



**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
FINAL OFFICIAL MINUTES
Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT)**

Stephen P. Clark Center
111 Northwest 1st Street
2ND Floor Conference Room
Miami, Florida 33128

March 18, 2015
As Advertised

Harvey Ruvlin, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners

Christopher Agrippa, Director
Clerk of the Board Division

Zorana Gainer, Commission Reporter
(305) 375-3570



**CLERK'S SUMMARY AND OFFICIAL MINUTES
MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST
BOARD MEETING OF MARCH 18, 2015**

The Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) convened its meeting in the 2nd Floor Conference Room of the Stephen P. Clark Center, 111 Northwest First Street, on March 18, 2015, at 3:30 p.m., there being present: Chairman Marc Douthit, Vice Chairman Ron Butler, Mr. Cornell Crews Jr., Mr. Sheldon Edwards, Ms. LaTonda James, Ms. Stephanye Johnson, Ms. Barbara Montero and Mr. Carlos E. Morales (Ms. Cheryl Mizell, Mr. George Ray III and Reverend Walter T. Richardson were late; Mr. Charles F. Sims and Ms. H. Leigh Toney were absent).

The following staff members were present: Executive Director John Dixon, Mr. Jose Gonzalez, Ms. Traci Pollock, Mr. William Simmons, and Mr. Eric Johnson; and Deputy Clerk Ms. Zorana Gainer.

Chairman Marc Douthit called the meeting to order at 3:40 p.m.

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLITS OF INTEREST

QUERY FOR EARLY DEPARTURES

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Douthit opened the floor for public comments on any of today's agenda items. Seeing no one come forward the floor was closed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- February 18, 2015
- January 21, 2015
- December 17, 2014
- November 19, 2014
- October 15, 2014
- September 17, 2014
- April 16, 2014

It was moved by Ms. Montero that the Trust approve the meeting minutes of January 21, 2015. This motion was seconded by Mr. Butler and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 8-0 (Trust members Mizell, Ray, Richardson, Sims and Toney were absent).

It was moved by Mr. Edwards that the Trust approve the meeting minutes of February 18, 2015. This motion was seconded by Ms. James and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 8-0 (Trust members Mizell, Ray, Richardson, Sims and Toney were absent).

It was moved by Ms. James to approve the meeting minutes of December 17, 2014. This motion was seconded by Mr. Crews and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 8-0 (Trust members Mizell, Ray, Richardson, Sims and Toney were absent).

It was moved by Ms. James to approve the meeting minutes of November 19, 2014. This motion was seconded by Mr. Edwards and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 8-0 (Trust members Mizell, Ray, Richardson, Sims and Toney were absent).

It was moved by Mr. Butler to approve the meeting minutes of October 15, 2014. This motion was seconded by Ms. James and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 8-0 (Trust members Mizell, Ray, Richardson, Sims and Toney were absent).

It was moved by Mr. Butler to approve the meeting minutes of September 17, 2014. This motion was seconded by Ms. Montero and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 8-0 (Trust members Mizell, Ray, Richardson, Sims and Toney were absent).

It was moved by Mr. Butler to approve the meeting minutes of April 16, 2014. This motion was seconded by Mr. Crews and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 8-0 (Trust members Mizell, Ray, Richardson, Sims and Toney were absent).

I. Board Action Item

A. Housing Vendor Services RFA and Contract

John Dixon, Executive Director, MDEAT provided an overview of the foregoing item. He indicated that the large number of files being received and the letters of satisfaction to be issued to homebuyers, was creating a hardship on the current HAP staff, and approval of this item would allow for professional assistance to the staff. Mr. Dixon explained the advantage of using issuing an RFP rather than hiring under the County's personnel policies and that the County's Human Resources Department had approved this and the funds that are within the budget.

It was moved by Mr. Butler that the Trust approve expenditure up to \$120,000 from the Housing Budget during fiscal years 2015 – 2017 for a Request for Application (RFA) and contract. This motion was seconded by Ms. Johnson, and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 8-0 (Trust members Mizell, Ray, Richardson, Sims and Toney were absent).

B. MDEAT HAP Green Housing Development Initiative

Mr. Dixon presented the foregoing item and stated Palmetto Homes had received lots from County Districts 1 and 2 to build "green homes" within those communities. He indicated that in response to a request for assistance staff was asking for approval to buy down the mortgages associated with the home. Mr. Dixon stated that construction costs for green homes was much higher than average homes and that approval of this item would allow for HAP funds to be set aside specifically for down-payment assistance for this particular green home initiative.

It was moved by Mr. Morales that the Board an authorization not to exceed \$150,000 from the current Homeownership Assistance Program (HAP) pool of Documentary Surtax funds to provide funding for two Green Housing initiatives for development by Palmetto Homes with assistance from the Poinciana

Development Group. This motion was seconded by Ms. Johnson and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 9-0. (Trust members Ray, Richardson, Sims and Toney were absent).

C. MDEAT Interagency Service Agreement with Greater Miami Service Corp

Mr. Dixon presented a brief overview of the foregoing item and requested its approval for the purposes of covering MDEATs front desk.

It was moved by Mr. Butler that the Trust approve an interagency service agreement with the Greater Miami Service Corporation (GMSC) for the purpose of covering MDEAT receptionist duties, light clerical work and staff support on targeted initiatives as needed, in an amount not to exceed \$16,000 from the MDEAT Fiscal Year 2014 – 2015 General Funds. This motion was seconded by Ms. Johnson and upon being put to a vote passed by a vote of 9-0 (Trust members Ray, Richardson, Sims and Toney were absent).

D. EDAC Revised Budget Approval

Mr. Dixon presented the EDAC revised budget to include funding for MDEATs annual summit and scorecard updates. He noted the purpose of this item was to request approval of the Economic Development Budget, as amended, for fiscal year 2014-2015 in the amount of \$141,000; this budget was recommended by the EDAC on March 11, 2015.

It was moved by Mr. Morales that the Trust approve the Economic Development budget, as amended, for fiscal year 2014 – 2015 in the amount of \$141,000, and authorize staff to perform all the tasks necessary to implement the programs outlined in the amended budget. This motion was seconded by Mr. Edwards and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 9-0 (Trust members Ray, Richardson, Sims and Toney were absent).

E. Black World Guide, 2015 Edition

Mr. Dixon presented the foregoing item authorizing the publication of the Black World Guide 2015 Edition in conjunction with the Black Affairs Advisory Board, highlighting a special black business section that highlights retail, wholesale entertainment services, and other services throughout Targeted Urban Areas (TUAs) in Miami-Dade County.

It was moved by Mr. Edwards that the Trust authorize the collaboration between Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) and the Miami-Dade Black Advisory Board to publish the Black World Guide, 2015 Edition; this project is not to exceed \$10,000; and further to authorize staff to perform all tasks necessary to create the guide. This motion was seconded by Mr. Morales and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 9-0 (Trust members Ray, Richardson, Sims and Toney were absent).

F. RFA for South Dade Business Development

Mr. Dixon presented the foregoing item, noting that the EDAC had identified South Dade TUAs were in the most need of economic development assistance. He noted the purpose of this item was to request the Trust to authorize staff to issue an RFA to solicit the services of qualified economic development individuals, partnership or corporation to provide an economic development proposal to assist

businesses in the South Dade TUAs. Additionally staff is requesting authorization to perform all tasks associated with executing an agreement with the successful proposer. Staff is also requesting authorization to follow a concurrent path to determine if there is an organization that currently provides an economic service that may be contracted with a public or quasi-public agreement.

Mr. Butler indicated that the EDAC budget approved earlier in today's meeting provided for a line-item entitled "RFA for work in the TUA". However, the foregoing item read "RFA for South Dade Business Development". Mr. Butler also suggested that in an effort to be consistent, the budget be changed to reflect the RFA for South Dade business development.

Ms. Johnson stated she attended the Goulds Business Center with the South Dade community; the center was scheduled to close on March 31, leaving a major need within the community.

It was moved by Mr. Butler that the Trust authorize the issuance of a Request for Application (RFA) to solicit the services of qualified economic development individuals, partnership or corporation to provide an economic development proposal to assist businesses in South Dade Targeted Urban Areas (TUA); authorize to perform all tasks associated with executing an agreement with the successful proposer, while concurrently determining if there were other organizations that currently provide economic services that would be contracted through a public or quasi-public agreement. This motion was seconded by Ms. Johnson and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 10-0 (Trust members Ray, Sims and Toney were absent).

G. South Florida Community Development Coalition Contract

Mr. Dixon presented the foregoing item to amend the scope of services to provide an approval from MDEAT to amend the South Florida Community Development Coalition (SFCDC) agreement at no cost to revise the scope of work to eliminate the "MicroNetwork Interactive Website" and replace it with the "Microbusiness Referral Network" as outlined in SFCDC's January 9, 2015 project status report and alternate proposal.

Mr. William Simmons stated that the website initially proposed would have had to be maintained and was costly to continuously update and maintain this website. He indicated that a referral network would better serve micro-businesses.

Ms. Melissa Diamond, Communications Manager, SFCDC appeared in support of the foregoing item.

Discussion ensued on linking MDEAT's existing website to Miami-Dade County's website as a way to reduce maintenance costs.

Mr. Simmons responded to inquiries regarding the differences between the MicroNetwork Interactive Website and a Microbusiness Referral Network.

It was moved by Mr. Butler that the Trust approve the amendment of the contract between MDEAT AND SFCDC, as recommended by staff. This motion was seconded by Stephanye Johnson and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 10-0 (George Ray, Charles Sims and Leigh toney were absent).

H. Youth Action Committee New Member Appointment

It was moved by Mr. Morales that the Trust approve the recommendation of the Youth Action Committee (YAC) to appoint Maria Hernandez, Samuel McKinnon, Khalid Salahuddin, Vivilora D. Perkins Smith and Valerie Staten to fill the vacancies. This motion was seconded by Reverend Richardson and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 10-0 (Trust members Ray, Sims and Toney were absent).

I. New Board Member Recruitment Campaign

Mr. Dixon presented the foregoing item, noting the vacancies that would become open.

It was moved by Mr. Morales that the Trust approve the authorization to purchase advertising for the recruitment of new board members in an amount not to exceed \$4,000. This motion was seconded by Ms. Montero and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 10-0 (Trust members Ray, Sims and Toney were absent).

J. MDEAT Executive Director's Salary Increase

Chairman Douthit gave a brief overview of the item stating that Executive Director, Mr. John Dixon, first held the position of the Deputy Director, then Interim Director, and subsequently Executive Director of MDEAT however, Mr. Dixon had not been granted a salary increase corresponding to these positions. Mr. Douthit explained that the Executive Director's salary had been budgeted for the last six years but had never been spent because there was a salary/hiring freeze at the County.

Mr. Ray suggested deferral of this item to the next meeting to allow for the Executive Director to devise a comprehensive plan on how MDEAT could deal with its current legislative mandate of seeking grant funding and alternative fund sources and recommended that MDEAT host a Teen Court Gala in an effort to raise funds for its youth programs. He also recommended the Trust launch a construction job training program and assist men who owed payments for child support. Mr. Ray indicated he would like the Executive Director to quantify the impact of such programs in an effort to present the results to those that the Trust needed to solicit funds from.

Ms. James pointed out that the matter of the Executive Director's salary was not based upon his performance.

It was moved by Mr. Morales that the Trust approve a salary increase of the agency's Executive Director by \$25,000 from the agency's General Fund budget, increasing the Executive Director's salary to \$128,000. This motion was seconded by Ms. Montero and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 10-1 (Trust member Ray voted No; Trust members Sims and Toney were absent).

II. Information Item

A. HAP Procedures and Participation Updates

Mr. Eric Johnson gave an update regarding MDEAT's Homeownership Assistance Program's (HAP) procedures and participation. Mr. Johnson noted that initial recertification event was held today at the Milander Center in Hialeah, with approximately 180 participating realtors and lenders in attendance. He noted the revisions to the program would be discussed at workshops to be scheduled at a later date.

III. Advocacy Items – Committee Updates

IV. Chairperson's Report

A. Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners Presentation w/FIU (Scorecard)

Chairman Douthit spoke regarding the foregoing item noting the Scorecard had been presented to the County Commission and meetings had been scheduled with commissioners that were interested in obtaining further details.

Chairman Douthit noted there was an upcoming proposed ordinance regarding the re-definition and the treatment of small businesses in the county and directed MDEAT staff to review the impact this legislation would have on businesses in the Targeted Urban Areas (TUA).

Staff member Mr. Eric Johnson indicated that he had spoken to Robert Hesslor, who noted that he had additional staff which gave them more capacity to conduct more research, reporting and tracking information; MDEAT should be able to obtain more information.

Chairman Douthit reported a growing issue regarding transportation services extending into South Dade, and asked that staff examine the possibilities for extension of transportation services further into South Dade similar to how transit was currently being developed in West Dade. He pointed out that perhaps it was time to look at extending transit further south as well.

Mr. Ray suggested the possibility of starting a public-private partnership with Uber, as a potential funding source through the Trust's foundation. He suggested that Uber be sent an RFA for South Florida part of the scope of work for the group selected.

Discussion ensued regarding the history of the transportation system, the population issues and the expansion of the transit system.

V. Executive Director's Report

A. Opa-locka Business Chamber of Commerce Panel Discussion, MDEAT Breakfast Discussion Series, Annual Symposium and Business Leaders Luncheon

NON-AGENDA ITEM

A brief discussion ensued among Trust members regarding persons residing in the TUAs obtaining training for the national Launch Code initiative.

VI. Departmental Monthly Reports

Fiscal

Housing

Teen Court/Youth Services

Marketing and Public Information

VII. Board Officer Nominations

Chairman Douthit indicated the Trust nominates its own leadership and opened the floor for nomination for Chairman and Vice Chair. He noted elections would be held at the next Trust meeting.

Trust members Edwards and Johnson nominated Cornell Crews for Chairperson.

Trust member Ray nominated himself for Chairperson.

It was moved by Reverend Richardson that the nominations be closed at the two names proffered for Chairperson. This motion was seconded by Ms. James and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 11-0 (Trust members Sims and Toney were absent).

Chairman Douthit opened the floor for nominations for the First Vice Chairperson position.

Reverend Richardson nominated Sheldon Edwards for First Vice Chairperson.

It was moved by Reverend Richardson that the nominations be closed on the one name proffered for First Vice Chairperson. This motion was seconded by Ms. James and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 11-0 (Trust members Sims and Toney were absent).

Ms. Johnson nominated Cheryl Mizell for the Second Vice Chairperson position; however Ms. Mizell declined the nomination.

Mr. Butler nominated LaTonda James for the Second Vice Chairperson position.

It was moved by Mr. Butler to accept the nomination for the Second Vice Chairperson position. This motion was seconded by Ms. Montero and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 11-0 (Trust members Sims and Toney were absent).

VIII. Next Meeting:

April 15, 2015 at 3:30 p.m. at the Stephen P. Clark Center, 111 Northwest 1st Street, Miami, FL 33128

Adjournment

Hearing no further business to come before the Trust, the meeting was adjourned at 5:00 P.M.



Chairman Marc Douthit
Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust



Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust
March 18, 2015

Prepared by: Jill Thornton

EXHIBITS LIST

NO.	DATE	ITEM #	DESCRIPTION
1	03/18/2015		MDEAT March 18, 2015 Meeting Agenda Package
2	03/18/2015	I.A.	Motion and Approval Ballot
3	03/18/2015	I.I.	Resumes submitted for New Board Member Recruitment
4	03/18/2015		Newspaper Articles pertaining to MDEAT and economic issues
5			
6			
7			
8			
9			
10			
11			
12			
13			
14			
15			
16			
17			
18			
19			
20			

MIDEAT

Miami-Dade Economic
Advocacy Trust



Working Together for Economic Change

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

March 18, 2015

Agenda



MEETING NOTICE

MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST

TRUSTEE BOARD MEETING

DATE: Wednesday, March 18, 2015

TIME: 3:30PM

LOCATION: Stephen P. Clark Center
Commissioners Conference Room, Second Floor
111 NW 1 Street | Miami, FL 33128

The MDEAT Board Meetings are governed in accordance with Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners Rules of Procedures.

PARKING VALIDATION LOCATIONS

Cultural Arts Center Garage | 50 NW 2 Avenue | Miami, FL 33130
Before exiting the garage, please remember to get your ticket validated at the information window on the first floor.

Hickman Garage (Garage 5) | 270 NW 2 ST | Miami, FL 33130



MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST

BOARD MEETING AGENDA

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 18, 2015 | 3:30 PM

STEPHEN P. CLARK CENTER | 111 NW 1 STREET | MIAMI, FL 33128

COMMISSIONERS CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR

Roll Call

- **DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST**
- **QUERY FOR EARLY DEPARTURES**
- **PUBLIC COMMENTS**
- **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**
- **APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES**
10-15-14, 9-17-14, 4-16-14, 11-19-14, 12-17-14, 1-21-15 and 2-18-15 05
- I. **Board Action Item**
 - A. Housing Vendor Services RFA and Contract 52
 - B. MDEAT HAP Green Housing Development Initiative 54
 - C. MDEAT Interagency Service Agreement with Greater Miami Service Corp 56
 - D. **EDAC Revised Budget Approval** 64
 - E. Black World Guide, 2015 Edition 67
 - F. RFA for South Dade Business Development 69
 - G. South Florida Community Development Coalition Contract Amendment 71
 - H. Youth Action Committee New Member Appointment 80
 - I. New Board Member Recruitment Campaign 82
 - J. MDEAT Executive Director's Salary Increase 84
- II. **Information Item**
 - A. HAP Procedures and Participation Updates 86
- III. **Advocacy Items – Committee Updates**
- IV. **Chairperson's Report**
- A. Miami-Dade Board of Commissioners Presentation w/ FIU (Scorecard)
- V. **Executive Director's Report**
 - A. Opa-locka Business Chamber of Commerce Panel Discussion, MDEAT Breakfast Discussion Series, Annual Symposium and Business Leaders Luncheon
- VI. **Departmental Monthly Reports**
 - A. Fiscal 88

B. Housing	95
C. Teen Court/Youth Services	102
D. Marketing and Public Information	115

VII. **Board Officer Nominations**

VIII. **Next Meeting:**

April 15, 2015 | 3:30PM | Stephen P. Clark Center, 111 NW 1 ST, Miami, FL 33128

Adjournment

MEETING MINUTES

OCTOBER 15, 2014

**CLERK'S SUMMARY AND OFFICIAL MINUTES
MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST
BOARD MEETING OF OCTOBER 15, 2014**

The Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) convened its meeting in the 2nd Floor Conference Room of the Stephen P. Clark building, 111 Northwest 1st Street, on October 15, 2014, at 3:30 p.m., there being present: Cornell Crews Jr., Sheldon Edwards, LaTonda James, Stephanye Johnson, Cheryl Mizell, and George Ray III; (Barbara Montero was late; and Chairman Marc Douthit, Ron Butler, Carlos E. Morales, Carl Nicoleau, Reverend Walter T. Richardson, Charles F. Sims and H. Leigh Toney were absent).

The following staff members were present: Executive Director John Dixon, Mr. Jose Gonzalez and Ms. Traci Pollock; Assistant County Attorney Terrence Smith and Deputy Clerk Zorana Gainer.

2nd Vice Chairwoman Stephanye Johnson presided over today's (10/15) meeting in the absences of Chairman Marc Douthit, 1st Vice-Chair Ron Butler and 2nd Vice Chair Leigh Toney. Ms. Johnson called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. She noted due to the lack of a quorum the Information items would be heard first until a quorum was present.

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

QUERY FOR EARLY DEPARTURES

Mr. Sheldon Edwards noted that he had to leave the meeting at 5:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Barbara Montero to approve today's agenda. This motion was seconded by Sheldon Edwards and upon being put to a vote, passed unanimously by those members present.

I. Board Action Items

A. MDEAT Board Officers Election

Mr. Dixon explained that the intent of the foregoing agenda item was to request that the MDEAT Board vote for a Chairperson, a First Vice-Chairperson and a Second Vice-Chairperson in accordance with the MDEAT Bylaws as adopted on April 16, 2014. Mr. Dixon asked that the ballots be disseminated and asked that Board members return their completed ballots to Traci Pollock who would tally the votes.

Assistant County Attorney Terrance Smith apprised that each Board member needed to sign their name on their ballot; anonymous voting was prohibited according to the Sunshine Law.

Assistant County Attorney Smith read the following Board election results into the record:

- Chairperson – Marc Douthit
- 1st Vice Chairperson – Ron Butler
- 2nd Vice Chairperson – H. Leigh Toney

B. MDEAT Bylaws: Revision (October 2014)

Traci Pollock explained the intent of the foregoing agenda item was to request the acceptance of revisions to the MDEAT Bylaws as recommended by the MDEAT Bylaws Committee. Ms. Pollock explained the recommended revisions to Board members which were listed in the Agenda Package.

It was moved by Sheldon L. Edwards to accept the recommended revisions to the MDEAT Bylaws. This motion was seconded by Cornell Crews Jr. and upon being to a vote, passed unanimously by those members present.

C. YAC: 2014-2015 Budget (Teen Court FY 2014-2015 Budget)

Mr. Dixon explained the intent of the foregoing agenda item was to request the MDEAT Board of Trustees authorization to provide funds for programs and activities as outlined in the Teen Court FY 2014-2015 Budget. He noted the funding will not exceed \$328,670 and prior to each event or activity an itemized budget will be presented to the Board for review. Mr. Dixon apprised Board members that a copy of the budget was included in the Agenda Package.

Responding to Mr. George Ray's inquiry regarding whether any data was available on the effectiveness of the Teen Court program, Mr. Dixon noted the recidivism rate of Teen Court students was approximately less than 2%.

It was moved by George Ray III to approve the Teen Court FY 2014-2015 Budget. This motion was seconded by Sheldon L. Edwards and upon being put to a vote, passed unanimously by those members present.

D. Florida Association of Teen Courts Annual Conference

Mr. Dixon noted the intent of the foregoing agenda item was to request approval for the Student Court and MDEAT Staff to attend the Florida Association of Teen Court (FATC) Conference in Orlando Florida on November 19th and 20th. The requested expenditure amount was for an amount not to exceed \$2,200. Mr. Dixon pointed out that the trip would not exceed the stated amount and that this figure was used for last year's conference because the conference lasted more days.

It was moved by Barbara Montero to approve the request of an expenditure of \$2,200 for staff to attend the Florida Association of Teen Court (FATC) Conference in Orlando. This motion was seconded by LaTonda James, and upon being put to a vote, passed unanimously by those members present.

