After coming to the United states from Mexico, Esli became pregnant at 16 and had to drop out of high school. When she later tried to enter the workforce, she found it challenging to find stable employment, and the income she earned was not enough to support her family. Determined to create a better future for herself and her children, Esli enrolled at Dinuba Adult School with the goal of earning her high school diploma. However, life presented her with many more obstacles, and she was unable to complete the program at that time.

At 18, Esli got married and eventually became a mother of four. She later experienced domestic violence, which ultimately left her homeless and living in her car with her children. With perseverance, Esli was able to find an apartment and began rebuilding her life. Her church family helped provide furniture and essential items, giving her a foundation from which to move forward.

Despite everything she had experienced, Esli never gave up on her dream of completing her education. She returned to Dinuba Adult School and in June 2026 she finally earned her high school diploma.

Going back to school and working toward her goals was important to Esli because she wanted her daughters to see that they can overcome challenges and pursue their dreams. Esli believes in patience, hard work, and the courage to keep trying. Over the years, Esli has had to balance being a mother, working, and going to school. She has felt tired, overwhelmed, or unsure of herself, but has learned that difficult moments do not mean she should give up.

For many years, Esli had also dreamed of joining the military, but circumstances surrounding her divorce have caused her to put that goal on hold for now. However, she has not stopped moving forward. She has begun a new chapter at Reedley College, where she is taking full time units to pursue a degree in Business Administration.