

Community Archives Center Tacoma Community House Oral History Interviews Transcript

Alves, Ivanilda T. Interview date: 05/04/2022.

dindria: [00:01](#) Hello. Okay. Please tell your name.

Ivanilda T Alves: [00:07](#) Okay. My name is Ivanilda T Alves, um, date, today is May 4th, two and two, and two. My location in Tacoma community house.

dindria: [00:43](#) So, Ivana, where are you from? What country are you from?

Ivanilda T Alves: [00:50](#) My country is Brazil. I from Brazil.

dindria: [00:56](#) Tell us about Brazil.

Ivanilda T Alves: [00:59](#) Brazil is country. Beautiful. No more hot. Little hotty here. Sun. Beautiful. Very life there because working for people [inaudible] Yes. Working difficulty, but like is good country. Country.

dindria: [01:32](#) Good. Um, I think I would like to go to Brazil, so that sounds like a good place to go. But it's difficulty working there, huh?

Ivanilda T Alves: [01:42](#) Yes. For people's old age.

dindria: [01:44](#) For people who are older.

Ivanilda T Alves: [01:46](#) [inaudible]

dindria: [01:48](#) Um, that is really good information. Mm-hmm. <affirmative>, who is your family?

Ivanilda T Alves: [01:55](#) My family is I, my, my daughter, my two sons and five grandchildren. He's my family in Brazil. Here in America. I alone. I'm alone.

dindria: [02:16](#) Okay <laugh>. All right. Um, do you want to tell us more about like your family or tell a story?

Ivanilda T Alves: [02:25](#) Story? My family? Yes. Oh, yes. Uh, our people's have story in your family, but I simplification. My family is big.

No? But, um, family happy. My daughter, my son is happy. My family likes like, and everybody <laugh> dancing is long. Wow. Good morning. Good afternoon. My family. This, this. Hi Mommy. How are you? <laugh>? I'm happy. Yes. My family's happy.

- dindria: [03:13](#) I like this. Yes. Um, every family is different. Some families very like serious and some families. Woo. Yes. So that's good to hear. Um, how did you get to Tacoma from Brazil?
- Ivanilda T Alves: [03:32](#) How?
- dindria: [03:33](#) Like, what is your travel,
- Ivanilda T Alves: [03:35](#) Ah,
- dindria: [03:35](#) How did you travel?
- Ivanilda T Alves: [03:38](#) Uh, how did you travel? I, I come here and travel. Uh, time, time travel. There. Here? Yes. Oh, first travel here is very nice because, uh, before I never travel in flight. Oh. But first, first I love, wow, this is nice. See the cloud. Yeah. But a long time. I don't, I forgot to see Howard there here. Because I look good. I understand it. Oh, maybe I understand you. What you say? Me.
- dindria: [04:26](#) Okay. Um, I think what I'm looking for is you came from Brazil. Mm-hmm. <affirmative> in a airplane. Is that right? Mm-hmm.
- Ivanilda T Alves: [04:38](#) <affirmative>, you can fly. Fly. Yes. Fly.
- dindria: [04:39](#) You fly
- Ivanilda T Alves: [04:41](#) Long Hour.
- dindria: [04:42](#) Yeah. Why did you come to Washington?
- Ivanilda T Alves: [04:46](#) Okay. Yeah. I come here, uh, visit K one for married.
- dindria: [04:54](#) Oh,
- Ivanilda T Alves: [04:55](#) Yes. Okay. Because I meeting my ex-husband. My ex-husband is, is American.

dindria: [05:04](#) Oh, okay.

Ivanilda T Alves: [05:05](#) Then I come here for marriage for him.

dindria: [05:09](#) Okay.

Ivanilda T Alves: [05:11](#) I come here about this, my fiance before and is Santa Visa

dindria: [05:21](#) Right?

Ivanilda T Alves: [05:21](#) For me? I come here for emergency.

dindria: [05:24](#) Okay.

Ivanilda T Alves: [05:25](#) Cause I love it here. I come here.

dindria: [05:27](#) Yes. That's why you come. Um, and I'm trying to think of the question. Um, let's go to the next one. Right. What do you think about the United States? What did you think it would be like? First? Um, in, in, uh, [inaudible] um, Quando Esta en Brazil.