II. Information Items

A. Young Professionals Network Homeownership Seminar by HAP

Mr. John Dixon, Executive Director, MDEAT gave an update regarding the Young Professionals Network Homeownership Seminar. He noted that MDEAT had partnered with the Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce (MDCC) to expand its reach to young professionals through homeownership opportunities. He noted that members of the MDCC were misinformed and felt that if one did not have children or a large family that they would not qualify to own a home. Mr. Dixon pointed out that upon reviewing the YPN members' average salary he learned that majority of them did qualify for homeownership. He noted that the seminar will be held on today October 15, 2015 at City National Bank (1450 Brickell Ave Miami, FL 33131). Mr. Dixon noted

that several people within the housing arena were scheduled to come and discuss the Homeowner Assistance Program (HAP).

III. Advocacy Items – Committee Updates

IV. Chairperson's Report

Ms. Stephanye Johnson read the resignation letter submitted by Ms. Treska Rodgers. She noted Ms. Rodgers was resigning due to not meeting the residency requirement.

V. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Dixon apprised the Board that he and staff were working with the developer, Palmetto Homes, who is interested in working with the Trust from a housing standpoint, to assist with some housing funding. He noted the developer worked with the non-profit organization Women in Need of Destiny (WIND) that received initially 10 lots, subsequently the number had been reduced to 5 lots. Mr. Dixon noted that Commissioner Jordan had currently transferred the lots from the County to the non-profit organization; the developer would build green homes on these lots for the non-profit organization. Mr. Dixon noted that upon meeting with the developer he had mentioned that MDEAT could not use funds for construction; however the funds could be used to buy down the loans. Mr. Dixon tied this into Teen Court and noted that there was an opportunity to employ teens on this project that were on probation. Mr. Dixon noted that he hoped that the Youth Action Committee (YAC) would urge Trust members to approve \$20,000 of funding to pay the salaries of the youth working on this project.

A. Upcoming Business Breakfast Event

Mr. Dixon gave an update regarding the Business Breakfast Event. He noted these events had been previously hosted within the Targeted Urban Areas (TUAs) in partnership with Small Business Administration and well as other entities. Mr. Dixon explained that the purpose for holding these events within the TUAs was to implore small business owners to come out and learn about loan products and SBA offers. He noted that TD Bank was the highest ranking bank by SBA last year in loaning money to small businesses. Mr. Dixon noted that events had been held in Homestead, Florida City, and County Commission District 3; other county Commissioners are requesting to host an event in their Districts which are not TUAs. The next event will be held in November in District 2.

B. Teen Court Peer Circle Focus Group Series

Mr. Dixon noted that during the last MDEAT meeting the Psychological Services person from Teen Court gave an update on the impact the events that occurred in Ferguson, Missouri with Mike Brown had on the African American community in Miami-Dade County. Mr. Dixon pointed out that the Board felt it was a premature initiative; however, he and staff had decided to go to Teen Court Sessions, four per week to discuss with youth their concerns and feelings regarding the events in Ferguson and any other similar issues. Upon attending two of these events, Mr. Dixon noted that he had received interesting commentary from the youth; comments ranged from some had not heard about the events that took place in Ferguson and others felt that people just wanted to make trouble in the community. Mr. Dixon noted that he inquired about how the youth felt about police officers and whether they had ever had a conversation with a police officer and if they felt like police officers were helpful to them. Mr. Dixon said he received various responses and various comments about incidents and experiences they had with police officers; Mr. Dixon said the youth in South Dade were much more conservative regarding interacting with police officers and their feelings towards police officers.

Mr. George Ray III suggested collaborating with 5000 Role Models on this. He spoke about a pamphlet that could be disseminated at these focus groups; the pamphlet explained rights and

what you should and should not do when you encounter a police officer; it also impresses upon cooperating and having respect for law enforcement. Mr. Ray explained how this could be an effective tool for youth within the community.

Ms. Cheryl Mizell inquired whether there was any way to address the psychological build up on police officers when dealing with negativity and stressful situations on a daily basis. She noted it was unfathomable that one could take in so much negative energy and not have some sort of release to address these issues.

Mr. Ray noted that he felt police officers needed sensitivity training relating to escalating the use of force in situations. He noted policing shaped the perception within the community.

VI. Departmental Monthly Reports

A. Fiscal – Status Report by Jose Gonzalez, MDEAT Fiscal Manager

Mr. Jose Gonzalez gave a Power Point Presentation regarding the 2013-2014 Fiscal Year Report. He disseminated a copy of this presentation to each member.

B. Housing

C. Teen Court/Youth Services

D. Marketing and Public Information

VII. Next Meeting:

November 19, 2014 at 3:30 p.m. in the Stephen P. Clark Center 111 NW 1st Street, Miami, FL 33128.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business to come before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

Second Vice-Chairwoman Stephanye Johnson
Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust

MEETING MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 17, 2014

**CLERK'S SUMMARY AND OFFICIAL MINUTES
MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST
BOARD MEETING OF SEPTEMBER 17, 2014**

The Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) convened its meeting in the 2nd Floor Conference Room of the Stephen P. Clark building, 111 Northwest 1st Street, on September 17, 2014, at 3:30 p.m., there being present: Chairman Marc Douthit, Ron Butler, Sheldon Edwards, LaTonda James and Carl Nicoleau. (Stephanye Johnson, Cheryl Mizell, Barbara Montero, George Ray III and Treska Rodgers were late; Cornell Crews Jr., Carlos E. Morales, Reverend Walter T. Richardson, Charles F. Sims and H. Leigh Toney were absent).

The following staff members were present: Executive Director John Dixon, Mr. Jose Gonzalez and Ms. Traci Pollock; Assistant County Attorney Terrence Smith and Deputy Clerk Zorana Gainer.

Chairman Douthit called the meeting to order at 3:48 p.m. He noted due to the lack of quorum information items would be heard first.

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

QUERY FOR EARLY DEPARTURES

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Chairman Douthit opened the meeting to anyone from the public wishing to comment on any of today's (9/17) agenda items. Seeing no one come forward, the public hearing was closed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA ITEMS

It was moved by Carl Nicoleau to approve today's (9/17) agenda. This motion was seconded by Stephanye Johnson and upon being put to a vote, passed unanimously by those members present.

I. Board Action Items

A. FIU MDEAT Annual Report Card and Scorecard

Mr. Dixon noted the purpose of the agenda item is to request that the MDEAT Board accept the FIU's MDEAT Annual Report Card and Scorecard and present it to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) in accordance with the mandate of the agency's ordinance. He noted that each member had a copy of the Scorecard Report from FIU. He asked that members review the Scorecard Report.

Mr. George Ray III inquired about the disparity study noting that the annual report did not cover the main issues and that the Trust needed to quantify the impact MDEAT had on the community. Mr. Ray pointed out that the Scorecard was supposed to measure economic organizations that are funded through the county and the impact they had on our community; organizations that did not have any impact on our community should be placed under scrutiny and the Trust could summarize their activities more effectively as better justification for funding or the reallocation of funding that was taken away from the Trust.

Mr. Ron Butler concurred with Mr. Ray's comment, however Trust members were given the opportunity to respond and react to the Scorecard Report.

With regard to Mr. Butler's comments, Mr. Ray responded that he did meet with MDEAT staff and he gave recommendations, but there was a lack of communication.

Mr. Butler noted that it was the responsibility of the Trust members to respond and react in a timely fashion prior to the documents being finalized.

Ms. Traci Pollock noted that staff was directed not to point fingers, but be able to provide numbers in terms of the status of the various industries. She noted that FIU staff followed the direction of staff through the direction of the Board; this particular document was created and FIU staff had met with the Board on several occasions and allowed the Board to have an intimate involvement throughout the development of this document. Ms. Pollock noted that based on feedback from the board members at formal Board meetings and at meetings with FIU, they had delivered what was requested of them. Ms. Pollock said this document presented a baseline.

Responding to Mr. Ray's concerns regarding not pointing out issues, Mr. Dixon explained that Board members were told by the Chairman that this was not a finger pointing exercise.

Mr. Ray stated this was not about being afraid of advocating, this is what we are charged with by the BCC. He noted that it was the responsibility of the Board to find out what organization that received public funding did for the African American communities; if they are not doing what they are supposed to do we have to hold them accountable as we are here to solve community problems caused by economic development.

Ms. Pollock pointed out that many board members were not present when FIU made their presentation. They explained the report; she noted that within the agenda package beginning on page 55, the baseline had been denoted and next year the scores will be filled in. Based on that, the Board can build from the data that FIU is generating which is ultimately for the public.

Mr. Ray noted he had a 30-year retrospective study from the time MDEAT was founded that detailed recommendations of what MDEAT needed to do; he stated that he would forward a copy of this to Ms. Pollock and she could disseminate this information to Board members. Mr. Ray pointed out that MDEAT needed to review the things it had successfully accomplished, work from that perspective and narrow the focus on what the Board can do as opposed to what it cannot do. He noted this document provided very relevant information and the Board did not need a new study from FIU because those areas covered in the studies conducted by FIU are not consistent with what has been done previously.

It was moved by Ron Butler to accept the Scorecard Report and present it to the BCC. This motion was seconded by Stephanye Johnson and upon being put to a vote, passed unanimously by those members present.

B. MDEAT 2015-2020 Strategic Plan

Mr. Dixon noted the intent of the foregoing agenda item was to request that the MDEAT Board accepts the MDEAT 2015-2020 Strategic Plan in accordance with the mandate of the agency's ordinance.

Mr. Butler noted that he felt that the Strategic Plan did not hit the mark; it did not connect the pieces very well, nor did it speak strategically about how we should move forward. Although the Plan did lay out action steps, the steps were not strategic nor were they put into the context of

our changing environment. Mr. Butler noted that he had sent recommendations and he was uncertain whether these recommendations were captured or not. He further noted that he suggested that the two documents are tied together, but they were not.

Mr. Ray expressed his concerns that he hoped to address in the near future was establishing a policy that 70% to 80% of the Board's funds were allocated to Targeted Urban Areas (TUA) because that where the focus should be. He pointed that in an effort to quantify MDEAT's success, if funds were allocated specifically to TUAs, we should be able to get a snap shot of the impact the funds have in those areas.

Mr. Butler concurred with Mr. Ray's comments and noted that those were the types of things that should have been incorporated in the document that is before the Board today.

Mr. Edwards expressed his concerns regarding Trust members meeting for a whole day and there was not a lot brought to the table concerning performance indicators and how they should be measured. That was the time to bring those issues to the table.

Mr. Butler noted that the meeting was only one part of this process, the other part was to react to the draft and send comments and recommendations; those comments and recommendations should have been captured in this report.

Mr. Ray noted that he felt the most important thing from the Strategic Planning meeting was the sustainable funding model. He noted we could not rely heavily on the General Fund to be the major benefactor. Mr. Ray noted that he saw the marketing efforts and positioning to be an organization that is more relevant, however the Board had to look at getting other federal funds.

Mr. Butler suggested completing an action plan to address some of members' concerns.

Ms. Pollock explained that all departments and trusts were mandated to establish performance indicators and establish a two year business plan. This was an opportunity for Board members to have an active involvement in planning a strategic direction for the organization.

Mr. Edwards noted that members suggested other funding sources, but this required a grant writer; he inquired if MDEAT had a grant writer on staff.

Chairman Douthit asked for insight regarding individual agencies venturing out independently seeking grants and funding.

Responding to Chairman Douthit's inquiry, Assistant County Attorney Smith noted that MDEAT had the authority to apply for grants under the Code. Other departments apply for grants; they obtain authority from the BCC to apply, receive and expend funds; because of the nature of this organization to serve in the capacity of what the BCC would be doing, the Chairman can authorize the staff to apply for funds that are identified or the staff could use the county's grant writing department and have them identify funds and write the grants.

It was moved by Treska Rodgers to accept the 2015-2020 Strategic Plan. This motion was seconded by Stephanye Johnson and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 7-2 (Ron Butler and George Ray III voted NO; Cornell Crews Jr., Carlos E. Morales, Reverend Walter T. Richardson, Charles F. Sims and H. Leigh Toney were absent).

C. Action Committee Appointments

Mr. Dixon noted the purpose of the foregoing agenda item was to request that the MDEAT Board accepts the action committee appointments to the Economic Development Action Committee (EDAC), Housing Advocacy Committee (HAC) and the Youth Action Committee (YAC) as recommended by the MDEAT Board's Executive Committee.

Chairman Douthit noted there issues related to the YAC and one person on the HAC was deemed unqualified for membership.

With regard to Chairman Douthit's comments Mr. Dixon noted that he was uncertain regarding the issue regarding someone being ineligible for HAC. He explained that there was some concern regarding the number of members on the YAC; over the years this committee had garnered support from the community and four Board members took the place of some people that could have sat on that committee that truly brought a lot to the table.

Ms. Stephanye Johnson explained that the applicant had submitted her HAC application to an approved site, which in turn, had not turned the application in; upon contacting the Board of Elections, they informed her that they would take care of the application.

With regard to the YAC, Ms. Treska Rodgers expressed her apologies as it was an over sight on her behalf, not realizing that four Board members would be appointed to four slots on one committee. Ms. Rodgers requested the appointment of more members by increasing the number of committee members. She noted YAC was a very productive committee and the members were people from the community; it was important to have people from the community that represented youth action, juvenile justice and other entities. Ms. Rodgers suggested and requested the Bylaw Committee to reconvene and review the possibility of having 15 members as opposed to 9.

Assistant County Attorney Smith noted that it was the Trusts prerogative.

Ms. Rodgers pointed out the next concern was addressing adding an additional 6 appointees to the YAC.

Chairman Douthit noted the Bylaws Committee would have to reconvene and an amendment would have to be made to the Bylaws to increase the number of members to the YAC, then the Board would have to approve this.

Assistant County Attorney Smith suggested deferring this agenda item to the Bylaws Committee.

Ms. Johnson expressed concerns that the committee's had been on hold for a very long time and requested to move forward with the foregoing proposed agenda item.

With regard to Ms. Johnson's concerns, Assistant County Attorney Smith explained that all of the committees could move forward until the Bylaws have been amended, but currently the Bylaws indicate 9 members to the YAC.

It was moved by Ron Butler to approve the recommendations of the EDAC, HAC and the YAC as recommended by the MDEAT Board's Executive Committee. This motion was seconded by Stephanye Johnson and upon being put to a vote, passed unanimously by those members present.

D. Renewal of MDEAT Executive Director's Expenditure Authority

Mr. John Dixon explained the intent of the foregoing agenda item was to request the renewal of the MDEAT Executive Director's authorization to expend administrative and programmatic funds in an amount not to exceed \$2,500 per expenditure.

It was moved by Barbara Montero to approve the renewal of the MDEAT Executive Director's authorization to expend administrative and programmatic funds in an amount not to exceed \$2,500 per expenditure. This motion was seconded by Stephanye Johnson and upon being put to a vote, passed unanimously by those members present.

E. MDEAT-JSD Contract Renewal

Mr. John Dixon noted the intent of the foregoing agenda item was to request the MDEAT Board of Trustees to authorize expenditure not to exceed \$120,000 to the Miami-Dade Juvenile Services Department (JSD) for the Miami-Dade County Intervention Initiative (MDCII) contract renewal.

It was moved by Treska Rodgers to approve and authorize an expenditure of not to exceed \$120,000 to MDJS Department for the MDCII contract renewal. This motion was seconded by Barbara Montero and upon being put to a vote, passed unanimously by those members present.

F. EDAC 2013-2014 Budget Amendment

Mr. John Dixon explained the intent of the foregoing agenda item was to request approval of the Economic Development Action Committee (EDAC) program budget, as amended, for fiscal year 2013-2014 in the amount of \$153,000. He noted this amended budget was approved by the EDAC in August 2014, the budget had not change but some of the line items did.

Mr. George Ray III expressed his concern, noting \$153,000 was a small budget to work with and requested that the budget be raised to \$250,000 to \$350,000.

It was moved by Sheldon Edwards to approve the EDAC program budget for FY 2013-2014 in the amount of \$153,000. This motion was seconded by Treska Rodgers and upon being put to a vote, passed unanimously by those members present.

II. Information Items

A. Teen Court and Opa-locka Agreement to Hold Hearings in Opa-locka

Mr. John Dixon, MDEAT Director, noted that City of Opa-locka Commissioner Dorothy Johnson was active in a variety of Teen Court activities and events. Mr. Dixon pointed out that Miami-Dade County Teen Court (MDCTC) had begun coordination with the City of Opa-locka to bring the Teen Court's Peer-Jury Trial process to Opa-locka. Mr. Dixon said this would allow another opportunity to broaden the Teen Court program to other areas.

Responding to Mr. Dixon's inquiry regarding liability, Assistant County Attorney Terrence Smith explained that Miami-Dade County was self-insured and the normal indemnity would be included as both of the governmental entities are self-insured.

Mr. Dixon noted that he had received requests to hold Teen Court at the Black Police Precinct & Courthouse Museum in Overtown; however Mr. Dixon expressed concern regarding the \$500 fee associated with utilizing this location; subsequently Mr. Dixon noted that he declined the offer.

Although there was a fee, Chairman Douthit pointed out that the attendance level would probably be higher if the program was held at the Black Police Precinct location.

Assistant County Attorney Terrence Smith inquired whether the Trust was requesting to negotiate a contract with the City of Opa-locka.

It was moved by Carl Nicoleau to direct John Dixon, Executive Director of MDEAT, to negotiate with the City of Opa-locka for the use the new Opa-locka City Hall Facility to hold Teen Court's Peer Jury Trial process. This motion was seconded by Treska Rodgers and upon being put to a vote, passed unanimously by those members present.

B. Commentary: Ferguson Shooting

Mr. Dixon noted that Dr. Ischaji Nyerere Robertson had drafted a narrative regarding commentary on the Ferguson shooting. Mr. Dixon noted that the purpose of writing this editorial was to show interest and connection to important events within Black communities around the nation, especially one as significant and polarizing as the shooting of Michael Brown, an unarmed 18-year old black male in Ferguson, Missouri. The narrative, if approved, would be placed on MDEAT's website as well as submitted to various news publications in Miami-Dade County.

Chairman Douthit inquired whether posting this narrative on MDEAT's website and in publications would represent MDEAT's position or opinion in the matter of the events that took place in Ferguson, Missouri. He noted there were many other similar events that MDEAT had not taken any position on and further inquired whether this was appropriate as the Trust to take any position on such matters.

With regard to Chairman Douthit's inquiry, Ms. Treska Rodgers noted that MDEAT and the Youth Action Committee (YAC) took a position on the events surrounding Trayvon Martin's death in Sanford, Florida and addressed it; forums were held to speak out against the shooting. Ms. Rodgers noted that the Ferguson, Missouri incident was something that did occur often in urban cities and it would be apropos to at least acknowledge that it happened. She suggested perhaps having a statement from the Trust acknowledging the situation.

Mr. Carl Nicoleau inquired whether posting this narrative to the website indicated that the Trust endorsed what was being said or is the Trust attempting to address the issue.

Chairman Douthit responded to Mr. Nicoleau's concerns noting that Trust members should keep in mind that anything posed on MDEAT's website is our position and what we support. He noted that he was unsure whether the Trust should be taking any position at all.

Ms. Barbara Montero noted that this was sensitive and the Trust had to be part of the solution and not bashing everyone regarding the problem.

Ms. Rodgers stated this was directly connected with advocacy in terms of addressing the psychological effects this has on young African American males that are being affected at an astronomical rate, more than other races.

Chairman Douthit noted that although he had not read the narrative, if it was used he would like it to be a direct connection to one of MDEAT's programs such as Teen Court.

Mr. Dixon noted that the narrative included information regarding the Black Mental Health Conference.

Responding to Ms. Montero's inquiry regarding whether the narrative would be published on the website verbatim, Mr. Dixon pointed out that was the intent; however if anyone wanted to make any changes, additions or deletions they were free to do so.

Ms. Montero expressed further concern noting that some things she would omit or quote the author and if a statement was published on MDEAT's website it should come directly from the Trust and approved by the Executive Director. Ms. Montero noted that she felt the narrative should not be published onto MDEAT's website.

Mr. Ron Butler noted that the Trust should plan ahead on how to move forward when these types of situations arose.

Mr. George Ray III suggested forwarding recommendations to the commission. In an effort to make this tangible and not just symbolic, the Trust should secure grant money to put a program in place that teaches youth how to have positive interaction with law enforcement officers.

Mr. Sheldon Edwards noted that he felt the narrative should be published in its entirety just as it was written and even allow people to comments on it. Mr. Edwards pointed out that merely quoting or publishing a few paragraphs would stifle the intent of the narrative.

Responding to Mr. Edwards' comments, Ms. Montero noted that this narrative should be published as an editorial in a newspaper, not on MDEAT's website.

Mr. Ray noted the larger issue was what was occurring right here in Miami-Dade County and he felt the focus should be local rather than other communities. He warned the Trust against picking the issues they chose to discuss versus the issues they chose not to discuss.

Mr. Nicoleau pointed out that the Trust has published editorials on the website that did not necessarily reflect the opinions of the Board members, but was editorial for youth to see what professional thoughts, opinions and commentary were on the particular issue. Mr. Nicoleau suggested publishing the narrative with a disclaimer that indicated that this was strictly the opinion of the writer.

Ms. Montero stated that some of the language within the narrative was sensitive and she did not want to alienate police officers or the local government, as this was a government body.

Chairman Douthit noted this narrative appeared to be more of an opinion, which was different from making a statement as a body that denotes the position of the Trust on the issue. He concurred with Mr. Ray's comments regarding dealing with issues occurring in Miami-Dade County as this Board served the county. Chairman Douthit noted that although he agreed with a majority of the narrative, he felt that this particular narrative did not represent the position of the Trust.

Assistant County Attorney (ACA) Smith apprised Trust members that the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) had extensive ongoing discussions regarding Ferguson. He noted that if the Trust took a position, it would have greater impact to submit a statement to the ongoing discussion that the BCC was having and how to deal with it in our community. ACA Smith noted that this narrative should not be published on MDEAT's website. He further noted that MDEAT had to submit its annual scorecard and its five year strategic plan to the BCC and the Trust could take its position and submit it to the BCC along with these items.

Chairman Douthit asked the Executive Director Mr. Dixon to draft the Trust's position regarding the events that took place in Ferguson, Missouri and return to the Board for approval.

