to come back to the country they once called home. Arriving in the United States was a day to remember, as it was the day before Yoger's 20th birthday.

It was a very long, tough, and exhausting process of seeking asylum that took a toll on their family mentally, emotionally, and physically but their family never gave up or lost hope. They fought together and remained strong during the process. It wasn't until 2018 that they received the news that their bid for asylum had been approved. In 2019, their family became permanent residents of the United States of America.

Like many of our loved ones, Yoger moved to the United states in hopes of having a better quality of life and seeking success in their future career paths. Yoger is not a citizen yet, but is seeking to take on the naturalization process in 2022. With his hand on his heart, Yoger recommends being perseverant, patient and never giving up when seeking opportunities in the United States. The immigration process can be very discouraging but it is worth it. Life will start to get harder but will eventually get better. The trick is to stay strong and find a good support system.