

NAME:
Brenda Montalvo

RESIDENCE:
Southpoint Crossing
Apartments
Florida City, FL
123 Homes

AFFORDABILITY:
60% AMI Income
Restricted,
Low-Income Housing
Tax Credits

*Last updated in 2019

VOICES OUT LOUD

Brenda



What about making low-income housing for people that really do need it... if you go to Miami, where are they? [Our veterans are] under the bridges, under the trees sleeping...

Brenda Montalvo is originally from Brooklyn, New York. When the father of her two children became very

ill, he requested to be near his children one last time. To oblige, Brenda moved her family to Miami. She came for one month, loved it, and has been here for the last 16 years. However, as time went on, reality set in – she needed a safe and affordable place to raise her children. She had to manage paying higher and higher rent each year, and as a single mother, she was the only financial provider of the family. A victim of domestic violence, Brenda struggled to maintain a stable home and had to rely on staying with her grandparents for a few months.

Brenda searched for options in her neighborhood, and finally herself on the waitlist. Soon after, she became a resident of Southpoint Crossing Apartments. Brenda shares that she loves the community that the residents have fostered, with activities for the adults and children. They also help with supportive services such as financial training, and for Brenda, as a cancer survivor, were able to assist her through treatment. Now her children are grown, with one working at a law firm, and the other as a government employee. Brenda also has three grandchildren. She's loved her time at Southpoint and shared she is excited for her next chapter – moving into the house left to her by her in-laws.

Brenda moved into her new home in August 2018 after living at Southpoint Crossing. She lost her battle with cancer in December 2018.

It's been hard [to say goodbye] because I am so attached to everybody here. My kids are grown up and it's time for [me] to cut the wings and fly [on my] own...