III. Advocacy Items – Committee Updates

IV. Chairperson's Report

V. Executive Director's Report

A. Breakfast Series Update

Mr. John Dixon explained the EDAC held a Breakfast Series for the past three year; so far they have been held in the following TUAs: Homestead, Florida City and Little Haiti. Partnering with other entities, the discussion topic was how small businesses could access loans to increase their business. Mr. Dixon noted the next Breakfast Series would be held in Miami Gardens and Opa-locka soon.

B. 2014 Economic Development Summit

C. YIPI Brunch and Video Presentation

Mr. Dixon gave a brief overview of the YIPI Brunch; Trust members watched a video regarding the Youth Action Committee (YAC) and the YIPI Brunch. Ms. Treska Rodgers expressed appreciation to Mr. Dixon and Trust members for their continued support of the YAC.

VI. Departmental Monthly Reports

- A. Fiscal**
- B. Housing**
- C. Teen Court/Youth Services**
- D. Marketing and Public Information**

VII. Next Meeting

Adjournment

Hearing no further business to come before the Trust, the meeting was adjourned at 5:48 p.m.

Chairman Marc Douthit
Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust

MEETING MINUTES

APRIL 16, 2014

**CLERK'S SUMMARY AND OFFICIAL MINUTES
MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST MEETING
APRIL 16, 2014**

The Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) convened a meeting in the Stephen P. Clark Center, 111 NW 1st Street, 2nd Floor Conference Room on April 16, 2014, at 3:30 p.m. The following MDEAT members were present: Chairman Marc Douthit Esq., Mr. Cornell Crews Jr., Mr. Sheldon Edwards, Ms. LaTonda James, Ms. Stephanye Johnson, Ms. Cheryl Mizell, Mr. Carlos Morales, Mr. Carl Nicoleau, Reverend Walter Richardson, Ms. Treska Rodgers, and Mr. Charles Sims; (Mr. George Ray III was late and arrived at 4:00 p.m.); and (Mr. Ron Butler, Ms. Barbara Montero, and Ms. Leigh Toney were absent).

ROLL CALL

The following staff members were present: MDEAT Executive Director John Dixon, Mr. Jose Gonzalez, Ms. Traci Pollock, Assistant County Attorney Terrence Smith, and Deputy Clerk Karen Harrison.

**DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST
QUERY FOR EARLY DEPARTURES**

Chairman Marc Douthit called the meeting to order at 3:54 p.m. In pursuant to the new statute he opened the floor to the public to make comments on any item on today's (4/16) agenda.

Assistant County Attorney Terrence Smith explained that the County Commission had recently adopted rules and procedures based on the County Ordinance on rules and procedures and according to that rule the public would be allowed to speak prior to setting the agenda, and there was some consideration as to whether this would take place after the setting of the agenda.

Ms. Retha Boone-Fye, Director of the Miami-Dade County Black Affairs Advisory Board (BAAB), commended Mr. Dixon and Ms. Pollock on working together to develop the Black World Guide booklet. She thanked the Trust members for their support and asked that they engage in helping to update the upcoming publication in September.

Ms. Boone-Fye said she discussed with Mr. John Dixon regarding a collaborative effort between MDEAT and BAAB since it had a new Economic Development Chair, Mr. Jihad Rashid, who would be asked to attend meetings because of the common cause.

APPROVAL OF PREVIOUS MEETING MINUTES

Chairman Douthit noted that the Trust would come back to approving the minutes to allow some of the existing Trust members to arrive to approve them.

Later in the meeting, it was moved by Reverend Walter Richardson that the November 20, 2013, MDEAT minutes be approved. This motion was seconded by Mr. Carl Nicoleau, and upon being put to a vote, the motion passed by a vote of 12-0; (Mr. Ron Butler, Ms. Barbara Montero, and Ms. Leigh Toney were absent).

Reverend Richardson noted for clarification that the Clerk's Summary of MDEAT minutes were substitute for the recordings that were conducted during the actual MDEAT meetings.

INTRODUCTION OF NEW MDEAT BOARD MEMBERS

Responding to Chair Douthit's request, the following new Trust members introduced themselves:

- Mr. Sheldon Edwards, Manager, Minority and Small Business Enterprise/Miami Dade College
- Mr. Carl Nicoleau, Assistant Superintendent, Miami-Dade County Public Schools
- Ms. Cheryl Mizell, Director of Public Affairs, 99 JAMZ Radio Station
- Ms. LaTonda James, Manager, Community Building Neighborhood Housing Services
- Mr. Cornell Crews, Director, Fund Development and Community Relations/Self-Employment Incorporated

Discussion ensued among the Trust members and MDEAT staff and during this time they also introduced themselves and welcomed the new members.

It was moved by Reverend Richardson that today's (4/16) MDEAT agenda be set as presented. This motion was seconded by Ms. Treska Rodgers, and was opened for discussion.

Mr. John Dixon request to address information Agenda Item II (E) Youth Entrepreneurship Program: Partnership Agreements under the section Board Action Items as Agenda Item I (D).

Hearing no further questions or comments, the Trust proceeded to vote to set the agenda by those members present.

I. BOARD ACTION ITEMS

A. Bylaws Committee: Adoption of MDEAT Bylaws

Mr. John Dixon noted that although the information was included in the MDEAT Agenda package, there was an updated handout provided to replace that information. He noted that for the past three months members of the Bylaws Committee, and the County Attorney's Office met to review how MDEAT operated.

Mr. Dixon highlighted certain sections, referring to the section regarding Action Committees on bottom of page six of the handout (5.3) that listed the action of the committees and identifies the number of members, which was not indicated in the past. He read the changed information providing the required number of members for the following committees:

- Economic Development Action Committee - 9 members; and Subcommittee 5 members
- Housing Action Committee - 5 members; and 3 Subcommittees

Mr. Dixon noted that in addition to original package not addressing the Action Committees, he referred to page 8 of the supplement handout that indicated there were nine members, rather than 15.

Chairman Douthit provided an overview on the background of the Bylaws, noting the existing bylaws were obsolete due to the reference of operations that were under MMAP (MDEAT's former name), and was missing items that were currently covered by MDEAT. Therefore, he noted that he met with Trust members Ron Butler, Stephanye Johnson, Treska Rodgers, and Ms. Traci Pollock for a period of four months with the assistance of the County Attorney's Office to redraft the bylaws to a current status of operation and structure of committees. Chairman Douthit said that following this update, the committees would be reformulated and he would reappoint Trust members, as well as committee chairs in moving forward. He thanked the other members of the Bylaws Committee for their help.

It was moved by Ms. Treska Rodgers to approve the Memorandum of Approval (MOA) to adopt the new MDEAT Bylaw. This motion was seconded by Reverend Richardson, and upon being put to a vote, the motion passed 11-0. (Mr. Ron Butler, Ms. Barbara Montero, Mr. George Ray III, and Ms. Leigh Toney were absent).

B. Greater Miami Service Corp Funding Allocation

Mr. John Dixon noted that the foregoing item should have been pulled during the setting of today's (4/16) agenda and he requested that this item be removed.

Chairman Douthit stated that the foregoing item would be deferred.

C. Economic Development Action Committee: Request For Application

Mr. John Dixon explained the purpose of the foregoing item was to request approval of an expenditure amount not to exceed \$65,000 from the Fiscal Year (FY) 2013-14 Economic Development Action Committee (EDAC) Budget for a Request For Application (RFA) as a countywide request for local entities to make a proposal to work in partnership with MDEAT within the Targeted Urban Area concerning small businesses and economic development initiatives.

Mr. Dixon noted this request would replace the item approved by the Trust in March, 2014 regarding the four entities that were either contracted, or partnering with. He explained why there was a need to replace that item, which was advised by the County Attorney's Office, in terms of partnership with those entities. He stated that due to fact that other potential entities within this County could do this job, there was a need for an RFP process, in addition to following the overall County process.

In response to Chairman Douthit's inquiry regarding resolving any issues related to sole sourcing, Assistant County Attorney Terrence Smith advised yes, because there was an ordinance that governed the operation of the Trust, which was required and adopted by the County Commission that the Trust was to comply with the County procurement requirements, such as a competitive process. He further advised that in terms of whether there was a limit before the requirement of a competitive bid, it depended on demonstrating there was a limited source in obtaining those particular services; however, these services were clearly doable by other entities. Assistant County Attorney Smith noted that pursuant to government and state statute, the goal was to always perform a competitive bid of public contracts to allow everyone an opportunity to bid and to have the option of choosing the lowest and best bidder. He also advised that sole sourcing should only be an option in an emergency situation. He pointed out that the large amount of this contract would be appropriate to go through the competitive process and not through an unsolicited proposal presented to the County Commission requesting funding, which should be avoided.

Mr. Dixon pointed out that there may be multiple community based organizations involved and the expenditure totaling \$65,000 would not go to one entity. He explained the process of staff receiving the applications that would be reviewed and awarded by another group.

Discussion ensued among the Trust members regarding the use of the expenditure totaling \$65,000, which was the aggregated amount of the contract to be awarded to the selected firms.

In response to Mr. George Ray III question regarding requirements or deliverables stated on the application for those firms, Mr. Dixon noted this information was currently being developed through the EDAC members and MDEAT staff.

Chairman Douthit pointed out that the final approval of the awarding decision would come back to this Trust and to review the contract agreement.

Mr. Dixon reminded the Trust members that this request was already approved by this Trust through the EDAC budget and this request was to move forward to identify the recipients and partners for this project.

It was moved by Ms. Treska Rodgers to approve the Memorandum of Approval requesting an expenditure amount not to exceed a total of \$65,000 from the Fiscal Year (FY) 2013-14 Economic Development Action Committee (EDAC) Budget for a Request For Application (RFA) countywide for local entities to assist small businesses to access capital, technology, data information, and etcetera to start-up or help existing businesses in Miami-Dade County's Targeted Urban Areas (TUAs). This motion was seconded by Reverend Walter Richardson, and upon being put to a vote, the motion passed by a vote of 12-0. (Mr. Ron Butler, Ms. Barbara Montero, and Ms. Leigh Toney were absent).

D. Youth Entrepreneurship Program: Partnership Agreements

Mr. John Dixon explained that the foregoing item was part of the Teen Court Program that was headed by Mr. Zachary Rinkins. He noted that due to interest in technology by the majority of youth, the intent was to help them establish a type of small business wherein they could meet with small businesses and promote the use of technology, particularly Facebook to market their businesses. Mr. Dixon also noted this contract with the City of North Miami Parks and Recreation to use their facility to hold meetings with staff and youth, therefore an agreement had to be signed and approved by this Board. He said this had no economic impact.

It was moved by Mr. Carlos Morales to approve the Memorandum of Approval. This motion was seconded by Reverend Walter Richardson, and opened for discussion.

Discussion ensued among the Trust members regarding that there was no cost, but this Board would have to approve for MDEAT to contract with the City of North Miami to use their facility.

Assistant County Attorney Terrence Smith noted he was not certain if there was no issue with this contract; however, he had provided a memorandum of understanding (MOU) for the City because his concern was that this contract did not include an indemnification provision in the event a problem occurred and there was a legal issue. He said he was uncertain whether he had released this specific contract because generally he would prepare an indemnification provision for contracts related outside of this County for the purpose to protect the County and the Trust if there was a legal issue and to be held harmless.

Assistant County Attorney Smith stated that this language did not appear to be in this agreement and he asked that the Trust members reframe from voting on the contract involving the City of Miami. He advised the Trust members that the contracts involving Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (PROS) could move forward because that would be within this County and there was no need for an indemnification provision.

Assistant County Attorney Smith explained that in pursuant to Florida statutory limits under Section 768.67 28.68 Code, in terms of limitations on liabilities, by contract, a waiver was not permitted regarding the limited sovereign immunity nor could this be done for the City, so he wanted to ensure this contract was appropriate. He advised the Trust to bifurcate the motion with an amendment to approve the interdepartmental agreement between the Trust and PROS,

and to table the motion to approve the contract with the City of Miami, which he would come back to advise on how to move forward.

Mr. Carlos Morales noted he would amend his motion to only approve the interdepartmental agreement between the County departments.

Discussion ensued among the Trust members regarding the length of the contract, which would be for a period of a year, in addition to the provision in transporting the youth that would be indicated in the terms of the contract.

It was moved by Mr. Morales to approve a Memorandum of Approval (MOA) as amended to approve the interdepartmental agreement between the Trust and the Miami-Dade County Park and Recreation Open Spaces Department; and to table the other agreement pertaining to the City of North Miami for the Youth Entrepreneurship Program: Partnership Agreements until a legal opinion was received from the County Attorney's Office. This motion was seconded by Reverend Walter Richardson, and upon being put to a vote, the motion passed by a vote of 12-0. (Mr. Ron Butler, Ms. Barbara Montero, and Ms. Leigh Toney were absent).

Later in the meeting, Assistant County Attorney Smith advised that he did discuss the issue regarding the indemnification provisions before he released the foregoing item. He pointed out that the contract had already been signed, so the motion should be to retroactively approve the actions of the MDEAT Director in signing the contract with the City of North Miami Parks and Recreation Department; however, there was no money involved.

It was moved by Mr. Charles Sims to approve retroactively the actions of Mr. John Dixon, MDEAT Executive Director in signing the contract agreement between MDEAT and the City of North Miami Parks and Recreation to use their facility for the Youth Entrepreneurship Program. This motion was seconded by Ms. Treska Rodgers, and upon being put to a vote, the motion passed by a vote 12-0 (Mr. Ron Butler, Ms. Barbara Montero, and Ms. Leigh Toney were absent).

II. INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Bylaws Committee: New Action Committee Member Application

Mr. John Dixon referred to page 27 in the MDEAT Agenda package, and noted there was a new Bylaws Committee Member Application, which was part of the updated work performed by organization. He noted during the Bylaws Committee meeting, a discussion was held regarding the Action Committee desire to gather people of like interest to discuss the issues MDEAT addresses and would work in those areas of interest, such as the Youth Action Committee that would impact youth. Mr. Dixon stated that the foregoing item provided a process wherein an application would be submitted to join those various committees, rather than just being asked to join by the Chairperson. He said this process was more for non-Board members because the Board members were asked to join those committees.

Chairman Douthit stated that a logical timeframe to appoint members of these action committees would be according to the fiscal year, which was October 1, 2014; however, that would not be helpful during these next five months. He noted this would have to be a public notification, and time consuming, so the process should begin now, in terms of notifying people to join, and if needed the first term in office could be extended, based on the annual starting date of October 1, 2014.

Discussion ensued among the Trust members regarding the process of appointing new members to the MDEAT committees, which did not need a nominating council and the length of time it would take, which would likely prolong to the County's fiscal year of October, 2014. Further discussion ensued regarding vetting and directing people who express an interest to apply by the deadline that would be publicly noticed the process in joining a committee.

Following a discussion regarding the qualification requirements of the applicants, which indicated they must be a permanent resident of Miami-Dade County and a registered voter, Ms. Traci Pollock noted this document was provided by Assistant County Attorney Smith.

Assistant County Attorney Smith advised that these requirements were included in County Ordinance for Section 2-11.30A of the Miami-Dade County (Code), in order to be a qualified elector. He further advised that in order to be a qualified elector, the applicant must be a United States citizen.

Discussion ensued among the Trust members regarding the limitations of qualified applicants because several people who were not citizens, but active in the industry would not qualify.

Responding to Ms. Treska Rodger's question as to whether the same rules apply to committee members as Trust members, Assistant County Attorney Smith advised there was no distinction in the general County Ordinance related to Boards and committees or subcommittees. He also advised that this Ordinance authorized the Board to create bylaws, but did not exempt any committee member from county requirements, in terms of a permanent residence, a qualified elector, financial disclosure, or any state and local requirements; unless the Board of County Commission waives this rule by a two third vote. He explained the structure of this Board was similar to the HIV Board, which was made up of both non-Trust members and everyone had to comply with the same requirements.

Mr. John Dixon agreed with the comments made by Chairman Douthit regarding the foregoing item was related to the creation of this single application for the entire list of MDEAT committees.

B. Bylaws Committee: Financial Disclosure for Committee Members

Mr. John Dixon referred to page 34 in the MDEAT Agenda Package and noted there was a handout of the financial disclosure document.

Assistant County Attorney Terrence Smith advised that this form should be filled out by each Trust member annually, with an exception of the new Trust members for this year only because the report would reflect last year. He further explained that if any Trust member served on a County Board last year the form should be submitted by July 1, 2014, but for first-timers it was not required.

Discussion ensued among the Trust members regarding discussions on whether the filing of financial disclosure form with one entity could suffice for the County requirements and the requirements if the person resided in another county.

Assistant County Attorney Smith advised that based on the requirements of County Commission on Ethics and Public Trust (COE) the person filing with the appropriate entity, it would be beneficial to file this document again if the person served on a County Board last year.

Mr. Dixon noted that in pursuant to the opinion received from the County Commission on Ethics that the requirement to comply by filing financial disclosure applied to persons serving on the Action Committees who were not Board members as well. He noted those Action Committee members who were identified would receive this form as well.

C. Bylaws Committee: Commission on Ethic/Conflict of Interest

Ms. Traci Pollock noted that the Bylaws Committee members met during the months of February through April, which yielded many questions, such as the action committee process. She stated a question of concern was related to individuals who were providers and had a conflict of interest and the opinion from the COE was received that included a voting and conflict of interest procedure. Ms. Pollock noted the recommendation was that all Trust members review the voting and conflict procedures that was issued by the Miami-Dade County Commission on ethics and public trust. She said these sections would be reviewed in detail during the new Trust members' orientation next week and any questions would be welcomed.

Assistant County Attorney Terrence Smith advised that another opinion from the COE should be included in the package and reviewed, which was directed to Trust member Leigh Toney because it could impact other members, specifically those who work at Miami Dade College.

Ms. Traci Pollock said it would be included as an information item in the May, 2014 MDEAT Agenda package.

Assistant County Attorney Smith suggested that the new Trust members receive a copy this information during the MDEAT new members' orientation.

Discussion ensued among the Trust members regarding the need for clarification on actions taken when a Trust member had a conflict of interest.

Assistant County Attorney Smith advised that based on the entity represented by the Trust member wherein there was financial interest and the option taken by the Board, he noted under the conflict of interest code that Trust member could not do business with the County or sit on the Board and vote on that item, such as a contract. He advised that the Trust member would need to recuse him/herself. Assistant County Attorney Smith noted that although the opinion directed to Ms. Toney was on a specific issue, it was later modified with detailed required actions.

D. Bylaws Committee: Board Member Term Limits Chart

Mr. John Dixon referred to page 41, and highlighted the grids reflecting term limits by Trust names based on appointment dates by the Board of County Commissioners. He pointed out that term of eight Trust members would expire during the months of May through July, 2015.

Chairman Douthit noted a caution to the new Trust members was to start strong because of the increasing need as some existing member's terms end.

Assistant County Attorney Terrence Smith explained for clarification the breakdown of terms within this chart that reflected in the first category the persons who have served a maximum of six years within a three year cycle, which meant they could not serve on the Trust for another two years. He also explained the next category displayed the expiration date of July 2015 that indicated a three-year term limit with the possibility of becoming reappointed for another three-year term at the Board of County Commission's (BCC) discretion. Assistant County Attorney Smith further explained that the same terms applied for the category that displayed 2014 Trust

members that only reflected the three-year term, and a maximum of a six-year term that was calculated.

In response to Reverend Richardson's question regarding whether the BCC would allow some of the older Trust members to serve an additional term, for the purpose of institutional knowledge, Assistant County Attorney Smith stated that it was at the discretion of the BCC whether to waive term limits. However, he noted that based on comments made by some of the commissioners, who were not inclined to extend term limits, the reason was to make a fresh start with new members, but he was not certain whether that was the opinion of the majority.

Assistant County Attorney Smith advised that if it was the intent of this Trust to have two more persons serving on the Board, an item could be prepared to be presented to the BCC for approval.

III. ADVOCACY ITEMS – COMMITTEE UPDATES

A. MDEAT Meeting Calendar 2014

Mr. John Dixon noted there was a calendar of meeting dates for MDEAT to provide the Trust members an opportunity to prepare their personal calendars regarding Action Committee and Board meeting dates, etc. He noted there would be a review of the calendar during orientation with the new Trust members. Mr. Smith noted the MDEAT Trust scheduled meetings were held the third Wednesday of each month.

IV. CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT

A. Personnel Committee Update

Chairman Douthit provided an update on the Personnel Committee, noting that he had contacted the Deputy Mayor Russell Benford to schedule a meeting to review the evaluation of MDEAT's Executive Director and make those recommendations regarding his salary increase that this Trust approved in the previous MDEAT Trust meeting. He noted that although there have been issues regarding County salary increases, it did not negate the fact that this request was overdue and well deserved, which he would point out to Mr. Benford upon meeting with him.

In response to Ms. Treska Rodger's inquiry regarding whether the Trust would have the opportunity to look at the job description of the executive director, Chairman Douthit said yes, that could be arranged.

Chairman Douthit mentioned that the Trust Planning Retreat, as discussed, would be scheduled to be held May 30, 2014 through May 31, 2014. He explained that the Friday evening session would include dinner and more information would be provided by the Executive Director regarding the Saturday session.

Chairman Douthit commended MDEAT staff for the advertisement published in the Legacy Magazine.

Discussion ensued among the Trust members regarding the location of the MDEAT Planning Retreat and the process of looking at public places, which would likely be held at Miami Dade College located at the Carrie P. Meek Entrepreneurial Education Center.

V. Executive Director's Report

A. Black Male Youth Mental Health Conference Update

Mr. John Dixon provided an update of the foregoing item and noted how MDEAT had the opportunity to have Mr. Ischaji Robertson, a psychological service professional on the Teen Court staff and president of The Association of Black Psychologist (ABPs) for Miami-Dade County. He noted Mr. Robertson's role was to meet with these families to discuss serious issues beyond the delinquent behavior of their youth. He noted the attempt was to mirror the nationwide initiative "My Brother's Keeper", that was conducted by representatives of the White House regarding Hispanic and Black male youth and host this conference in Miami-Dade County. Mr. Dixon referred to the flyer that was distributed with the information and noted there would be a community forums this year on May 13th at the North Dade Regional Library, and May 15th at the South Dade Regional Library at 6:00 p.m. He also provided information Black Male Youth Mental Health Conference (BMYMHC) that would be held on April 18, 2014, and those mental health professional presenters who would be in attendance along with representatives of Florida Memorial University (FMU). Mr. Dixon noted he believed FMU should be more prominent in the community and he was pleased with this collaborative effort in this initiative.