Ivanilda T Alves: [06:05](#) Uh, I always, uh, now I think when I younger, I, one day I want to go in United State, but uh, in come back maybe one week I, one week I come back. But, uh, when I stay more all I, no, I never go in United State because impossible for me. I don't have money for, I go in United States. Okay. Not think about it is more, but I, before I want to come here, but I forgot No, no. I, I go, I don't go because I don't have money. Right. Right. By I meeting my husband for taking me here. Yes. I'm happy because they here for together.

dindria: [07:10](#) Yes. Love. Right here,

Ivanilda T Alves: [07:12](#) Living night because of my state is in Brazil, but I, and I like it, stay here. Okay. But first I love my ex-husband. Husband, yes. And together, not the states. And my ex my love. Yeah. I love my prince together. This is nice for me. Before <laugh>. Okay.

dindria: [07:43](#) Yeah.

Ivanilda T Alves: [07:44](#) Do you understand me?

dindria: [07:46](#) Yes, I think so. Um, I think that when I say what is United States like, do you like the United States? But is there difficulties?

Ivanilda T Alves: [07:58](#) Oh yes. Oh, United States is, I like, I love the living here. Yeah. But difficult for me, because my ex-husband no, help me in show. And, uh, maybe I don't, I can't speak about this. Maybe because Right. But my accents bad for me. Abuse me and scholars emotional and sexual. Wow. Sexual. Wow. Yeah. For me, no. But before, when I stay in Brazil, we come here to <inaudible>. I went <inaudible>. I, I married. Five months is good for me, but five months and not, no good, but United States, for me it difficult because I have a, difficulty the language, because I learn now. Mm-hmm. <affirmative>, I stay alone and I need to work, work, work in the, um, I live alone, pay my, don't they have money difficulty for me. Yeah. I need, uh, uh, language difficult. But it beautiful, nice, uh, place in the states.

dindria: [09:28](#) And I love Tacoma community house because they help with the language and with the jobs. Right. So it's helping you [inaudible] Tacoma community house. Yes. <laugh>. Okay. Um, what is your favorite food?

Ivanilda T Alves: [09:54](#) Oh, my favorite food, food. Vegetarian, because I am vegetarian. Okay. I love the fruit. Vegetarian. I love the food. Vegetarian.

dindria: [10:08](#) Yes.

Ivanilda T Alves: [10:09](#) Nothing meaty, no meat, nothing anymore. But in United States I eat very good vegetarian. Yes.

dindria: [10:21](#) We have a lot of good vegetarian places, right? Yes. The stores. The grocery store. And then, um, have you been to, um, uh, oh my goodness. There's a vegetarian restaurant. That has soul food.

Ivanilda T Alves: [10:38](#) Oh, vegetarian restaurant is nice.

dindria: [10:41](#) I will figure it out for you. Yes. Okay. I think it's called like something two, but I can't remember. I will find out. Okay.

Ivanilda T Alves: [10:50](#) <laugh>. I have one card food for with eh, Washington. Because I grew varsity now, but my lower, uh, immigration, uh, sent letter for government governor.

dindria: [11:06](#) Okay. Yes.

Ivanilda T Alves: [11:07](#) You know, give me card food. Card. My card food. I buy food division there a lot for me.

dindria: [11:17](#) Is that the, um, quest card? The Quest

Ivanilda T Alves: [11:21](#) Card? Um, the government. E E B T

dindria: [11:23](#) E B T

Ivanilda T Alves: [11:25](#) E B T. Okay. Yeah. Yes. E B T I, I love, I, my, my, I I I eat very good meal.

dindria: [11:35](#) Very good. What is your favorite dish?

Ivanilda T Alves: [11:36](#) Because my, my law initial process of vower, vower violence domestic for me. My process.

dindria: [11:47](#) Yeah.

Ivanilda T Alves: [11:48](#) My finishing my process green card, my U S C I S my form violence domestic. Yeah. And I, I give card for this.

dindria: [12:05](#) Okay. So that's, that's good that the government is helping you. Okay. And I'm really sorry that what you have experienced, because that is no good. I don't like it <laugh>. Because you were a fabulous person, you know, and you deserve to have the best. Yeah. Yes. Um, what is your favorite music?