Mr. Dixon noted the discussion topics would be on social, economic, and emotional issues that impact young Black males and 120 attendees have enrolled. He said that Commissioner Edmonson has partnered with MDEAT for this event and the end result was to capture the information provided and forward it to MDEAT's policy makers. Mr. Dixon noted the marketing efforts made by inviting representatives of the initiative "My Brother's Keeper" in addition to meeting with representatives of the initiative "Be Me," with the intent to stimulate some type of discussion and rally regarding these issues and develop plans to take action.

Discussion ensued among the Trust members regarding the broadcast that aired on WEDR-99 JAMZ radio station, pertaining to the foregoing event and those students who attend would receive continuing education credits (CEU) and the progress in working on the forum events. Further discussion ensued regarding contacting persons who would attend the community forums.

Mr. Dixon thanked Mr. George Ray III for coming out to speak to the youth in the Teen Court Program regarding activities at Miami Dade College and showing his concerns.

Ms. Cheryl Mizell commended the representation of youth from the Teen Court Program who visited WEDR-99 JAMZ radio station.

B. Introduction of Strategic Planning Facilitator (Gail Birks, CMA Enterprise Inc.)

Mr. John Dixon provided information regarding Ms. Gail Birks, and noted that she was chosen to facilitate the MDEAT Trust Planning Session on May 30th -31st. He commented on his meeting with Ms. Birks and the information provided to her, such as the Score Card, MDEAT's Business Plan, and the County's plan, including MDEAT's role in it; in addition to a copy of the planning session results from last year and past sessions. Mr. Dixon stated Ms. Birks was well versed on MDEAT and its mission; however, based on his conversation, Ms. Birks' concern was on how MDEAT moved forward pertaining to its mission, in terms of economic development.

Mr. Dixon noted there would be a scheduled meeting between Chairman Douthit and Ms. Birks as well as individual meetings with each Action Committee and staff, most likely held at the Stephen P. Clark Center or a location that would be convenient.

Mr. Dixon reiterated the activity for the Friday evening planning session, which would be a meet and greet session, along with some type of meal. He advised the new Trust members that pursuant to the County Ordinance, MDEAT was could not purchase food items, which would be reviewed during the orientation.

Chairman Douthit noted that the MDEAT departmental monthly reports were included in the MDEAT Agenda Package; however, the Executive Director's written report was excluded.

Mr. Dixon noted the Housing Action Committee would be hosting a breakfast, which has been held along with the Economic Business Breakfast Series. He referred to the flyer and noted this would be under the Homeownership Assistance Program.

Mr. Dixon noted the new Trust members were contacted by MDEAT staff regarding the New Trust Member Orientation to discuss numerous procedures and Chairman Douthit would be in attendance as well.

Chairman Douthit noted during this orientation there would be instructions regarding the required class with the Commission on Ethics and Public's Trust to comply with the County Ordinance.

In response to Ms. Treska Rodgers request to hear a fiscal report, specifically a financial report from each Action Committee for the next MDEAT meeting, Chairman Douthit noted this could be conducted on a quarterly basis. He noted his review was to determine that they were within the approved budget by the Trust and that the expenditure was consistent with that approval.

Reverend Richardson suggested that the Trust should schedule a photo shoot as Board members during the planning retreat.

Chairman Douthit noted breakfast would be provided at the planning retreat, such as cupcakes.

Assistant County Attorney Terrence Smith noted that he was advised by Mr. Dixon that some of the new Trust members had not been sworn in by the Clerk's Office.

Mr. Dixon noted that he met with the representative from the Clerk's Office and was informed there was a form that should be filled out.

Discussion ensued among the Trust members regarding the need for the new Trust members to complete the forms and be sworn in before the next scheduled MDEAT meeting.

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Trust, the meeting adjourned at 5:01 p.m.

Chairman Marc Douthit Esq.
Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust

MEETING MINUTES

NOVEMBER 19, 2014

**CLERK'S SUMMARY AND OFFICIAL MINUTES
MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST
BOARD MEETING OF NOVEMBER 19, 2014**

The Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) convened its meeting in the 2nd Floor Conference Room of the Stephen P. Clark building, 111 Northwest 1st Street, on November 19, 2014, at 3:30 p.m., there being present: 1st Vice Chair Ron Butler, Cornell Crews Jr., Stephanye Johnson and Carlos Morales (Barbara Montero was late; Chairman Marc Douthit, Sheldon Edwards, LaTonda James, Cheryl Mizell, George Ray III, Reverend Walter T. Richardson, Charles F. Sims, and H. Leigh Toney were absent).

The following staff members were present: Executive Director John Dixon, Jose Gonzalez, Susana Cortazar and Traci Pollock; and Deputy Clerk Zorana Gainer.

1st Vice-Chair Ron Butler presided over today's (7/16) meeting in the absence of Chairman Marc Douthit. Mr. Butler called the meeting to order at 3:47 p.m. He noted due to the lack of a quorum he would hear presentations first.

Mr. Butler introduced Ms. Susana Cortazar, the new Marketing Administrator for MDEAT. Board members welcomed Ms. Cortazar.

Ms. Cortazar disseminated articles that were related to MDEAT's programs and small businesses.

Ms. Pollock pointed out one of the articles that discussed the state of small businesses and listed different categories such as Generation X, and Baby Boomers in relation to how the economy would fare in the future; the article stated that the younger generation had a more positive optimistic view of the economy than people in the Baby Boomer age category. She noted the article further stated that because the younger generation had a heightened sense of security regarding their job options, many would give more incentives to their employers, expand their operations, as well as meet their financial goals. Ms. Pollock suggested that staff explore replicating the study that this article was based on and relating it to small businesses in Miami-Dade County; she noted this type of study and information would aid MDEAT in planning for future years. Ms. Pollock said there was also an article concerning foreclosure in Miami-Dade County and how foreclosures were increasing which ranked Miami number one, with the most foreclosures. Ms. Cortazar had also found an article in the Miami Herald relating to juvenile justice; Ms. Pollock noted the article related Florida ranking the worst at juvenile crimes not being sealed. When a juvenile committed a crime, this information was not sealed and was accessible to employers and other various entities. Ms. Pollock noted that she forwarded this article to the Chairwoman of the Youth Action Committee (YAC) Ms. LaTonda James, as this was a great advocacy opportunity.

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

QUERY FOR EARLY DEPARTURES

PUBLIC COMMENTS

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

I. Board Action Items

A. EDAC: 2014-2015 Economic Development Budget

II. Information Items

A. YAC Recruitment Campaign

Ms. Traci Pollock gave an update regarding the Youth Action Committee (YAC) recruitment campaign. She noted the MDEAT Board had approved a recommendation from the Bylaws Committee to increase the membership of the YAC from nine to eleven; currently YAC had six committee members and five vacancies. To fill these vacancies, staff conducted a recruitment campaign to solicit applications from interested Miami-Dade County residents. The campaign will be held from November 17th to December 8th, 2014. Ms. Pollock noted this campaign did not have any financial impact; staff would use e-mail, the agency website, word of mouth and social media to advertise.

Ms. Pollock noted that she had received a resignation letter from Trust Member Carl Nicoleau. She read the letter into the record and noted that his resignation was due to the residency requirement as he resided in Broward County.

III. Advocacy Items – Committee Updates

IV. Chairperson's Report

A. Budget Committee

Mr. Jose Gonzalez gave an update regarding the Budget Committee. He noted the Budget Committee was researching ways to gain additional resources and funds for the Trust/Foundation. Mr. Gonzalez stated that the Chairperson of the Budget Committee wanted to discuss ideas on how to orient the committee towards having revenue generating activities and becoming a fund raising committee.

B. Sunshine Review

Mr. Cornell Crews apprised Trust members that a committee member had sent an email to everyone with content that violated Sunshine Laws. Mr. Crews noted that it was extremely important that everyone complied with Sunshine Laws and stated that everyone needed to periodically review the Sunshine Laws.

Mr. Butler noted that Trust and committee members had two opportunities to complete the Sunshine Review process, December 11th, 2014 or December 18th, 2014.

Ms. Pollock noted the following mandatory Trust/Committee membership requirements:

- Complete orientation
- Ethics Training
- Sunshine Review

V. Executive Director's Report

VI. Departmental Monthly Reports

A. Fiscal

B. Housing

Ms. Stephanye Johnson noted that the Housing Committee was restructuring and planning for participation in the Give Miami Day.

C. Teen Court/Youth Services

D. Marketing and Public Information

Ms. Traci Pollock noted that staff had planned for the graphic designer to do a presentation of the new branding of MDEAT. She pointed out that the logo had been changed and renamed to an "identifier" because it incorporated Miami-Dade County's logo. She noted previous reports showed revision of the the Homeownership Assistance Program (HAP) and the Teen Court identifiers as well. Ms. Pollock said one challenge was the programs had begun to take on an independent identity and in an effort to ensure the incorporation of Miami-Dade County, the HAP and MDEAT. Ms. Pollock noted staff had also been working to connect all three areas, Economic Development, Housing and Juvenile Justice. She noted that in Power Point Presentations and other material will have the gears logo on them which represented the three gears of progress. She noted the MDEAT brochures and posters had been redesigned; in an effort to show a heightened level of presence and marketing staff were having placards designed to display in businesses funded by MDEAT as well as signage with the MDEAT logo to display at events. She noted staff wanted to create a first time homebuyers informational guide booklet; the expertise of the action committee was needed to create a document that will supplement existing documents and recreating their orientation manual. She noted promotional items to increase partnerships with the mortgage industry were being created as well. Ms. Pollock noted that as a governmental entity staff was not allowed to spend money to supply food during orientation sessions; in an effort to allow outside entities to supply food during sessions, they could donate \$300 to purchase the food for the day long certification sessions. Ms. Pollock explained that Teen Courts materials will be redesigned too and focusing marketing efforts on the types of marketing collateral needed in order for Teen Court to reach its marketing campaign goals.

Upon Vice Chairman Butler's request, Mr., Crews gave a brief update regarding the Economic Development Action Committee's (EDAC) Budget. Mr. Crews noted that committee members looked at the general fund and the budget for this year and noted that they would allocate funds to go towards economic development activities and the Annual MLK exposition. In an attempt to develop partnerships with other agencies that provided economic development programs, he noted the committee wanted to do a Request for Applications (RFA) this year and targeting the urban areas in phases. He noted the committee wanted to give the Targeted Urban Areas a voice and allow them to suggest what they thought MDEAT should do and express their specific needs in their area. Mr. Crews pointed out that this would enable MDEAT to clearly notate what they did in each area, as well as generate interest from other areas.

Ms. Pollock noted that if committee members had identifiable objectives and how they were able to meet those objectives it would be easier for staff to use that information to develop the annual reports. She stated that providing information regarding what was achieved rather than what was planned or what occurred was more useful when developing the annual report.

VII. Next Meeting

December 17, 2014, 3:30 P.M. at the Stephen P. Clark Center, 111 Northwest 1st Street, Miami, FL 33128

Adjournment

Hearing no further business to come before the Trust, the meeting was adjourned at 4:41 p.m.

1st Vice Chair Ron Butler
Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust

MEETING MINUTES

DECEMBER 17, 2014

**CLERK'S SUMMARY AND OFFICIAL MINUTES
MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST
BOARD MEETING OF DECEMBER 17, 2014**

The Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) convened its meeting in the 2nd Floor Conference Room of the Stephen P. Clark building, 111 Northwest 1st Street, on December 17th, 2014, at 3:30 p.m.,

there being present: 1st Vice Chair Ron Butler, Cornell Crews Jr., LaTonda James, Stephanye Johnson, Barbara Montero, Carlos Morales and H. Leigh Toney (Chairman Marc Douthit was late; Sheldon Edwards, Cheryl Mizell, George Ray III, Reverend Walter T. Richardson and Charles F. Sims were absent).

The following staff members were present: Executive Director John Dixon, Jose Gonzalez, Dr. Ischaji Robertson, Traci Pollock and William Simmons; Assistant County Attorney Terrence Smith and Deputy Clerk Zorana Gainer.

1st Vice-Chair Ron Butler presided over today's (7/16) meeting in the absence of Chairman Marc Douthit. Mr. Butler called the meeting to order at 3:47 p.m. He noted due to the lack of a quorum he would hear presentations first.

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

QUERY FOR EARLY DEPARTURE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Vice Chair Butler opened the floor for public comments on any of today's agenda items. Seeing no one come forward the floor was closed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- January 15th, 2014
- July 16th, 2014

It was moved by Stephanye Johnson to approve the meeting minutes of January 15, 2014 and the July 16, 2014. This motion was seconded by Cornell Crews and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 7-0 (Chairman Marc Douthit, Sheldon Edwards, Cheryl Mizell, George Ray III, Reverend Walter T. Richardson and Charles F. Sims were absent).

Ms. Barbara Montero noted that she had discovered an error within the July 16, 2014 minutes, and requested that her attendance be reflected correctly.

It was moved by Cornell Crews to reconsider the approval of the meeting minutes for January 15, 2014 and July 16th, 2014. This motion was seconded by H. Leigh Toney and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 7-0 (Chairman Marc Douthit, Sheldon Edwards, Cheryl Mizell, George Ray III, Reverend Walter T. Richardson and Charles F. Sims were absent).

It was moved by H. Leigh Toney to approve the amendments to the July 16th, 2014 minutes as noted by Trust member Barbara Montero. This motion was seconded by LaTonda James and upon being put to a vote 7-0 (Chairman Marc Douthit, Sheldon Edwards, Cheryl Mizell, George Ray III, Reverend Walter T. Richardson and Charles F. Sims were absent).

I. Board Action Items

A. EDAC: 2014-2015 Economic Development Budget

Mr. Dixon noted the purpose of the item was to request approval of the 2014-2015 Economic Development Budget in the amount of \$141,000, which had been approved by the Economic Development Action Committee (EDAC) on November 4, 2014. He noted this budget was to fund activities and programs associated with the EDAC.

Mr. Cornell Crews noted that the MLK Expo would be an expenditure of \$10,000 he asked Trust members to review page 23 in the agenda package. Mr. Crews urged Trust members to approve this budget and EDAC members would work on how the funds would be distributed and return to the Board with an itemized list.

It was moved by Carlos Morales to approve the 2014-2015 EDAC budget not to exceed the amount of \$141,000. This motion was seconded by Stephanye Johnson and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 7-0 (Chairman Marc Douthit, Sheldon Edwards, Cheryl Mizell, George Ray III, Reverend Walter T. Richardson and Charles F. Sims were absent).

B. MOU: Approval of Department of Juvenile Justice Agreement

Assistant County Attorney (ACA) Terrence Smith apprised Trust members that upon reviewing the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that was included in the agenda package, it was not the MOU that he had reviewed, modified and approved. He advised the Board to defer this agenda item unless the correct MOU document could be located and disseminated prior to adjourning today's meeting. ACA Smith further noted that he was unaware if the Department of Juvenile Justice staff had agreed with the modified MOU, which added an indemnification provision as well as a number of whereas clauses.

Vice Chair Butler suggested that the foregoing proposed agreement be deferred to the next MDEAT meeting.

It was moved by Stephanye Johnson to defer the foregoing proposed MOU agreement to the next MDEAT meeting. This motion was seconded by LaTonda James and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 8-0 (Sheldon Edwards, Cheryl Mizell, George Ray III, Reverend Walter T. Richardson and Charles F. Sims were absent).

Staff member William Simmons disseminated a correct copy of the MOU; Following further discussion and clarification regarding the correct MOU, Assistant County Attorney Smith suggested a motion be made that the trust accept the MOU in its current written form, and authorize the signing and approval of the MOU subject to minor changes and if there are any substantial changes it would come back to before the Board.

It was moved by Chairman Douthit to accept the MOU in its current written form and to authorize the signing and approval of the MOU subject to minor changes and if any substantial

changes occur, it would come back to the Board. This motion was seconded by LaTonda James and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 8-0 (Sheldon Edwards, Cheryl Mizell, George Ray III, Reverend Walter T. Richardson and Charles F. Sims were absent).

II. Information Item

A. Florida Association of Teen Court Annual Conference

Mr. Dixon gave an overview of the Florida Association of Teen Court Annual Conference event. He noted the event was held on November 19th and 20th, 2014 in Orlando Florida. He noted the following highlight(s) of the event:

- Development of strategies to improve Teen Court operations throughout the state by strengthening local partnerships and enhancing local communities through the youth-driven peer-sanctioning model that affords young people an opportunity to make better decisions and ultimately to contribute to their community in a positive manner.

Mr. Dixon pointed out that Miami-Dade County's Teen Court Program was the only one in the state of Florida that had an entrepreneur/job component within the program; this was a much larger county and based on the amount of the population served Teen Court needed to provide a variety of experiences for youth. Mr. Dixon said the Teen Court Budget in other counties were getting smaller which made enrollment lower because there was not enough staff to facilitate the program. He noted that Miami-Dade, Escambia, Duval, Hillsborough and Orange counties all had active and decent enrollment, mostly due to the large population of these counties.

III. Advocacy Items – Committee Updates

IV. Chairperson's Report

A. Budget Committee

Ms. H. Leigh Toney suggested that the Economic Development Action Committee (EDAC) meet with the Executive Director, John Dixon, and the Assistant County Attorney to research avenues for increasing the budget of EDAC and locating a dedicated funding source. She noted that the committee wanted to demonstrate a track record regarding the committee's activities and the endeavors the committee wished to engage in; she pointed out that she would like to see a track record in order to consider strategies regarding dedicating more funds to the EDAC.

Vice Chair Butler concurred with Ms. Toney's comments.

Chairman Douthit noted the he was in the process of meeting with budget staff to name a new committee which will take on the responsibilities of long term fund raising activities as well as reviewing the budget. He noted that he had been approached by someone in the Child Support court who expressed concern regarding unemployed men coming to court; the person inquired whether MDEAT could develop a partnership program with Child Support or act as a conduit with other hiring agencies to hire some of these unemployed men that were searching for employment. Chairman Douthit noted that he would keep the Trust posted regarding the progress of this request.

Chairman Douthit apprised the Trust that he was informed that Sabadell Bank had a \$2 million loan fund to assist first time homebuyers through the Miami-Dade County Black Advisory Board. He stated that a member of the Board had inquired whether this program could be combined with MDEAT's housing loan program. He pointed out that this would make it much easier for a first time homebuyer to purchase a home.

Ms. Stephanye Johnson elaborated on Chairman Douthit's comments regarding the Sabadell Bank loan fund, noting that upon meeting with Retha Boone, Program Officer, Office of Community Advocacy attended the last Housing committee meeting and explained that this program had an adjustable rate mortgage; MDEAT would need a 10-year fixed rate minimum which would remove any risk.

V. Executive Director's Report

A. Meetings with Elected Officials

Mr. Dixon noted that Chairman Douthit had requested staff to schedule meetings with all of the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) members in an effort to discuss the Trust's initiatives. He pointed out that so far he had met with Chairman Monestime, Commissioners Suarez and Jordan. Mr. Dixon noted that the Commissioners felt Teen Court was phenomenal, had lots of inquiries about Teen Court, and wanted to pursue replicating Teen Court's summer internship program for their respective districts. He said Commissioner Jordan was very supportive of MDEAT's program and their support of her initiative at the Opa-locka Airport. Mr. Dixon noted that Commissioner Jordan expressed appreciation regarding him going before the BCC to talk about what her initiative meant to the community. Commissioner Jordan wanted MDEAT to discuss environmental justice, particularly 3 areas within the Targeted Urban Areas (TUAs) that had pollution that the county needed to take interest in. Mr. Dixon noted that Commissioner Jordan had transferred the deed to six parcels of land to a non-profit organization called Women In Need of Destiny (WIND) and asked MDEAT to provide sidewalks, sprinklers and a person to rate each home, because the constructed homes would be green homes. Mr. Dixon explained that MDEAT could not do any of that, but could buy down the loans.

B. Teen Court Presentation; Psychological Services

Mr. Dixon noted that Teen Court had the benefit of having a Psychological Services person on staff. He introduced Dr. Ischaji Nyerere Robertson, Clinical Psychologist, Teen Court. Dr. Robertson gave a report regarding psychological services for Teen Court; he disseminated a copy of the report to each member. The report gave detailed accounts of the success stories of several children that had received Teen Court's psychological services. Dr. Robertson also gave a brief report regarding the Black Mental Health Youth Conference. He noted he was asked to address a need, to make services available to Black males in the community. He noted two forums were held, one in South Dade and one in North Dade; 187 participants were served at the conference in North Dade which was held at the African Heritage Cultural Arts Center. Dr. Robertson reported that the statistical analysis were outstanding and showed that this was effective and many requested to have more forums and a conference of this nature in their community. He noted that in 2015 forums were planned; however the budget had decreased and he looked at the possibility of utilizing the Historical Lyric Theater for the next forum.

VI. Departmental Monthly Reports

- A. Fiscal**
- B. Housing**
- C. Teen Court/Youth Services**
- D. Marketing and Public Information**

VII. Next Meeting

January 21st, 2014 at 3:30 p.m. in the Stephen P. Clark Center, 111 Northwest 1st Street, Miami, FL 33128

Adjournment

Hearing no further business to come before the Trust, the meeting was adjourned at 4:54 P.M.

Chairman Marc Douthit
Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust

MEETING MINUTES

JANUARY 21, 2015

**CLERK'S SUMMARY AND OFFICIAL MINUTES
MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST
BOARD MEETING OF JANUARY 21, 2015**

The Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) convened its meeting in the 18th Floor Conference Room 18-3 of the Stephen P. Clark building, 111 Northwest 1st Street, on January 21st, 2015, at 3:30 p.m.; there being present: 1st Vice Chair Ron Butler, Cornell Crews Jr., Sheldon Edwards, LaTonda James, Barbara Montero, Carlos Morales and George Ray III (Stephanye Johnson was late; Chairman Marc Douthit, Cheryl Mizell, Reverend Walter T. Richardson, Charles F. Sims and H. Leigh Toney were absent).

The following staff members were present: Executive Director John Dixon, Jose Gonzalez, Traci Pollock, Laverne Carlile-Dean, and Ralph McCloud; and Deputy Clerk Zorana Gainer.

1st Vice-Chair Ron Butler presided over today's (1/21) meeting in the absence of Chairman Marc Douthit. Mr. Butler called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLICTS OF INTEREST

QUERY FOR EARLY DEPARTURE

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Vice Chair Butler opened the floor for public comments on any of today's agenda items. Seeing no one come forward the floor was closed.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Carlos Morales to approved today's (1/21) agenda. This motion was seconded by Cornell Crews and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 7-0 (Chairman Marc Douthit, Cheryl Mizell, Reverend Walter T. Richardson, Charles F. Sims and H. Leigh Toney were absent).

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

- February 19, 2014
- March 19, 2014

Vice Chair Ron Butler noted that March 19, 2014 meeting minutes were added onto today's agenda.

It was moved by Sheldon Edwards to approve the meeting minutes of February 19, 2014 and March 19, 2014. This motion was seconded by LaTonda James and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 7-0 (Chairman Marc Douthit, Cheryl Mizell, Reverend Walter T. Richardson, Charles F. Sims and H. Leigh Toney were absent).

I. Board Action Item

A. HAP Loan Write-Offs for Fiscal Year 2013-2014

(Foreclosed Loans, Forgiven Loans and Short sales)

Mr. Dixon explained that this was a request for the Board to approve the completion of accounting entries with Miami-Dade County Finance Department for the write-off of foreclosed homes with Homeownership Assistance Program (HAP) funding, HAP forgiven loans (10-year matured) and paid out short sales for fiscal year 2013-2014. Applicable HAP loan accounts are listed on accompanying spreadsheets within the agenda package.

It was moved by Carlos Morales to approve the HAP loan write-offs for fiscal year 2013-2014. This motion was seconded by Barbara Montero and upon being put to a vote, passed by a vote of 7-0 (Chairman Marc Douthit, Cheryl Mizell, Reverend Walter T. Richardson, Charles F. Sims and H. Leigh Toney were absent).

II. Information Item

A. MDEAT Annual Meeting Calendar (2015)

Mr. Dixon noted a copy of MDEAT's annual meeting calendar was included in the agenda package. He urged Trust members to review the calendar and keep a copy of it as well.

III. Advocacy Items – Committee Updates

IV. Chairperson's Report

V. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Dixon noted that he had several meetings with people regarding developing Poinciana Park.

Mr. George Ray III noted that he was told that Poinciana Park was contaminated and over the past 20 years developers refused to use the land due to the contamination. He explained that the land needed to be cleaned up prior to any plans of development. Mr. Ray pointed out that Florida Senator Dwight Bullard (District 39) was on the Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee and suggested that perhaps the State of Florida could allocate funding towards cleaning up the Poinciana Park area; he noted that this would make the area more marketable to developers.

Vice Chair Butler clarified that not all of Poinciana Park was contaminated; only certain parts of it had contamination.

Vice Chair Butler apprised Trust members that Economic Development Action Committee (EDAC) member Stephanie Clark had resigned due to a conflict of interest.

Mr. Dixon read the resignation letter from Ms. Clark into the record.

A. MLK Business Expo

Mr. Dixon noted that the 3rd Annual MLK Business Expo was held on January 16, 2015. Approximately 90 to 100 vendors attended the Expo. He also noted Commissioners Moss and Levine Cava spoke at the event; and overall this was a well-attended successful event.

Mr. Sheldon Edwards concurred with Mr. Dixon noting this was a well-attended event and that he would like to see more events like this held in South Dade. Noting the venue this event was

held at was far and difficult to locate, Mr. Edwards suggested searching for a venue that was closer to South Dixie Highway which was more easily accessible to people attending the event.

Ms. Stephanye Johnson noted that although she agreed that the venue was far from the highway, it would present a challenge to find a venue on South Dixie Highway to hold an event of this size.

VI. Departmental Monthly Reports

A. Fiscal

B. Housing

C. Teen Court/Youth Services – Division Presentation

Ms. Laverne Carlile, Teen Court Administrator, gave a presentation regarding Teen Court's performance and activities for the month of December. Ms. Carlile noted a copy of the presentation was included in today's (1/21) agenda package. Ms. Carlile provided an overview of the following items:

- Teen Court's Mission
- Program Activities
- Psychological Services
- Program Performance
- Offender Information

Following the presentation, Mr. Dixon noted that Teen Court was largely law driven; however Trust member George Ray III attended the Youth Entrepreneurship Workshop event to discuss Entrepreneurship with attendees. Mr. Dixon expressed appreciation to Mr. Ray for attending the event.

D. Marketing and Public Information

VII. Next Meeting:

February 18, 2015, 3:30 p.m. at the Stephen P. Clark Center, 111 Northwest 1st Street, Miami FL 33128

Adjournment

There being no further business to come before the Trust, the meeting was adjourned at 5:23 p.m.

1st Vice Chair Ron Butler
Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust

MEETING MINUTES

FEBRUARY 18, 2015

**CLERK'S SUMMARY AND OFFICIAL MINUTES
MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST
BOARD MEETING OF FEBRUARY 18, 2015**

The Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) convened its meeting in the Office of the Citizen's Independent Transportation Trust's (OCITT) 10th Floor Conference Room of the Stephen P. Clark building, 111 Northwest 1st Street, on February 18, 2015, at 3:30 p.m., there being present: Chairman Marc Douthit, Vice Chairman Ron Butler, Cornell Crews Jr., LaTonda James and Stephanye Johnson (George Ray III and Reverend Walter T. Richardson were late; Sheldon Edwards, Cheryl Mizell, Barbara Montero, Carlos E. Morales, Charles F. Sims and H. Leigh Toney were absent).

The following staff members were present: Executive Director John Dixon, Jose Gonzalez, Traci Pollock, William Simmons, and Eric Johnson; Assistant County Attorney Terrence Smith and Deputy Clerk Zorana Gainer.

Chairman Marc Douthit called the meeting to order at 3:47 p.m. He noted due to the lack of quorum the information item would be heard first.

DISCLOSURE OF CONFLITS OF INTEREST

QUERY FOR EARLY DEPARTURES

PUBLIC COMMENTS

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

➤ October 15, 2014

➤ September 17, 2014

➤ April 16, 2014

I. Board Action Item

- A. Housing Vendor Services RFA and Contract**
- B. MDEAT HAP Green Housing Development Initiative**
- C. MDEAT Interagency Service Agreement with Greater Miami Service Corp**
- D. South Florida Community Development Coalition Contract Amendment**
- E. MDEAT Executive Director's Salary Increase**

II. Information Item

A. HAP Procedures and Participation Updates

Mr. John Dixon noted that an overview of the HAP Procedures and Participation listed on page 53 in the agenda package. Mr. Eric Johnson was present to provide the update. He noted that although the participation rate was low, the current program participation lists had become unmanageable. More than 200 Mortgage Loan Originators (MLOs) qualify as an eligible for the Homeownership Assistance Program (HAP) even though regular submissions come from approximately one-third of those qualified. Mr. Dixon noted that more than 300 closing agents were approve and eligible, most have only closed a few loans annually. The quality of information given to potential homebuyers by participants has suffered; as a result more calls to housing staff have occurred. Also participants change staff regularly resulting in an increase of incomplete lender file submissions and errors in closing and post-closing document submissions which has become time-consuming and a burden on the housing staff. Mr. Johnson explained that the Housing Advocacy Committee (HAC) in collaboration with housing staff had made programmatic changes. These changes encompassed areas of protocol and sanctions to remedy the issues and raise the quality of service provided by certified HAP participants and streamline the number of participants to a manageable number. This year's recertification series was planned for March 2015; HAP Certification Workshops are also planned for March and/or early April due to the overwhelming demand for program participation, he pointed out that more than 100 people are on the waiting list for certification.

III. Advocacy Items – Committee Updates

IV. Chairperson's Report

V. Executive Director's Report

Mr. Dixon gave an update regarding the Youth Initiative Program (YIP) which was geared towards the Teen Court participants which provided them with work experience. Mr. Dixon explained that Teen Court provided \$25,000 to employ 20 students. Only 19 were placed at 15 different job sites, from construction companies to law firms and other job sites. The students worked between 6 to 8 weeks, several students remained employed beyond the 6 to 8 weeks. Mr. Dixon noted that he expected to provide the same summer job program this year, providing the same amount \$25,000. There was a possibility that additional funding from other sources would be used to expand the program from 20 students to 30. Mr. Dixon pointed out that he had explored another initiative; local developer Palmetto Homes had inquired whether MDEAT was interested in participating in an infill housing project. Mr. Dixon explained that Palmetto Homes had been awarded approximately 6 lots in Districts 1 and 2, District 2 was an immediate priority. Mr. Dixon said he evaluated how MDEAT could buy down the mortgages. He pointed out that he was impressed with how the developer was able to get youth from the area to work with the tradesmen to build the homes; Mr. Dixon said he decided to review how he could provide the same experience to more youth. He noted that he looked at Teen Court and in order for Teen Court students to participate; they would have to receive training and would have to be out of school by 1 pm to assist in building the homes. Mr. Dixon said he looked at the students that attended Job Corps' construction program; he felt they could benefit from on the job experience; he also said he looked at creating a stipend through Teen Court as well and enlisting some of the Job Corps students in Teen Court. Mr. Dixon noted the stipend became a challenge and there was not enough funding in the budget to do both programs. He noted that Ron Frazier and Bill Dozier has a construction training program in Liberty City; they expressed interest in partnering with MDEAT.

A. Deputy Director's Meeting

Chairman Douthit noted that discussion had taken place in a previous Board meeting regarding the issue that the MDEAT Executive Director John Dixon had operated with the same salary since he was the Deputy Director of MDEAT; subsequently he became the Interim Director, then the Director of the Trust and no salary adjustment was made. Mr. Dixon had remained at the same salary level for 7 years. Chairman Douthit said the Personnel Committee had recommended to the Board that an adjustment to the Executive Director's salary be made to reflect the amount that was provided in the budget; the Trust agreed, however upon speaking to the Deputy Mayor, he was informed that a resolution needed to be created to make the salary adjustment. Chairman Douthit pointed out that Mr. Dixon was the lowest paid Executive Director in the entire County.

Mr. George Ray III, commented that he did not agree with adjusting the Executive Director's salary.

Chairman Douthit pointed out that the Trust did agree in Mr. Ray's absence and because a quorum had not been achieved at today's meeting, voting could not take place on the corresponding action item regarding the increasing the Executive Director's salary.

Mr. Ray expressed his concern regarding increasing the Executive Director's salary, noting that he felt the Mayor and the Office of Management and Budget staff shared his concerns that MDEAT programs have been unsuccessful at tracking its impact as it related to the community; therefore they had not increased the Executive Director's salary. Mr. Ray pointed out that there should be an annual report for the past year; none have been produced so far and many critical management issues needed to be addressed with MDEAT, the Board, the selection process and how members are nominated. Mr. Ray noted that he nominated five individuals during the last nomination process, and pointed out that all of his nominees had bachelor's degrees, master's degrees and PHD's from prominent universities; none of his nominees were voted up as potential members. Mr. Ray said the individuals he nominated were all between the ages of 27 – 32 and had possessed expertise in economic development and community relations. He noted that he was unsure as to why the individuals he nominated were not voted up and he expressed concern about individuals that had been voted up as opposed to people that were from the local community that wished to help this community. Mr. Ray further noted that if the Board could not quantify productivity or success they could not request more money. He also expressed concern regarding the lack of developing Key Point Indicators (KPIs) and a metric system to measure the Executive Director's progress and the justification to grant him a raise. Mr. Ray noted that MDEAT was stagnant and the commission had charged board members to look out for the community. He expressed concerns regarding the time it took for the Board to approve minutes. He noted that MDEAT was only at 35% in terms of fulfilling the legislative mandate of this Board and he was not aware that any fund raising had taken place nor was he aware of where the Board currently stood. Mr. Ray said the Board had to do a better job as Board members of governing themselves, developing KPIs and a metric system that will enable the Executive Director to show his progress. He noted he thought the Board did great work; unfortunately it had not been documented appropriately and the Board was not applying for grant funds, fund raising or producing annual reports. He inquired why Board members were in favor of increasing the Executive Director's salary when none of the things he mentioned had been done.

Responding to Mr. Ray's inquiry, Chairman Douthit noted there were a variety of reasons, which would not be discussed at today's meeting; however, he explained that each time Mr. Ray had displayed a lack of understanding the process of nominating new Board members. Chairman Douthit noted that he knew that the nominees that Mr. Ray had put forth were perfectly capable. He further noted that Mr. Ray felt that the individuals he had nominated were better qualified than the current members present.

Mr. Ray expressed concern that a quorum had not been achieved at today's meeting and at other meetings.

Following further discussion between Mr. Ray and Chairman Douthit, Mr. Ray left the meeting. With regards to the dialogue between Mr. Ray and Chairman Douthit regarding increasing the Executive Director's Salary, Assistant County Attorney Terrence Smith advised Chairman Douthit to review the Miami-Dade County Code (Code) Section 2-504 regarding removal of a Board member.

Mr. Dixon noted that he had several meetings with the MDEAT Nominating Council, noted that they were preparing to place notifications in major media advertising for new Board members.

Mr. Dixon apprised Board members that the County was working on putting together a grant for the Children's Trust in the amount of \$2.5 million regarding their summer job program. He noted that he had been advising Commissioner Suarez' staff regarding creating a summer job program for his district (District 7) and using youth from that district that participated in Teen Court.

The Business Breakfast Series would be held at Jimmy's Restaurant on March 4th, 2015. Mr. Dixon noted that each member would receive a notice regarding the details of the meeting. The meeting would be held in Board of County Commissioners (BCC) Chairman Monestime's district (District 2) to discuss loan opportunities that existed for small business. Mr. Dixon pointed out the attendance had been at approximately 30 to 40 participants each time. On March 12th, 2015, the Housing Breakfast Series will continue and also to be held at Jimmy's Restaurant. BCC Chairman Monestime would attend and the new Director of the CRA for the City of North Miami was scheduled to attend to speak about their housing initiatives.

B. B. Cox Media Group Community Leaders Luncheon

Mr. Dixon noted that he had attended a meeting held by HOT 105 radio station for community leaders to discuss what they do within the community. Trust member Cheryl Mizell brought up MDEAT's Teen Court program and other opportunities that MDEAT provided to the community as well.

VI. Departmental Monthly Reports

A. Fiscal

B. Housing

C. Teen Court/Youth Services – Division Presentation

D. Marketing and public Information

VII. Next Meeting:

March 18, 2015 at 3:30 p.m. in the Stephen P. Clark Center, 111 Northwest 1st Street, Miami, FL 33128

Responding to Ron Butler's concerns regarding there being no quorum and the inability to vote on the Board Action Items that were time sensitive, Chairman Douthit noted that he would call a special meeting for the purposes of voting on these items otherwise the action items would roll over to the next scheduled meeting.

Mr. Dixon apprised the Board that staff could poll members to see which day they were available to attend a special meeting on next week.

Assistant County Attorney Terrence Smith advised the Board that according to their Bylaws they could call a special meeting especially on time sensitive items with at least 48 hours' notice from the Chairman and written request of a minimum of 3 Trustee's.

Mr. Butler expressed concern about the possibility of not achieving a quorum if a special meeting was called.

Assistant County Attorney Smith noted that in the event a special meeting could not be called the Board could call a meeting of the Executive Committee which had fewer members to deal with the action items that were true emergencies.

Chairman Douthit noted that he would first like to poll members in an effort to come up with a date that every member could attend the special meeting; if enough members did not confirm then he would call an Executive Committee meeting.

Mr. Cornell Crews noted that everyone needed to be present at meetings; everyone needed to respect the time and show up on time. He pointed out that the incident that occurred earlier in the meeting was incited by a member that showed up 30 minutes late to the meeting. He noted that members that missed too many meetings should be removed from the Board and replaced with new members that will attend meetings and arrive on time.

Following further discussion between the Chair, Board members and the Assistant County Attorney regarding member's absences, Assistant County Attorney Smith advised the Board that excessive absences were cause for a recommendation from this Board to the Board of County Commissioners (BCC) who in turn would have to conduct a 2/3rd vote of their membership to remove the person from the Board; he further explained that this rule also stated members could be removed for "cause". He noted disruption of meetings, displaying disrespectful behavior to other Board Members and staff members all constituted cause to remove a Board member. Assistant County Attorney Smith stated that the Board could vote on a recommendation to remove any member that violated Code Section 2-11.39 concerning absenteeism or 2-504 concerning removal for cause and he would draft a resolution to recommend the removal of the Board member to the BCC.

Adjournment

Hearing no further business come before the Trust, the meeting was adjourned at 4:36 p.m.

Chairman Marc Douthit

Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust

ACTION ITEM I A

HOUSING VENDOR SERVICES RFA AND CONTRACT



A

MEMORANDUM OF APPROVAL

TO: Members of the MDEAT Trust
FROM: John Dixon, Executive Director
DATE: February 13, 2015
SUBJECT: Housing Vendor Services RFA and Contract

PURPOSE OF ITEM

The purpose of this item is to request approval from the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust to expend up to \$120,000.00 from the housing budget during fiscal years 2015 through 2017 for a Request For Application (RFA). The RFA will serve as a county-wide request for local entities to respond as to how they will work to ensure the HAP is accessible to the hard-to-reach segments of the agency's target population as well as assist in training industry professionals and augment HAP production, advocacy and outreach.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Housing Assistance Program (HAP) staff is involved in many facets of program operations that overextend the human resources of the department. In an effort to assist the staff, the agency proposes to contract with a vendor with a high level of industry knowledge and expertise to perform some of the following tasks: 1) Operational Assessment; 2) Program Operations; 3) Training; 4) Outreach and Advocacy; 5) Research and Reporting. Currently, there is an underperformance of these tasks due to the skill and/or time limitations of current human capital in the housing division. Staff recommends that a housing vendor demonstrating a heightened level of proficiency in the aforementioned areas be procured and contracted with for a minimum of two (2) years.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact is not to exceed \$120,000.00 from the Housing budget for a minimum two-year contract. Funding for such a service has been approved by Miami-Dade Human Resources and Budget departments.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust Board approve expenditure in an amount not to exceed \$120,000.00 from the housing budget for fiscal year 2015-17 for a Request for Application (RFA).

ACTION ITEM I B

MDEAT HAP GREEN HOUSING DEVELOPMENT INITIATIVE



B

MEMORANDUM OF APPROVAL

TO: Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust Board Members
FROM: Stephanye Johnson, Housing Advocacy Committee Chairperson
DATE: February 12, 2015
SUBJECT: MDEAT HAP Green Housing Development Initiative

PURPOSE OF ITEM

This request is to obtain MDEAT Board authorization to allocate funds not to exceed \$150,000.00 from the current Homeownership Assistance Program (HAP) pool of Documentary Surtax funds to provide funding for two (2) "Green Housing" initiatives for development by Palmetto Homes with assistance from the Poinciana Development Group.

There are four (4) lots which Palmetto Homes current has site control of in Miami-Dade County Commission District 2 and another possible five (5) lots in Miami-Dade County Commission District 1 that are being developed in conjunction with the non-profit agency Women In Need of Destiny (WIND). The HAP funds will be used to buy-down the cost of properties in these two initiatives.

BACKGROUND

The development of "Green Housing" is a Housing Division strategic plan initiative and approval to allocate (i.e., restrict) funds for this project has been approved by the board's Housing Advocacy Committee (HAC) and is being recommended for approval by the MDEAT Board.

While purchase price restrictions would still apply to these development projects, the added costs of building a quality "Green Certified" house is higher and HAP funds would be used in part to offset those costs. Proper due diligence is and will be completed prior to the disbursement of any funds. A MOU/Buy-Down agreement will be drawn-up for review by MDEAT's County Attorney.

There is a current balance exceeding \$2.8MM in Documentary Surtax funds in MDEAT's Housing Division account. FY2014-15 rollover funds (in October 2014) were approximately \$2.3MM. Projected HAP loans for FY2014-15 are approximately \$2.4-\$2.5MM.

FISCAL IMPACT TO AGENCY

\$150,000.00 would be placed as "restricted" in MDEAT's Housing Documentary Surtax pool of funds related to this initiative.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the MDEAT Trust Board approve the request for allocating \$150,000.00 in MDEAT Housing Documentary Surtax funds for this Green Housing Development Initiative.

ACTION ITEM I C

MDEAT INTERAGENCY SERVICE AGREEMENT WITH GREATER MIAMI SERVICE CORP



MEMORANDUM OF APPROVAL

TO: Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust Board Members
FROM: John Dixon, Executive Director
DATE: February 12, 2015
SUBJECT: MDEAT Interagency Service Agreement with Greater Miami Service Corp.

PURPOSE OF ITEM

This is to request MDEAT Board approval to enter into an interagency service agreement (see attachment) with the Greater Miami Service Corporation (GMSC) for the purpose of covering MDEAT Receptionist duties, light clerical work and staff support on targeted initiatives as needed. The total cost for work related to this project is not to exceed \$16,000.00.

BACKGROUND

- The current MDEAT telephone console operator is on disability leave possibly through the end of fiscal year 2014-15.
- Clerical and administrative staff members throughout all divisions of the agency have absorbed the responsibilities of the telephone console operator during her absence since October 2014.
- The interagency agreement will permit staff to resume their previous level of service/duties within their respective divisions and relieve the backlog of tasks caused by their reassignment to reception duties.
- This temporary job opportunity for GMSC participants will enhance their existing skill set by providing experience beyond basic GMSC programmatic training.

FISCAL IMPACT TO AGENCY

The fiscal impact is not to exceed \$16,000.00 allocated from the MDEAT FY2014-15 general funds and will be absorbed by budgeted funds unused for compensation/salary to Pamela King during her stint on disability leave (out of pay status).

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the MDEAT Trust Board approve this request for expenditure of \$16,000.00 in MDEAT budgeted, general funds to complete the service agreement.