Ivanilda T Alves: [12:30](#) Oh, I love music in America. Music for dancing. Good music. Good music. Music. If family, listen, because I have music. Not listen, family music, because not good, but dancing and the music romantic I love him. Musical music. Music. [inaudible] Speak about love.

dindria: [13:07](#) Oh, romantic.

Ivanilda T Alves: [13:08](#) Eh, musical.

dindria: [13:12](#) Okay. Okay. Love songs.

Ivanilda T Alves: [13:13](#) Yeah. Love songs, eh? Oh, 19, uh, years, years ago

dindria: [13:22](#) Yeah. When you're younger.

Ivanilda T Alves: [13:24](#) What, what you speak about? Love. Love. Because I love life. I love people <laugh>.

dindria: [13:31](#) Right on. Do you have a favorite song that you love from the United States?

Ivanilda T Alves: [13:37](#) Oh, United States. Uh, I, I listen all time. I put in myself on a music. Don Winner, Don Winner sing. Beautiful voice, beautiful music. Oh,

dindria: [13:54](#) Right. I don't know that person. I need to look him up. Yes.

Ivanilda T Alves: [13:58](#) Okay. That's when finish I put it for. Okay. Okay. I, I have a monster. My phone Don winner night, the stage. Beautiful music. I listen. Oh, I love life. I love him

dindria: [14:15](#) <laugh>. I love,

Ivanilda T Alves: [14:15](#) Do you understanding me?

dindria: [14:17](#) Yes, I do. And I wanna hear that song. So you share with me when we are done. Okay? Mm-hmm.

Ivanilda T Alves: [14:23](#) <affirmative>.

dindria: [14:24](#) Um, what do you want listeners to learn from your story? So when someone listens to your story from the microphone what do you want them to know?

Ivanilda T Alves: [14:40](#) What do you want to know?

dindria: [14:42](#) Yeah. [inaudible] estas historias?

Ivanilda T Alves: [14:52](#) Ah, when, what I think about my life. In, in now. In future.

dindria: [15:00](#) Yes. Thank you. Okay.

Ivanilda T Alves: [15:04](#) My, I love my life. I love life is bad now. I, initial my life in United States, I want initial better life for me because I am free. I am free. Before together has no free. But now I am, I am woman free. I, I want to study English. I want studying for big peoples who work better. I, I want to study, test for make test driving. I studying my home. Study cash for make, test drive. I want my car. I, I want to have my car one day, one day future. I have on a one small,

small house for me. I want to, uh, travel looking my, my, my children's and my grandchildren.

dindria: [16:21](#) <laugh>.

Ivanilda T Alves: [16:22](#) Yes. I want and initial life, my life, my new life. Yes. Now happy. Woman happy now, <laugh>. Yes,

dindria: [16:37](#) That is, I love that message. So you have to approach life to love it. You have to be happy about it.

Ivanilda T Alves: [16:45](#) Yes. Yes. I, I,

dindria: [16:47](#) Before a new life,

Ivanilda T Alves: [16:48](#) I happy before, when I stay in Brazil, before I have now, I, I happy now. Initial my new life

dindria: [16:59](#) Yes. Thank you so

Ivanilda T Alves: [17:03](#) Much. One day, I, I speaking friend, we go in park with me because life love life. If you want together, we park. Oh. In a restaurant food, vegetarian friend. Yes. One day waiting. <laugh>. Wait,

dindria: [17:29](#) Well I have your phone number now, so <laugh>

Ivanilda T Alves: [17:31](#) Yes. Yes. You have my phone.

dindria: [17:33](#) Um, thank you so much. Uh, we are done with the interview. Um, but I would love to share with you the vegetarian restaurant, and then you share with me your music. Okay?

Ivanilda T Alves: [17:47](#) Yes.

dindria: [17:47](#) Okay.

Ivanilda T Alves: [17:48](#) Let's do It. You tell me, you know,

dindria: [17:51](#) On your phone. Yeah. And I will find this restaurant.

Ivanilda T Alves: [17:58](#) Ah, I, I

dindria: [18:01](#) <affirmative>. Yeah.