**INTERDEPARTMENTAL AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
MIAMI DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST
AND
MIAMI-DADE COMMUNITY ACTION AND
HUMAN SERVICES DEPARTMENT/
GREATER MIAMI SERVICE CORPS**

This Agreement ("Agreement") is entered this day of _____ of _____ 2015 between Greater Miami Service Corps (hereinafter "GMSC"), a division of the Miami-Dade Community Action and Human Services Department, 810 NW 28th Street, Miami, Florida 33127, and Miami Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (hereinafter "Trust"), an agent and instrumentality of Miami-Dade County, having an address of Stephen P. Clark Government Center, 111 NW 1st Street, Suite 2032, Miami, Florida 33128.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Trust was established by the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners as a revocable trust for the purpose of ensuring the equitable participation of Blacks in Miami-Dade County's economic growth through advocacy and monitoring of economic conditions and economic development initiatives in Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2-506(g) of the Code of Miami-Dade County, the Trust as an agent and instrumentality of Miami-Dade County, is authorized to act for Miami-Dade County in the performance and enforcement of all contracts and to negotiate and execute such contracts as are properly within the powers and duties of the Trust; and

WHEREAS, the Trust desires to employ a designated GMSC worker to act as receptionist and perform tasks related to its Housing Assistance Program (HAP); and

WHEREAS, the GMSC worker has been trained to perform the tasks related to the HAP and is currently working as the receptionist; and

WHEREAS, GMSC's mission is to transform the lives of young people through education and service activities that improve our communities and strengthen our local workforce; and

WHEREAS, in order to achieve its mission, GMSC has worked (1) to develop meaningful work projects that benefit the community; (2) to show positive contributions young people can make while serving their community; (3) to provide comprehensive educational, vocational and employment experiences; and (4) to develop a sense of work ethic and community spirit among youth and young adults that fosters stability and productivity throughout Miami-Dade County; and

WHEREAS, the Trust desires to engage GMSC to assist with its receptionist requirements and to augment its current HAP staff with an additional person to perform specific tasks related to its housing program,

NOW THEREFORE, in consideration of the mutual promises and covenants herein contained and other good and valuable consideration, the receipt of which is hereby acknowledged, the parties agree as follows:

ARTICLE I TERM OF AGREEMENT

- 2.1 This Agreement shall commence upon execution by the parties and continue through September 30, 2015. This Agreement may be renewed for two (2) additional 180 day periods contingent upon satisfactory performance by GMSC and subject to the availability of funds. This Agreement may be terminated by either party without cause by giving a thirty (30) day advance written notification of termination delivered to the other party by certified mail, return receipt requested.

ARTICLE II RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE PARTIES

- 3.1. **GMSC Responsibilities.** GMSC agrees as follows:
- a. **Scope of Work:** GMSC agrees to provide supervision, sufficient manpower, equipment and tools necessary to perform telephone console (reception) operations and tasks related to the Trust's Homeowner Assistance in accordance with the terms set forth herein by the Trust. GMSC Supervisor, Robert Parson shall perform assignments, inspections, coordination, quality control and reports to comply with terms herein. Trust will provide GMSC with administrative direction with the requirements of the tasks related to the HAP program and telephone console operations. GMSC will provide the Trust with one (1) individual to perform the services as directed by the Trust. GMSC will provide a monthly report detailing the cost of the individual and equipment assigned to the project.
- 3.2. **Trust Responsibilities.** The Trust agrees as follows:
- a. The Trust agrees to accept the GMSC Corpsmember recruited through GMSC to work during the period of this Agreement.
 - b. The Trust agrees that the GMSC Corpsmember who is assigned to perform the required activities will be provided constructive/meaningful work experience and skills and that by performing these activities it will promote good work habits and
 - c. The Trust agrees that a Trust representative will review with the GMSC Corps Supervisor the performance of work at identified Trust sites and

ARTICLE III

METHOD OF PAYMENT

- 4.1 Trust shall pay GMSC in the amount not to exceed Sixteen Thousand Dollars and 00/100 (**\$16,000.00**), for the services of two (2) Corpsmember.

ARTICLE IV PROJECT MANAGEMENT AND NOTICE

- 5.1 The Project Manager for the Trust is Eric Johnson, Housing Division Programs & Outreach Administrator, Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust, located at Stephen P. Clark Government Center, 111 NW 1st Street, 20th Floor, Suite 2032, Miami, Florida 33128. The Project Manager for GMSC is Deborah Dorsett, Executive Director, Greater Miami Service Corps, located at 810 N.W. 28th Street, Miami, Florida 33127, shall be the Official Representative to this Agreement. The parties shall direct all matters arising in connection with the performance of this Agreement, other than notices, to the attention of the Project Managers for attempted resolution or action. The Project Managers shall be responsible for overall coordination and oversight relating to the performance of this Agreement.
- 5.2 All notices, demands, or other communications to the Trust under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed received if sent by certified mail to:

Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust
111 N.W. 1st Street, Suite 2032
Miami, Florida 33128
Attn: John Dixon, Director

- All notices, demands, or other communications to the GMSC under this Agreement shall be in writing and shall be deemed received if sent by certified mail to:

Greater Miami Service Corps
810 N.W. 28th Street
Miami, Florida 33127
Attn: Deborah Dorsett, Executive Director

The Trust and GMSC shall also provide a copy of all notices to the Project Managers. All notices required by this Agreement shall be considered delivered upon receipt. Should any party change its address, written notice of such new address shall promptly be sent to the other parties.

ARTICLE V TERMINATION/REMEDIES

- 6.1 If any party fails to fulfill its obligations under this Agreement in a timely and proper manner, the other parties shall have the right to terminate their participation under this Agreement by giving written notice of any deficiency. The party in default shall then have thirty (30) calendar days from receipt of notice to correct the deficiency. If the defaulting party fails to correct the deficiency within this time, this Agreement shall terminate at the expiration of the thirty (30) day time period.

- 6.2 Any party may terminate this Agreement at any time for convenience upon ninety (90) calendar days prior written notice to the other party. Any such termination shall be effected by delivery to the other of a Notice of Termination specifying the extent to which performance of work under the Agreement is terminated, and the date upon which such termination becomes effective.

ARTICLE VI RECORDS RETENTION/OWNERSHIP

- 7.1. **Maintenance of Records:** All parties shall maintain all financial and non-financial records and reports directly or indirectly related to the negotiation or performance of this Agreement including supporting documentation for any service rates, expenses, research or reports. Such records shall be maintained and made available for inspection for a period of five (5) years from the expiration or termination date of this Agreement.
- 7.2. **Examination of Records:** All parties or their designated agents shall have the right to examine in accordance with generally accepted governmental auditing standards all records directly or indirectly related to this Agreement. Such examination may be only within five years from the expiration or termination of this Agreement and upon reasonable notice, time and place.
- 7.3. **Extended Availability of Records for Legal Disputes:** In the event that any party should become involved in a legal dispute with a third party arising from performance under this Agreement, the other parties shall extend the period of maintenance for all records relating to this Agreement until the final disposition of the legal dispute, and all such records shall be made readily available.

ARTICLE VII STANDARDS OF COMPLIANCE

- 8.1 The Trust and GMSC, their employees, subcontractors, partners or assigns, shall comply with all applicable federal, state, and local laws and regulations relating to the performance of this Agreement to which their activities are subject.
- 8.2 The Trust shall allow public access to all project documents and materials it maintains in accordance with the provisions of Chapter 119, Florida Statutes. Should the Trust or the County assert any exemptions to the requirements of Chapter 119 and related statutes, the burden of establishing such exemption, by way of injunctive or other relief as provided by law, shall be upon the Trust and County.
- 8.3 All parties assure that no person shall be excluded on the grounds of race, religion, color, creed, national origin, handicap, age, sex, marital status, or sexual orientation, from participation in, denied the benefits of, or be otherwise subjected to discrimination in any activity under this Agreement. All parties shall take all measures necessary to effectuate these assurances.

ARTICLE VIII

RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN THE PARTIES

- 9.1 The Trust and GMSC are independent contractors. No party is an employee or agent of any other party. Nothing in this Agreement shall be interpreted to establish any relationship other than that of independent contractors, between the Trust and GMSC, or between their respective employees, agents, subcontractors, partners, or assigns, during or after the performance of this Agreement.

**ARTICLE IX
GENERAL PROVISIONS**

- 10.1 Notwithstanding any provisions of this Agreement to the contrary, the parties shall not be held liable for any failure or delay in the performance of this Agreement that arises from fires, floods, strikes, embargoes, acts of the public enemy, unusually severe weather, outbreak of war, restraint of Government, riots, civil commotion, force majeure, acts of God, or for any other cause of same character which is unavoidable through the exercise of due care and beyond the control of the parties. Failure to perform shall be excused during the continuance of such circumstances, but this Agreement shall otherwise remain in effect.
- 10.2 In the event any provisions of this Agreement shall conflict, or appear to conflict, the Agreement, including all exhibits, attachments and all other documents specifically incorporated by reference, shall be interpreted as a whole to resolve any inconsistency.
- 10.3 This Agreement may be amended only with the written approval of the parties hereto.
- 10.4 This Agreement states the entire understanding and agreement between the parties and supersedes any and all written or oral representations, statements, negotiations, or agreements previously existing between the parties with respect to the subject matter of this Agreement. The parties recognize that any representations, statements or negotiations made by the staff of either party does not suffice to legally bind either party in a contractual relationship unless they have been reduced to writing and signed by their authorized representative(s). This Agreement shall inure to the benefit of and shall be binding upon the parties, their respective assigns, and successors in interest.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the parties or their duly authorized representatives hereby execute this Agreement on the date first written above.

COMMUNITY ACTION AND HUMAN
SERVICES DEPARTMENT

Lucia Davis-Raiford, Director

GREATER MIAMI SERVICE CORPS

Deborah Dorsett, Division Director

ATTEST:
HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK

MIAMI DADE ECONOMIC
ADVOCACY TRUST

Deputy Clerk

John Dixon, Executive Director

Approved as to legal form and sufficiency:

Terrence A. Smith
Assistant County Attorney

ACTION ITEM I D

EDAC REVISED BUDGET APPROVAL



MEMORANDUM OF APPROVAL

TO: Members of the MDEAT Trust

FROM: Ron Butler, Chairperson
Economic Development Action Committee

DATE: March 13, 2015

SUBJECT: Economic Development Budget FY 2014-15

PURPOSE OF ITEM

The purpose of this item is to request approval of the Economic Development budget, as amended, for fiscal year 2014-2015 in the amount of one hundred and forty one thousand dollars (\$141,000.00). This budget was recommended by the EDAC on March 11, 2015.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The attached budget (Attachment A) includes various economic development initiatives to be performed during the fiscal year ending 2015. This amendment incorporates two new line items i.e. the annual summit and allocation for the scorecard update. Additionally, there has been a redistribution of funds between the "RFA for work in the TUA" and the "annual summit" of \$20,000.00. Five thousand dollars was reallocated to the scorecard line item. The EDAC committee is recommending that the Board by its approval authorizes staff to perform all tasks necessary to implement the programs outlined in the attached amended budget.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact is an amount not to exceed one hundred and forty one thousand dollars (\$141,000) for the economic development budget.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that MDEAT Board approves the Economic Development budget, as amended, in the amount of one hundred and forty one thousand dollars (\$141,000.00) for the fiscal year 2014-2015. Additionally, it is recommended that the Board authorizes staff to perform all tasks necessary to implement the programs outlined in the attached amended budget.

ATTACHMENT A: 2014-2015 ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT BUDGET

 Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT)					
EDAC Budget Allocation Proposal for FY 2014-2015					
<i>As of March 12, 2015</i>					
Total Income	\$ 141,000.00				
Expenditures	Requested	Approved	Actual	Payables	Available Funding
Annual Summit	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 20,000.00			\$ 20,000.00
Asset Mapping in TUAs	\$ 30,000.00	\$ 30,000.00	\$ -		\$ 30,000.00
Black Business Guide	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -		\$ 10,000.00
MLK Expo 2015	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 9,522.00		\$ 478.00
North Central Dade Expo	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00	\$ -		\$ 10,000.00
RFA for Work in the TUA	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 50,000.00	\$ -		\$ 50,000.00
Scorecard	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00			\$ 5,000.00
Non-Allocated	\$ 6,000.00	\$ 6,000.00			\$ 6,000.00
Total Expenditures	\$ 141,000.00	\$ 141,000.00	\$ 9,522.00	\$ -	\$ 131,478.00

ACTION ITEM I E

BLACK WORLD GUIDE, 2015 EDITION



E

MEMORANDUM OF APPROVAL

TO: Members of MDEAT Trust

FROM: Ron Butler, Chairperson
Economic Development Action Committee

DATE: March 13, 2015

SUBJECT: Black World Guide Partnership with Miami-Dade Black Advisory Board

PURPOSE OF ITEM

The purpose of this item is to authorize collaboration between Miami Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) and the Miami Dade Black Advisory Board to publish the Black World Guide, 2015 Edition, that incorporates a special Black business section highlighting retail, wholesale, entertainment services, and others services throughout the Targeted Urban Areas (TUA) in Miami Dade County. The guide will also include information about MDEAT's programs and initiatives throughout 2015. The cost of this project is not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Economic Development Action Committee (EDAC) is recommending that the 2013 Edition of the Black World Guide be update. The current guide is two years old. The Miami-Dade Black Advisory Board staff has indicated that it is prepared to update and publish the guide with a monetary assistance from MDEAT in the amount of ten thousand dollars. They have indicated that there would be little or no MDEAT staff involvement required. The guide furthers MDEAT's mission for supporting small minority (Black) businesses in the TUAs. The guide is exclusively for Black businesses in the areas that MDEAT serve.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact is an amount not to exceed ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for the entire project within the fiscal year 2015.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that MDEAT Board authorizes staff to enter this collaboration with the Miami-Dade Black Advisory Board to publish the Black World Guide with a special section highlighting Black-owned businesses in Miami-Dade County's TUA for the cost of ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) for the fiscal year 2014-2015. Additionally, authorize staff to perform all tasks necessary to create this guide.

ACTION ITEM I F

RFP FOR SOUTH DADE BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT



MEMORANDUM OF APPROVAL

TO: Members of MDEAT Trust

FROM: Ron Butler, Chairperson
Economic Development Action Committee

DATE: March 13, 2015

SUBJECT: RFA for South Dade Business Development

F

PURPOSE OF ITEM

The purpose of this item is to request the Board of Trustees of the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust to authorize staff to issue an RFA to solicit the services of qualified economic development individuals, partnership or corporation to provide an economic development proposal to assist businesses in the South Dade Targeted Urban Areas (TUA). Additionally, staff is requesting authorization to perform all tasks associated with executing an agreement with the successful proposer. Staff is also requesting authorization to follow a concurrent path to determine if there is an organization that currently provides an economic service that may be contracted with through a public or quasi-public agreement.

BACKGROUND

The Economic Development Action Committee (EDAC) has determined that it would like to assist small businesses in the South Dade TUAs. In an effort to accomplish this objective the committee is recommending a two-pronged approach. One is to prepare an RFA to solicit proposals from responsible and responsive proposers to determine the most appropriate approach to assist these constituents. Concurrently, staff is to pursue the possibility of contracting with a governmental entity or quasi-public entity that provides economic development services. These entities may be public institutions i.e. universities or existing public contracts that may be accessed. Ultimately, the committee is committed to pursuing the best and most effective course of action that is consistent with its limited budget.

FISCAL IMPACT TO AGENCY

The fiscal impact of this item is a \$50,000.00 allocation from the Economic Development Budget.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees of the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust authorize staff to issue an RFA to solicit the services of qualified economic development individuals, partnership or corporation to provide an economic development proposal to assist businesses in the South Dade TUAs. Additionally, staff is requesting authorization to perform all tasks associated with executing an agreement with the successful proposer. Staff is also requesting authorization to follow a concurrent path to determine if there is an organization that currently provides an economic service that may be contracted with through a public or quasi-public agreement.

ACTION ITEM I D

SOUTH FLORIDA COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT COALITION CONTRACT AMENDMENT



MEMORANDUM OF APPROVAL

TO: Members of the MDEAT Trust
FROM: John Dixon, Executive Director
DATE: January 13, 2015
SUBJECT: South Florida Community Development Coalition Contract Amendment

PURPOSE OF ITEM

The purpose of this item is to request approval from the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust to amend the South Florida Community Development Coalition (SFDCDC) agreement at no cost to revise the scope of work to eliminate the "MicroNetwork Interactive Website" and replace it with the "Microbusiness Referral Network" as outlined in SFDCDC's January 8, 2015, project status report and alternate proposal (see attachment).

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

SFDCDC originally proposed to conduct a business accelerator program that included classroom curriculum to assist microenterprise with the growth of their business. This portion of the scope of work was successfully completed with the graduation of 19 of the 24 businesses completing the program. Additionally, they proposed the creation of MicroNetwork Interactive Website, an online platform for Miami-Dade County's microenterprise community. Upon further consideration by staff and the Economic Development Action Committee, after negotiations with SFDCDC, it was determined that although the online platform may be feasible, the ongoing maintenance costs would more than likely be prohibitive. As a result, staff agreed to an alternate proposal that was more in line with the traditional services that SFDCDC provides. This project is titled the "Microbusiness Referral Network". The purpose of this initiative is to better connect the Miami-Dade residents and small business/microenterprises owners in identified Targeted Urban Areas (TUAs) to the resources available at the local, state and national level.

FISCAL IMPACT

There is no fiscal impact for this item.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust amend the South Florida Community Development Coalition (SFCDC) agreement, at no cost, to revise the scope of work to eliminate the "MicroNetwork Interactive Website" and replace it with the "Microbusiness Referral Network" as outlined in SFCDC's January 8, 2015, project status report and alternate proposal.

Attachment: SFCDC

SFCDC Project Status 1.8.2015

ABCs to Grow Pilot Project

The pilot ABCs to Grow business accelerator program is now completed. The program, geared toward microenterprises, was developed and directed by the ECP program director and weekly courses delivered by a contracted facilitator. The classroom curriculum was accompanied by business coaching outside of the classroom. On December 18, 2014 the classroom trainings culminated with community panel presentations and a graduation reception. The program had a 79% completion rate with 19 of the 24 businesses that started completing the program. The general feedback from the participants was that the program was beneficial to their business planning and launch/growth efforts. The group, working closely with each other for several weeks, has also developed their own network to continue to support each other. Some businesses are in a better position to secure financing as a result of their participation in the program. Post program evaluations are being completed. Post graduation engagement will continue.

Project Milestones	Responsible Person	Target Due Dates/Status
Planning Meeting for Official Project Launch	ECP Director/MDEAT, Advisory Committee	Completed
Participation Application Development	ECP Director	Completed
ABCs To Grow Promotions/Marketing and Collateral Development	ECP Director	Completed
Open Call for Applicants	ECP Director/Advisory Committee/MDEAT	Completed
MOUs Signed by Project Partners	ECP Director, Advisory Committee	Completed
Application Submission Closes	ECP Director	Completed
Applications Review	Advisory Committee/ECP Director	Completed
Applicant Selection	Advisory Committee/ECP Director	Completed – 24 applicants selected
Notify Successful Applicants	ECP Director	Completed
Curriculum Development	ECP Director	Completed
Training Venue Confirmed	ECP Director	Completed
Training Facilitator Selection	ECP Director	Completed – Marjorie Weber Selected as facilitator.
Identify/ Confirm Guest Experts and Resource Partners	ECP Director	Completed
ABCs to Grow Official Kick-Off Reception	ECP Director	Completed
Participant Orientation	ECP Director/Training Facilitator	Completed
Session 1 Begins (weekly on Thursdays for 10 weeks)	Training Facilitator/ECP Director	Completed
Session 10 ends – Business Accelerator Plans presentations)	ECP Director/Training Facilitator, Advisory Committee/MDEAT Community and Business Leaders	December 11, 2014- Completed
Graduation	All- including family members.	December 18, 2014 – Completed – 19 Participants completed
Post Evaluation	ECP Director/Advisory Committee/MDEAT	January 30, 2015
Post-Graduation Continual Engagement	SFCDC Network & Program Partners	January 12, 2015 – November 30, 2015

ABCs to Grow Participants Complete Business Accelerator Program

Congratulations to the graduates of the Economic Community Partnership's inaugural ABC's to Grow program. The graduates completed the program designed to help microenterprises in Miami-Dade grow their businesses. The program culminated on December 18, 2014 with a presentation of business accelerator plans and a graduation celebration. Special thanks to Marjorie Weber, Stephanie Clark, Partners for Self-Employment, ACCION, Hispanic Business Initiative Fund, Liberty City Trust, Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce, and all of the guest experts who have committed to seeing these businesses grow. This initiative was supported by SFCDC and generously funded by the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust.

2014 ABCs to Grow Graduates



Amazonic Products, LLC
B2B Link
Bahamian Connection Restaurant
Corazones Unidos, Inc.
DJ Auto Collision Center, Inc.
ECO Solution Group, LLC
Fierce Simplicity LLC
Frontier Spine and Health Care
Made In Opa-Locka

MossCorp Corporation
Palmetto Bay Tax Center
Pamela Palma Designs
Prizm Art Fair, LLC
R House Real Estate Property Management
Safe Outlet, Inc.
Shining Light Childcare Development Center
TunedOut Studios
Two Coats Painting
Venus Trading, Inc.

MicroNetwork Interactive Website

In addition, to the ABCs to Grow initiative, the Economic Community Partnership was to spearhead the development of the online platform called the MicroNetwork for Miami-Dade County's microenterprise community. MDEAT awarded \$33,000 to SFCDC on behalf of ECP to develop this interactive website. The development of the site was placed on hold by SFCDC prior to executing a contract with the web developer. Work had been completed by the ECP program director regarding the final scope of the site and conceptual design. This work encompassed portions of the activity to be undertaken under Phase 1 outlined in the contract. Phase 1 was not completed and phases 2 and 3 did not begin.

In late October 2014, the MicroNetwork project was placed on hold by SFCDC for the following reasons: 1) Concerns about SFCDC sustaining the website after development due to costs and insufficient resources to properly market a site of this scale and 2) Subsequent discussions with microbusiness service providers within the ECP about the complexity of the proposed site and alternative methods for delivering business resources within the TUA.

Three quotes were initially obtained to develop the site. All quotes received exceeded the total funds received from MDEAT and initial proposed project budget for the development of this site. SFCDC worked to obtain an additional quote. The 4th quote, while less than the others, still did not leave sufficient funds for full project delivery and marketing. The additional outside resources necessary to assist with project delivery and marketing a site of this scale did not come to full fruition, despite efforts to secure funds to leverage MDEAT's awards. The inability to properly market the site would only further hinder the ability to obtain the resources necessary to sustain this site well beyond contract expiration. Furthermore content and data will have to be managed on an on-going basis if the generated data is used for tracking and measuring goals.

The final cost of site vs resources available prompted a review about the complexity of design, platform and how microenterprises would use this site. We were advised by microenterprise service providers directly that the site may not be as effective as intended based on their experiences working with microenterprises, reluctance of some businesses to provide certain types of data and changes in technology that facilitate how businesses obtain information. We were also advised that one-on-one or in-person coaching remains very effective for working with businesses. If business participation is a critical component to developing the data warehouse, we felt these were key issues to consider. The proposed practitioner platform raised new concerns about the level of data practitioners would be willing or able to share about their clients. While some issues can be addressed through design, others would have to be addressed through significant marketing and outreach.

MDEAT Contract Summary of Funds Expended to Date

Award \$63,000 - \$30,000 for ABCs to Grow and \$33,000 for MicroNetwork Site

Item	Expense
ECP Program Director	\$19,250
ABCs to Grow Curriculum Development by ECP Director	\$5,000
ABCs to Grow Facilitator	\$5,000
Program Graduation and Supplies	\$1,499
SFDCDC Project Supervision	\$1,800
Total Contract Expended to Date:	\$32,549
Contract Balance	\$30,451

Lowest web developer quote cost received - \$25,000. Highest - \$40,000.

6 month time period.

SFCDC Alternative Proposal #1 - Microbusiness Referral Network

We offer the following attached proposal for your consideration. In the Metro Miami Equity report, SFCDC was listed as a potential strategic partner to assist MDEAT with do-able deed of building collaborative partnerships for various activities that further the goals of MDEAT.

Statement of Need:

Miami-Dade residents and small business/microenterprise owners in the identified Targeted Urban Areas (TUAs) need to be better connected to the resources available at the local, state and national level. According to the TUA 2014 scorecard prepared by The Metropolitan Center at Florida International University, unemployment in most of the TUAs is over (15%); five have unemployment rates at 20% or higher. This is in comparison to the County's unemployment rate of 7.6% (May 2014). It also correlates to the low median and per capita income in the TUAs compared to the rest of the County as well as a higher number of persons living in poverty. A significant statistic noted in the 2014 scorecard report is that the TUAs are served primarily by agencies and organizations providing basic services including child, family and school social services; medical and public health social services; and mental health and substance abuse social services. Very few economic/business development services are located in the TUA areas. As noted in the scorecard report, the various social organizations cannot address the challenges and needs of the TUAs by themselves. Neighborhood level/grassroots outreach is needed to promote the awareness of the existing organizations and resources available to the community to move from disparity to prosperity. Microenterprise is a form of job and income creation.

Project Description:

Further discussions with small businesses and small/micro business providers indicate an outreach and referral approach will provide an effective connection to resources. SFCDC proposes to coordinate a TUA level small business/microenterprise outreach effort with member organizations that provide small business/microenterprise development assistance in South Florida. We will also work with other partners that provide resource access. SFCDC will target 3 of the 5 TUAs with critically high unemployment rates of 20% or higher. The identified 3 TUAs are Model City, Liberty City and Little Haiti, due to the proximity of each other and ability to measure impact of this outreach activity. The expectation is to eventually expand into the other TUA areas. The existing referral and outreach network that currently exists within SFCDC member organizations will be expanded by SFCDC staff through the process of meeting with various social services agencies identified in the 2014 report card, as well as other community organizations that exist in the TUA. Organizations that focus on children, family and school social services will be targeted. There were 86 of these social service organizations identified in the Model City, Liberty City and Little Haiti TUAs in the 2014 scorecard report. Housing organizations will also be targeted.

SFCDC, as a nonprofit membership organization, has members and partners that represent all 4 policy areas of MDEAT, including jobs and economic development. SFCDC small business/microenterprise development organizations offer one-on-one counseling, online technical assistance, training, access to credit, and a host of other business development services. SFCDC researches resources at the local, state

and national level and has several partner organizations it works with. Because of its members and access to resources, the SFCDC network is able to foster essential connections between TUA businesses and the larger economy/existing Miami-Dade targeted industries.

The goal of the outreach activity is to introduce social service and other community organizations to existing small/microenterprise development programs and opportunities and establish a referral network. Where relationships already exist, the goal is to expand and strengthen connections and the referral process.

The objective is to empower the organizations (and their caseworkers or program coordinators) to be a source of economic information to residents and businesses in the TUAs through a referral process which connects residents to already established organizations specializing in small business/microenterprise development. In addition, this process is intended to promote the concept that small business/microenterprise development, social services, housing and other organizations should all be collaborating.

SFCDC member organizations' program materials and/or electronic guide of services will be provided to the various social service agencies/housing organizations as part of the outreach efforts. A direct point of contact for questions by the social service providers and intake documentation will be used to measure the effectiveness of the outreach. The development of the referral network will also be facilitated on SFCDC's existing website with minor updates to SFCDC's home pages to elaborate on the referral network and resources for practitioners and providers.

ABCS to Grow Participants

Individuals that participated in the ABCs to Grow program will continue to have access to resources. The group has proposed to meet informally on a monthly basis after the class has ended. This is a result of the relationships developed as participants in the program. In addition, we propose to keep the inaugural group of ABCs to Grow participants connected to resources necessary for their growing businesses by having them to continue working with the partner organizations that referred them to the program: Partners for Self Employment (PSE), Hispanic Business Initiative Fund (HBIF), ACCION, Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce, and Minority Business Development Agency. ABC participants will also be notified of resources offered by SCORE, Small Business Development Center, SBA and others. These entities conduct educational workshops, offer one-on-one counseling, and provide micro and small business loans among other services.

Electronic communication will occur through an e-mail group/list serve. Program participants are being asked to complete evaluations on the ABCs sessions. The evaluations may be used to assist SFCDC in determining programmatic and/or policy recommendations in 2015 pertaining to small business/micro-enterprise needs in the community.

Performance Measure and Timeline

At least 43 agencies (50%) visited within a 12 month period. 20 New small business/microenterprise clients as a result of the outreach effort (collected from member orgs intake data supplied to SFCDC).

SFCDC Alternative Proposal #2

Data Assessment

MDEAT's Miami Equity Summit report also indicated that an assessment is needed to better understand what data systems currently exist but lack a central repository. It was mentioned that there were 25 County agencies (not including the 34 Miami-Dade municipalities) that collect economic development information and seek to promote enfranchisement of disenfranchised businesses. With the concerns presented with the ECP MicroNetwork, SFCDC can assess the County and municipal agencies to provide an updated inventory listing of the data being collected by these agencies and the format in which data is being collected.

Performance Measure and Timeline

The deliverable would be a final report itemizing these data sources which could then serve to redesign the community information platform eventually developed owned and operated by MDEAT or another appropriate entity. This effort would take 12 months.

Budget

The balance of contract funds would be used for either proposal for staff time, research, marketing and program reporting. Both activities align with SFCDC's primary services and therefore funds would be leveraged and aspects of the activities will be sustainable beyond contract expiration.

ACTION ITEM I H

YOUTH ACTION COMMITTEE NEW MEMBER APPOINTMENT



MEMORANDUM OF APPROVAL

TO: Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust Board
FROM: LaTonda James, Youth Action Committee Chairperson
DATE: February 12, 2015
SUBJECT: Youth Action Committee New Member Appointments

PURPOSE OF ITEM

The purpose of the item is to request that the MDEAT Board accept the recommendation of the Youth Action Committee (YAC) to appoint new members to its committee and fill its vacancies.

BACKGROUND

The YAC met on February 12, 2015, and reviewed several applicants interested in serving on the committee. After thorough review, the committee selected five potential candidates from the pool of applicants who submitted completed application packages by the deadline date.

FISCAL IMPACT

No fiscal impact is associated with the acceptance of the YAC recommendations for committee appointments.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the MDEAT Board accepts the YAC recommendation for committee appointments. The candidates are Maria Hernandez, Samuel McKinnon, Khalid Salahuddin, Vivilora D. Perkins Smith and Valerie Staten.

ACTION ITEM I I

NEW BOARD MEMBER RECRUITMENT CAMPAIGN



MEMORANDUM OF APPROVAL

TO: MDEAT Trust Members
FROM: John Dixon, Executive Director
MDEAT
DATE: March 13, 2015
SUBJECT: New Board Member Recruitment Campaign



PURPOSE OF ITEM

The purpose of this item is to request the Board of Trustees authorization to purchase advertising for the recruitment of new board members. The requested advertisement expenditure is for an amount not to exceed \$4,000.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Nominating Council is preparing to meet to review current and future vacancies on the MDEAT Board to ensure it is operating at its full 15-member capacity. The Council and staff along with the County Attorney's office have agreed upon a procedure that will accomplish this goal. Reopening advertisement for applicants is the first step in the procedure. Historically the Trust has incurred the advertising expenses.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact will be in amount not to exceed \$4,000 from MDEAT's general fund budget.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees authorizes the purchase of advertisement in an amount not to exceed \$4,000 for the recruitment and selection of additional Board Members.

ACTION ITEM I E

MDEAT EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S SALARY INCREASE



MEMORANDUM OF APPROVAL

TO: Members of the MDEAT Trust
FROM: Marc Douthit, MDEAT Chairperson
DATE: February 13, 2015
SUBJECT: Executive Director's Salary Increase

PURPOSE OF ITEM

The purpose of this item is to request approval from the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust Board to increase the salary of the agency's executive director by \$25,000 from the agency's general fund budget.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The Personnel Committee of the MDEAT Board met with the Executive Director in January 2014 to perform a performance evaluation. During the evaluation, the executive director discussed a timeline of objectives, program results, and advocacy initiatives spanning from 2008 to 2013. Upon the completion of the performance evaluation, the Personnel Committee voted to recommend to the Trust Board a salary increase for the agency's executive director.

FISCAL IMPACT

The fiscal impact of the salary increase will be \$25,000 from the general fund.

RECOMMENDATION

It is recommended that the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust Board authorizes an increase in the executive director's salary to \$128,000.

INFORMATION ITEM II A

HAP PROCEDURES AND PARTICIPATION UPDATES REVISED



INFORMATION ITEM

TO: Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust Board Members
FROM: John Dixon, Executive Director
DATE: February 12, 2015
SUBJECT: HAP Procedures and Participation Updates -- Revised

MDEAT Homeownership Assistance Program (HAP) will conduct a series of recertification sessions for its more than 500 participants due to recent updates **to HAP participation, certification, and file submission guidelines and procedures**. On an as-needed basis, HAP makes significant and/or noteworthy changes in its procedures and/or guidelines. This necessitates a re-certification of HAP participants of whom program certification is required (mortgage loan originators/MLOs, closing agents, title companies and attorneys). The last time HAP guidelines and procedures underwent a major change was 2011. This year's recertification series is planned for March 2015.

Situation: Current program participation lists have become unmanageable despite a low participation rate. More than 200 MLOs qualify as being HAP eligible even though regular submissions come from about one-third of those qualified. There are more than 300 approved/eligible closing agents even though most have only closed a couple of loans or close one or two annually. Everyone in both cases, however, wants to be considered "HAP Certified." As a result, the quality of information given to potential homebuyers by participants has suffered and more calls to housing staff have resulted. Additionally, these participants change employment/staff regularly resulting in an increase in incomplete lender file submissions and errors in closing and post-closing document submissions which are time-consuming and burdensome to housing staff.

Solution: The agency's Housing Advocacy Committee (HAC) in collaboration with housing staff made programmatic changes. The changes encompassed areas of protocol and sanctions to remedy issues and raise the quality of service provided by certified HAP participants and streamline the number of participants to a manageable number.

Mandatory recertification trainings **are scheduled for March 18th and March 26th**, 2015. **Two HAP Certification Workshop(s) are being planned for April** due to the overwhelming demand for program participation (more than 100 persons are on a waiting list for certification).

Publicity: HAP participants will be notified of mandated recertification trainings by direct email. Interested industry professionals will be notified of orientation workshops by email and by visiting www.miamidade.gov/EconomicAdvocacyTrust.

DEPARTMENTAL MONTHLY REPORT

VI. A

Fiscal Report

MDEAT

Miami-Dade Economic
Advocacy Trust 

Working Together for Economic Success

FISCAL REPORT

FISCAL YEAR 2014/15
As of February 28, 2015

MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST

ADMINISTRATION (G.F.)

FISCAL MANAGEMENT REPORT FY 14/15

As of February 20, 2015

Subject Description	Budget	Actual	Balance
CENTRAL FUND	258,000	0	258,000
INTERDEPARTMENTAL TRANSFERS	490,000	0	490,000
REVENUE TOTAL	748,000	0	748,000
110 SALARIES	455,000	209,222	255,779
1010 FRINGES	171,000	88,570	82,630
21110 MANAGEMENT SERVICES		1,354	-1,454
23210 GENERAL LIABILITY	5,300	5,123	-23
24130 MAINT & REPAIR OFF MACHINES		121	-121
24571 P.C. MAINT	4,000	370	3,630
25330 COPY MACHINE RENTAL	6,000	3,199	2,801
26038 GSA SERVICE TICKET		937	-937
26050 GSA PRINTING & REP	13,000		13,000
26057 PERMIT TO M. PAGE		145	-145
26077 RENTPOOL WITH CELLING		103	-103
26130 DATA PROCESSING SF	3,000	12,103	-9,500
26613 CLOBE-RECORDS \$10 K/AGL		35	-35
31010 TELEPHONE REGULAR	5,500	3,695	1,804
31011 TELEPHONE-LONG DISTANCE	800	119	281
31013 CELLULAR PHONE SERVICES	500	555	335
31015 OTHER COMMUNICATIONS		550	-605
31130 PUBLICATIONS	300		300
31220 TRAVEL EXPENSE BUS	2,000		2,000
31713 TRAVEL EXPENSE-PCA	1,000		1,000
31710 AUTO EXPENSE-REIMBURSEMENTS		55	-55
31220 PARKING REIMBURSEMENTS	700	360	340
31402 NEWSPAPER ADVERTISING	17,000	5,043	11,957
31408 RADIO ADVERTISING	14,000	2,095	11,905
31420 SPONSORSHIPS/MARKETING	17,000	1,355	15,645
31510 OUTSIDE PRINTING	2,000		2,000
31520 GRAPHIC SERVICES	2,500		1,500
31611 POSTAGE-REGULAR MAIL	200		200
31910 PETTY CASH EXPENDI	500		500
32010 INSERVICE TRAINING	500		500
33050 OTHER GENERAL OPERATIONS		25	-25
43231 COMMUNICATION EQUIPMENT		60	-60
47010 OFFICE SUPPLIES/OUTSIDE VENDOR	500		500
47011 GSA CENTRAL SERVICES	4,000	888	3,002

MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST

ADMINISTRATION (G.F.)

FISCAL MANAGEMENT REPORT FY 14/15

As of february 28, 2015

Subobject Description	Budget	Actual	Balance
49310 CLOTHING AND UNIFORMS	500		500
60620 GRANTS TO OTHERS	10,000		10,000
95021 COMPUTER EQUIPMENT	2,200		2,200
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	748,000	336,111	411,889

MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (G.F.)

FISCAL MANAGEMENT REPORT FY 14/15

As of February 28, 2014

Subobject Description	Budget	Actual	Balance
GENERAL FUND	251,000	-	251,000
REVENUE TOTAL	251,000	-	251,000
110 SALARIES	75,000	30,960	49,714
1010 FRINGES	21,000	8,009	14,506
21110 MANAGEMENT SERVICES	20,000	9,049	10,951
60620 GRANTS TO OTHLRS	135,000	6908	135,000
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	251,000	54,926	196,075

MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST

HOMEOWNERSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM (HAP)

FISCAL MANAGEMENT REPORT FY 14/15

As of February 28, 2014

Subobject Description	Budget	Actual	Balance
R11900 OTHER TAXES	3,400,000	1,063,828	2,336,172
R36100 INTREST EARNINGS	3,000	1,594	1,406
R36900 OTHER MISCELLANFOUS		89,385	(89,385)
R18900 ROLLOVER	1,986,000	2,304,742	(318,742)
REVENUE TOTAL	5,389,000	3,459,549	1,929,451
00110 SALARIES	169,000	72,015	96,985
01010 FRINGES	56,000	20,469	35,531
26050 GSA PRINTING & REPRODUCTION	1,000	4,963	(3,963)
26616 RECORDING FEES	500	240	260
32010 INSEIRVICE TRAINING	800		800
47011 GSA CENTRAL SERVICES	400	346	54
57000 INTRAFUND TRANSFER	340,000		340,000
60620 HAP PROGRAM	4,821,300	943,586	4,058,864
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	5,389,000	1,041,619	4,528,531

MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST

TEEN COURT

FISCAL MANAGEMENT REPORT FY 14/15

As of February 23, 2014

Subject Description	Budget	Actual	Balance
835600 OTHER FINES AND/OR	1,145,000	277,644	967,356
CARFINDER	305,000	570,342	(265,342)
836300 INTEREST EARNINGS	1,000	289	711
REVENUE TOTAL	1,555,000	777,589	777,491
00120 SALARIES	750,000	227,350	522,650
01090 FRINGES	295,000	66,070	168,930
22120 MANAGEMENT SERVICES		350	(350)
22240 SECURITY SERVICES	15,500	6,729	8,771
22350 BOTTLED WATER & CUPP	100		100
24120 MAINT & REPAIR OFF MACHINES	2,000		2,000
25330 COPY MACHINE RENTAL	2,900		2,900
25521 PAYMENTS TO LESSOR	12,000		12,000
26028 GSA SERVICE TICKET	300		300
26032 GSA MULTICOPIERS	4,000	900	3,100
26038 GSA PRINTING & REPRODUCTION	6,500	5,810	(690)
26051 GSA POSTAGE	200	530	(330)
26062 FMV LT EQUIPMENT	2,800	1,034	1,766
26077 FM-POOL VEHICLE FUEL	5,500	893	4,607
31210 TRAVEL EXPENSE-US	1,700	673	1,027
31220 REGISTRATION FEES	400	330	70
31402 NEWSPAPER ADVERTISEMENT	4,000		4,000
31420 SPONSORSHIPS/MARKETING	3,000		3,000
31510 OUTSIDE PRINTING	600		600
31611 POSTAGE-REGULAR MAIL	300		300
33050 OTHER GENERAL OPERATING		25	(25)
41016 GASOLINE-UR LEASED		57	(57)
47011 GSA CENTRAL SERVICES	2,200	2,232	(32)
57000 INTRAFUND TRANSFER	150,000		150,000
60220 TRANSPORTATION	6,000		6,000
60620 GRANTS TO OTHERS	343,700		343,700
EXPENDITURE TOTAL	1,555,000	334,883	1,240,117

DEPARTMENTAL MONTHLY REPORT

VI. B

HOUSING UNIT REPORT



Homeownership Assistance Program

JANUARY 2015

HOUSING OUTREACH & ADVOCACY REPORT

During the period from January 1, 2015, through January 31, 2015, thirty (30) HAP loan applications were submitted totaling \$3,813,005 in first mortgages with a \$4,348,070 aggregate purchase price. There were \$156,250 in Miami-Dade County and other (non-county) administered Down-payment Assistance Program (DAP/ DPA) funds associated with those loans.

During the same period from January 1, 2015, through January 31, 2015, thirty (30) families purchased homes using \$185,000 in HAP funds. These loans generated \$4,469,952 in first mortgages with a \$4,735,000 aggregate purchase price. There were \$140,000 in Miami-Dade County assistance program funds leveraged with these loans with \$8,000 in non-county DAP/DPA funded mortgages linked to these first-time homebuyer closings.

HAP loans have thereby increased this year's county property tax roll by an estimated \$60,000 for January 2015 based on an average tax bill of \$2,000 (*see January 2015 Production Report for statistical details*).

HAP TRAINING SEMINARS AND FUNDING

HAP Certification and Down-payment Assistance Programs (DAP/DPA) Training Workshops on program usage and operations are generally held every two-three months. Individual mortgage originators and title/closing agents must get approved to submit or close HAP files. Realtor/ developer attendance is highly recommended but not required. The next workshop is planned for March and/or April 2015.



The workshop details the HAP operation along with a general overview of DAP/DPA funding sources, timeframes, set-up and possible usage. Signed Agreements are required for individuals seeking HAP participation along with affiliated company licensing information for monitoring and tracking purposes.

MDEAT receives eight percent (8.00%) of the Documentary Surtax Funds sent to Miami-Dade County on a monthly basis. The amount received fluctuates monthly. The projected funds for fiscal year 2014-15 are between \$3.1MM and \$3.2MM.

HOMEOWNERSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SPECIAL INITIATIVES

The HAP Housing Counseling Agency (HCA) Payout Initiative has reached the end of its first nine months of operation. Homebuyer data and demographics from the HCAs is being gathered and assessed.

The rollout of the HAP Streamline FHA 203(k) Pilot Initiative is anticipated to move forward as a work group is being formed to decide eligibility and participation criteria for participating lenders, realtors and closing agents, along with finalizing initiative guidelines, procedures and tracking mechanisms.

HOMEOWNERSHIP EDUCATION – OUTREACH – ADVOCACY

Presenter at the Trinity Empowerment Consortium First-Time Homebuyer Education Workshop: The workshop was held at the **Betty T. Ferguson Center**, 3000 N. W. 199 Street, in Miami Gardens on January 10, 2015. The presentation topic was on MDEAT's HAP and MDEAT's role in usage with other subsidy program funds, other available Down-payment Assistance Programs (DAP/DPA) and how they integrate into the mortgage process. The presentation was made for both its English and Spanish sessions. Approximately 95 Miami-Dade residents attended the two workshops.



MDEAT's Housing Programs & Outreach Administrator presents at two-to-five first-time homebuyer education workshops and/or affordable housing advocacy and outreach events each month. Through these presentations alone, **MDEAT Housing reaches and interacts with at least 800 to more than 1000 Miami-Dade County and South Florida residents annually.**



The presentations are held in TUAs particularly in Opa-locka, Miami Gardens, Goulds, Homestead and Florida City. While participants at presentations cannot be pre-determined or dictated, more than half the participants observed at the presentations represent MDEAT's primary target population.



MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST HOMEOWNERSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM January 2015 Production Report			
General Statistics	January 2015	Fiscal YTD January 2015	
Total Applicants (Applications Processed)	26	150	
Total Purchase Price	\$4,348,070.00	\$24,754,522.00	
Total Amount in First Mortgages	\$3,813,005.00	\$22,218,926.00	
Total M-D County & Non-County Subsidies	\$156,250.00	\$1,351,270.00	
Total HAP Loans Funded	30	128	
Total \$ Amount of HAP Funding	\$185,000.00	\$781,686.00	
Total Purchase Price (funded)	\$4,735,000.00	\$20,672,414.00	
Average Sales Price (funded)	\$157,833.33	\$161,503.23	
Total Amount in 1st Mortgages (funded)	\$4,469,952.00	\$18,887,330.00	
Average 1st Mortgage (funded)	\$148,998.40	\$147,557.27	
Total Amount of Other MDC Funding (leveraging)	\$140,000.00	\$1,055,000.00	
Total Amount of Non-MDC Subsidy Loans (leveraging)	\$8,000.00	\$203,020.00	
Estimated Increase to Tax Base	\$60,000.00	\$256,000.00	
* Based on annual taxes of \$2000/yr.	Ave. HAP Ln Amt. YTD=	\$6,106.92	
	Ave. HAP Ln Amt. January-15=	\$6,166.67	
Head of Household			
Female	11	45	
Male	19	83	
Total	30	128	
Ethnicity			
Black	8	26	
Hispanic	19	95	
White	3	7	
Other	0	0	
Total	30	128	
Median Income Level			
Very Low	4	13	
Low	14	60	
Median	10	36	
Median Moderate	2	19	
Total	30	128	
Commission District			
District 1 - Barbara Jordan	7	29	
District 2 - Jean Monestime	1	9	
District 3 - Audrey Edmonson	0	1	
District 4 - Sally A. Heyman	0	0	
District 5 - Bruno A. Barreiro	0	0	
District 6 - Rebeca Sosa	0	3	
District 7 - Xavier L. Suarez	0	0	
District 8 - Daniella Levine Cava	14	45	
District 9 - Dennis C. Moss	4	25	
District 10 - Javier D. Souto	1	2	
District 11 - Juan C. Zapata	0	2	
District 12 - Jose "Pepe" Diaz	1	4	
District 13 - Esteban Bovo Jr.	2	8	
Total	30	128	



Homeownership Assistance Program

FEBRUARY 2015

HOUSING OUTREACH & ADVOCACY REPORT

During the period from February 1, 2015, through February 28, 2015, thirty-nine (39) HAP loan applications were submitted totaling \$5,937,555 in first mortgages with a \$6,572,335 aggregate purchase price. There were \$285,000 in Miami-Dade County and other (non-county) administered Down-payment Assistance Program (DAP/ DPA) funds associated with those loans.

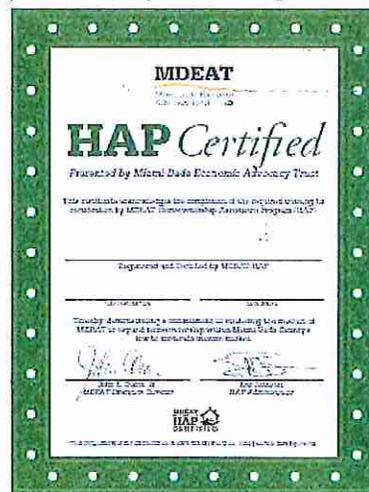
During the same period from February 1, 2015, through February 28, 2015, twenty-nine (29) families purchased homes using \$173,900 in HAP funds. These loans generated \$4,407,830 in first mortgages with a \$4,604,050 aggregate purchase price. There were \$210,000 in Miami-Dade County assistance program funds leveraged with these loans with \$24,000 in non-county DAP/DPA funded mortgages linked to these first-time homebuyer closings.

HAP loans have thereby increased this year's county property tax roll by an estimated \$58,000 for February 2015 based on an average tax bill of \$2,000 (see February 2015 Production Report for statistical details).

HAP TRAINING SEMINARS AND FUNDING

HAP Certification and Down-payment Assistance Programs (DAP/DPA) Training Workshops on program usage and operations are generally held every two-three months. Workshops details the HAP operation along with a general overview of DAP/DPA funding sources, timeframes, set-up and possible usage. Signed Agreements are required for individuals seeking HAP participation along with affiliated company licensing information for monitoring and tracking purposes.

Because of a lack of quality in lender file submissions (incomplete file submissions running more than 30%) and a lack of adherence to closing and post-closing procedures by closing agents, a mandatory "re-certification" for lender and closing agents will occur in March 2015. Updates to HAP participation and certification guidelines approved by MDEAT's HAC (Housing Advocacy Committee) and file submission and closing procedural updates will be the main topics along with mass release of MDEAT's new marketing materials for HAP participants.



MDEAT receives eight percent (8.00%) of the Documentary Surtax Funds sent to Miami-Dade County on a monthly basis. The amount received thereby available HAP balance fluctuates monthly. HAP funded loans through the first five months of fiscal year (FY) 2014-15 total just under \$1MM with 157 funded loans fiscal year-to-date. Projected revenue for FY 2014-15 is still between \$3.1MM and \$3.2MM.

HOMEOWNERSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM SPECIAL INITIATIVES

The HAP Housing Counseling Agency (HCA) Payout Initiative has reached the end of its first nine months of operation. Homebuyer data and demographics from the HCAs is being gathered and assessed. A meeting with Participating Housing Counseling Agencies (HCAs) is being planned for early April.

The rollout of the HAP Streamline FHA 203(k) Pilot Initiative is anticipated to move forward as a work group is being formed to decide eligibility and participation criteria for participating lenders, realtors and closing agents, along with finalizing initiative guidelines, procedures and tracking mechanisms.

HOMEOWNERSHIP EDUCATION – OUTREACH – ADVOCACY

Presenter at the Experts Resource Center First-Time Homebuyer Education Workshop: The workshop was held at the Betty T. Ferguson Center, 3000 N. W. 199 Street, Miami Gardens, FL 33056 on February 14, 2015. The presentation topic was on MDEAT's HAP and MDEAT's role in usage with other subsidy program funds, other available Down-payment Assistance Programs (DAP/DPA) and how they integrate into the mortgage process. Presentations were made for both English and Spanish sessions. Approximately 70 South Florida residents attended the two workshops.

Presenter at the Trinity Empowerment Consortium First-Time Homebuyer Education Workshop: The workshop was held at the William Dickson Community Center, 1601 Krome Avenue, Homestead, Florida 33030 on February 21, 2015. The presentation topic was on MDEAT's HAP and MDEAT's role in usage with other subsidy program funds, other available Down-payment Assistance Programs (DAP/DPA) and how they integrate into the mortgage process. Presentations were made for both English and Spanish sessions. Approximately 75 Miami-Dade residents attended the two workshops.



MDEAT's Housing Programs & Outreach Administrator presents at an average of two-five first-time homebuyer education workshops and/or affordable housing advocacy and outreach events each month. Through these presentations alone, **MDEAT Housing reaches and interacts with at least 800 to more than 1000 Miami-Dade County and South Florida residents annually.**

All these agencies are located in TUAs (Opa-locka – Miami Gardens – Goulds – Homestead – Florida City) and while workshop participants cannot be pre-determined or dictated, more than half the participants observed at the forenamed agency workshops represent MDEAT's primary target population.

MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST HOMEOWNERSHIP ASSISTANCE PROGRAM February 2015 Production Report			
General Statistics	February 2015	Fiscal YTD February 2015	
Total Applicants (Applications Processed)	39	189	
Total Purchase Price	\$6,572,336.00	\$31,326,857.00	
Total Amount In First Mortgages	\$5,937,555.00	\$28,156,481.00	
Total M-D County & Non-County Subsidies	\$285,000.00	\$1,636,270.00	
Total HAP Loans Funded	28	157	
Total \$ Amount of HAP Funding	\$173,900.00	\$866,588.00	
Total Purchase Price (funded)	\$4,604,050.00	\$25,273,464.00	
Average Sales Price (funded)	\$159,760.34	\$160,977.48	
Total Amount In 1st Mortgages (funded)	\$4,407,830.00	\$23,395,160.00	
Average 1st Mortgage (funded)	\$151,994.14	\$148,376.82	
Total Amount of Other MDC Funding (leveraging)	\$210,000.00	\$1,265,000.00	
Total Amount of Non-MDC Subsidy Loans (leveraging)	\$24,000.00	\$227,020.00	
Estimated Increase to Tax Base	\$58,000.00	\$314,000.00	
* Based on annual base of \$3000/yr.	Ave. HAP Ln Amt. YTD=	\$5,000.54	
	Ave. HAP Ln Amt. February-15=	\$5,000.56	
Head of Household			
# Female	17	56	
Male	11	101	
Total	28	157	
Ethnicity			
Black	5	31	
Hispanic	20	115	
White	3	18	
Other	1	1	
Total	28	157	
Median Income Level			
Very Low	4	17	
Low	12	73	
Median	11	47	
Median Moderate	2	21	
Total	28	157	
Commission District			
District 1 - Barbara Jordan	5	34	
District 2 - Jean Monestime	1	10	
District 3 - Audrey Edmonson	2	3	
District 4 - Sally A. Heyman	0	0	
District 5 - Bruno A. Barreiro	0	0	
District 6 - Rebeca Sosa	0	3	
District 7 - Xavier L. Suarez	0	0	
District 8 - Daniela Levine Gava	7	52	
District 9 - Dennis C. Moss	12	37	
District 10 - Javier D. Souto	1	3	
District 11 - Juan C. Zapata	1	3	
District 12 - Jose "Pepe" Diaz	0	4	
District 13 - Esteban Bovo Jr.	0	8	
Total	28	157	

DEPARTMENTAL MONTHLY REPORT

VI. C

TEEN COURT UNIT REPORT

Memorandum



MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST

TEEN COURT REPORT

To: Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) Board
From: John Dixon, Executive Director
Date: February 11, 2015
Subject: Comprehensive Teen Court Report for January 2015

PURPOSE OF ITEM

The purpose of this item is to inform the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) Board, of Miami-Dade County Teen Court (M-DCTC) performance and activities for the month of January.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Program Activities

January 12th, 14th, and 15th: Twenty-six (26) Teen Court youth participants attended the Youth Entrepreneurship Workshop which is designed to help address the high unemployment rate among teens in the county's Targeted Urban Areas (TUAs). This economic development component aims to help expose youth to business principles and encourages the creation of micro-business among this population.

This month's workshop was abbreviated and focused on helping the youth participants and volunteers understand the essentials of business marketing. Speakers included: Kenyona Pierre of EcoTech Visions; Craig Emmanuel, Principal Broker of Commercial Realty Advisors & Investment Group; Ernisha Randolph, President of the Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce's Young Professionals Network and owner of Juanita's Kitchen; and Ashanti Johnson, an entrepreneur.

January 14, 2015: In collaboration with Miami-Dade County Corrections and Rehabilitation, 16 Teen Court youth were afforded an opportunity to attend the Turner Gilford Knight (TGK) Correctional Facility Jail Tour and 15 participated in the Boot Camp Jail Tour. Jail tours serve as crime prevention and intervention tools, providing participants with an understanding of the consequences of engaging in negative actions.

January 20th and 28th of 2015: Teen Court staff conducted *Victim's Awareness Panel Workshop (VAP)*, an interactive workshop that sparks dialogue among participants, parents and/or guardians. Twenty-seven individuals comprised of both program participants and their parents discussed the values of forgiveness and restoration, repair of lost trust, and the impact of crimes on family and community.

Program Performance

Referrals: Teen Court received a combined total of 27 referrals from the Juvenile Services Department's (JSD's) Department of Juvenile Justice, Prevention Initiative Program (PIP), Civil Citation Program, and other Juvenile Justice Intervention programs.

Community Service: Teen Court generated 741 community service hours. This total included 355 completed by defendants, 264 performed by youth volunteers, and 119 community service hours provided by adults who served as jury monitors and legal professionals volunteering as judges presiding over Teen Court hearings.

Student Court: MDEAT partnered with Miami-Dade County Public Schools to conduct Miami-Dade County Teen Court. The attached report (***Student Court 2014-2015 Analysis***) provides data regarding the 15 schools that participate in the program.

Psychological Services: Teen Court provides psychological services to its service population. During the month of January 2015, 40 sessions were conducted yielding continued success in patient care. The following two cases are success highlights.

- 13-year-old African-American male: Client is a seventh grader. He meets with the psychologist on a weekly basis. He was originally referred to Teen Court following a fight at school. Both he and his mother report improvement in his ability to control his anger and resolve conflicts in the context of the school setting. However, his grades have begun to suffer. He has recently shown initiative and insight by requesting additional sessions to help him work on his level of success inside of the classroom. He is one of a very limited number of students to request additional sessions on his own accord. He is a resilient young man who has lived with multiple caregivers and been exposed to events others would find traumatic for a young child.
- 17-year-old Latina female: Client is a high school senior. She has recently completed her weekly meetings with the psychologist. She was originally referred to Teen Court after being arrested for misdemeanor shoplifting. Her problems included challenges with anger management, family, and self-reliance-related concerns. Over the course of therapy, she has applied to colleges, and greatly improved her ability to control her mood and maintain healthy relationships with her peers. She looks inward more to find fulfillment and thinks through decisions before acting out on them in a mature and effective manner.

Offender Information for January 2015**Referrals per fiscal year:**

12/31/98 – 09/30/99	334	Carried Over	5,832
10/01/99 – 09/30/00	506	11/01/13 – 11/30/13	20
10/01/00 – 09/30/01	323	12/01/13 – 12/31/13	41
10/01/01 – 09/30/02	336	01/01/14 – 01/31/14	33
10/01/02 – 09/30/03	293	02/01/14 – 02/28/14	29
10/01/03 – 09/30/04	390	03/01/14 – 03/31/14	46
10/01/04 – 09/30/05	267	04/01/14 – 04/30/14	95
10/01/05 – 09/30/06	215	05/01/14 – 05/31/14	39
10/01/06 – 09/30/07	245	06/01/14 – 06/30/14	46
10/01/07 – 09/30/08	356	07/01/14 – 07/31/14	42
10/01/08 – 09/30/09	424	08/01/14 – 08/31/14	48
10/01/09 – 09/30/10	454	09/01/14 – 09/30/14	51
10/01/10 – 09/30/11	619	10/01/14 – 10/31/14	47
10/01/11 – 09/30/12	537	11/01/14 – 11/30/14	29
10/01/12 – 09/30/13	501	12/01/14 – 12/31/14	27
10/01/13 – 10/31/13	32	01/01/15 – 01/31/15	27
	5,832	TOTAL REFERRALS	6,452

Monthly Sanctions for Referrals Completed (January 2015):

Anti-Theft Class Attendees	36	Jail Tour Attendees	31
Curfew	0	Jury Duties Completed	111
Declined Referrals	0	Letter of Apology/Closed	8
Civics and Business Attendees	0	Peer Circle Attendees	23
Substance Abuse Attendees	0	Restitution	0
Essay Completed/Closed Cases	8	Victim Awareness Panel Workshop to Attendees	27
Ethics Workshops Attendees	23	Verbal Apology to Parent	17
Hours of Community Service/Closed Cases	355	Psychological Services	40

Referral Sources:

Other Juvenile Services Departments (JSD) Programs	4
Civil Citation Program	16
Prevention Initiative Program (PIP)	6
Other Agencies	1
Miami-Dade County School Based Referrals	0

Offenses and Number of Charges:

Note: Some defendants have multiple charges

Battery (Simple)	2	Retail Theft	5
Breach of Peace	1	Resisting Officer Without Violence	3
Disorderly Conduct	1	Trespass School Grounds	3

Grand Theft	2	Trespass Unoccupied Structure or Conveyance	4
Larc Petit Shoplifting	3	Unoccupied Burglary	1
Possession of Alcohol	1		

Age:

Seven	0	Thirteen	4
Eight	0	Fourteen	7
Nine	0	Fifteen	6
Ten	0	Sixteen	2
Eleven	0	Seventeen	7
Twelve	1	Eighteen	

Gender/Race – Male:

African American	6
Caucasian	0
Hispanic	12
Other	0

Gender/Race – Female:

African American	4
Caucasian	1
Hispanic	4
Other	

Commission Districts and Zip Code January 2015:

District 1: 33169 - 1 33179 - 1	2	District 8: 33030 - 4 33032 - 1 33033 - 1 33189 - 1	7
District 2: 33161 - 1	1	District 9: 33186 - 3 33170 - 1 33035 - 1	5
District 3: 33138 - 1	1	District 10: 33157 - 1	1
District 4: 33180 - 2 33181 - 1	3	District 11: 33185 - 1	1
District 5: 33125 - 1 33133 - 2 33135 - 1	4	District 12: 33178 - 1	1
District 6: 33144 - 1	1	District 13:	0
District 7:	0		

Commission Districts for Fiscal Year 10/01/14 – 09/31/15:

District 1	59	District 8	87
District 2	71	District 9	107
District 3	72	District 10	19
District 4	28	District 11	36
District 5	21	District 12	30
District 6	22	District 13	24
District 7	16		

COMPARISON OF YEAR-TO-DATE REFERRALS:

Referrals for 10/01/13 – 09/30/14		Referrals for 10/01/14 – 09/30/15	
Date cases received	No.	Date cases received	No.
10/01/13 – 10/31/13	32	10/01/14 – 10/31/14	47
11/01/13 – 11/30/13	20	11/01/14 – 11/30/14	29
12/01/13 – 12/31/13	41	12/01/14 – 12/31/14	27
01/01/14 – 01/31/14	61	01/01/14 – 01/31/14	27
TOTAL	154	TOTAL	130

VOLUNTEER COMPONENT

COURT HEARING SITES	MONTH	HOURS PROVIDED BY DEFENDANTS	MONTH	# OF YOUTH RECRUITED	MONTH	HOURS PROVIDED BY ADULTS	MONTH	# OF ADULTS RECRUITED	MONTH	# OF HOURS PROVIDED BY VOLUNTEER JUDGES
South	Jan. 2015	138	Jan. 2015	3	Jan. 2015	48	Dec. 2014	0	Dec. 2014	8
Central	Jan. 2015	51	Jan. 2015	3	Jan. 2015	18	Dec. 2014	0	Dec. 2014	6
Hialeah	Jan. 2015	9	Jan. 2015	0	Jan. 2015		Dec. 2014	0	Dec. 2014	0
North	Jan. 2015	66	Jan. 2015	10	Jan. 2015	60	Dec. 2014	0	Dec. 2014	8
TOTALS		264		6		126		0		22

Attachment: Student Court 2014-2015 Analysis

REVISED - Analysis as of 01-30-15 @ 4:30 p.m.

2014-2015 - STUDENT COURT ANALYSIS							
Student Court Schools	Deliverable Expectation						
September 15-19, 2014 September 22-26, 2014 Sept. 29 - Oct. 3, 2014 October 6-10, 2014 October 13-17, 2014 October 20-24, 2014 October 27-31, 2014 November 3-7, 2014 November 10-14, 2014 November 17-21, 2014 November 24-26, 2014 December 1-5, 2014 December 8-12, 2014 December 15-19, 2014 January 5-9, 2015 January 12-16, 2015 January 19-23, 2015 January 26-30, 2015 February 2-6, 2015 February 9-13, 2015 February 16-20, 2015 February 23-27, 2015 March 2-6, 2015 March 9-13, 2015 March 16-20, 2015 March 23-27, 2015 April 3-7, 2015 April 10-14, 2015 April 17-21, 2015 April 24-28, 2015 May 1-5, 2015 May 8-12, 2015 May 15-19, 2015 May 22-26, 2015 June 1-5, 2015 TOTAL COURT CASES HEARD % OF Deliverable Being Met Total Cases Reported Incidents (09-15-14 thru 12-15-14) Total Cases Reported Incidents (09-15-14 thru 12-15-14) Grand Total of Levels & Incidents Reported (09-15-14 thru 12-15-14)	Training Phase Promotional Activities						
7701-School T. Washington SHS	2	2	4%	174	108	282	
8131-Sarah M. Wallace Cape Center	2	2	8%	238	35	273	
1131-Hannah-Miami Lakes SHS	1	1	5%	751	328	1,079	
7151-Homestead SHS	1	1	4	1	1	2	4
7533-Law Enforcement Officers Memorial HS							
7231-Miami Carol City SHS	3	1	2	1	1	5	3
7351-Miami Central SHS							
7341-Miami Jackson SHS							
7381-Miami Norland SHS							
7411-Miami Northwestern SHS			1	1	1		
7731-Miami Southridge SHS	2	1	1	4	4	3	2
8701-South Dade SHS			1	2	2	1	1
8721-South Miami SHS					1	1	2
1241-Wee Sande-Hawthorn SHS	1	1	1	3	0	0	0
7801-William Turner Technical Arts HS			3				2
Total			99	10,425	6,418	15,843	

Memorandum



MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST

TEEN COURT REPORT

To: Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) Board
From: John Dixon, Executive Director
Date: March 18, 2015
Subject: Comprehensive Teen Court Report for February 2015

PURPOSE OF ITEM

The purpose of this item is to inform the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) Board, of Miami-Dade County Teen Court (M-DCTC) performance and activities for the month of February.

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Program Activities

February 9-12: Teen Court youth participated in the Youth Entrepreneurship Workshop series which was designed to help address the high unemployment rate among teens in the county's Targeted Urban Areas (TUAs). This economic initiative aims to help expose youth to business principles and encourages the creation of micro-businesses among this population. This month's workshop was abbreviated and focused on helping the youth volunteers understand the essentials of business marketing. The speakers were: Jeremy Mills, independent musician and entrepreneur; Lydia Desnoyers, CPA, owner of Desnoyers Accounting Firm; and George Ray III, MDEAT Trust Member, entrepreneur and consultant.

February 2015: Miami-Dade County Corrections and Rehabilitation notified Teen Court administration of the cancellation of Turner Gilford Knight (TGK) and Boot Camp jail tours for the month of February. Jail tours serve as crime prevention and intervention tools, providing participants with an understanding of the consequences of engaging in negative actions.

February 2nd and 18th of 2015:

Teen Court staff conducted a *Victim's Awareness Panel Workshop (VAP)*, an interactive workshop that sparks dialogue among participants, parents and/or guardians. Fourteen individuals comprised of both program participants and their parents discussed the

values of forgiveness and restoration, repair of lost trust, and the impact of crimes on family and community.

Program Performance

Referrals: Teen Court received a combined total of 95 referrals from the Juvenile Services Department's (JSD's) Department of Juvenile Justice, Prevention Initiative Program (PIP), Civil Citation Program, Miami-Dade County Public Schools\Student Court, and other Juvenile Justice Intervention programs.

Community Service: Teen Court generated 525 community service hours. This total included 130 completed by defendants, 249 performed by youth volunteers, and 146 completed by community service hours provided by adults who served as jury monitors and legal professionals volunteering as judges presiding over Teen Court hearings.

Student Court: MDEAT is at the mid-year point of this collaboration with Miami-Dade County Public Schools. During the month of February, 64 students were referred to Student Court for Level 1 and Level 2 Code of Student Conduct School Rules Violations. The 15 participating schools conduct weekly sessions based on referrals generated by school administrators. The 2014-2015 Student Court Analysis indicates 166 student referrals for the period 09/15/14 – 2/28/15.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools administrators report no referrals have been generated at Miami Norland Sr. High, Miami Central Sr. High, and Miami Jackson Sr. High. Region and school site administrators at low/moderate referring schools have received notification from School Operations administration regarding the importance of implementing this initiative. Program advocacy efforts remain a high priority of staff and the Youth Action Committee.

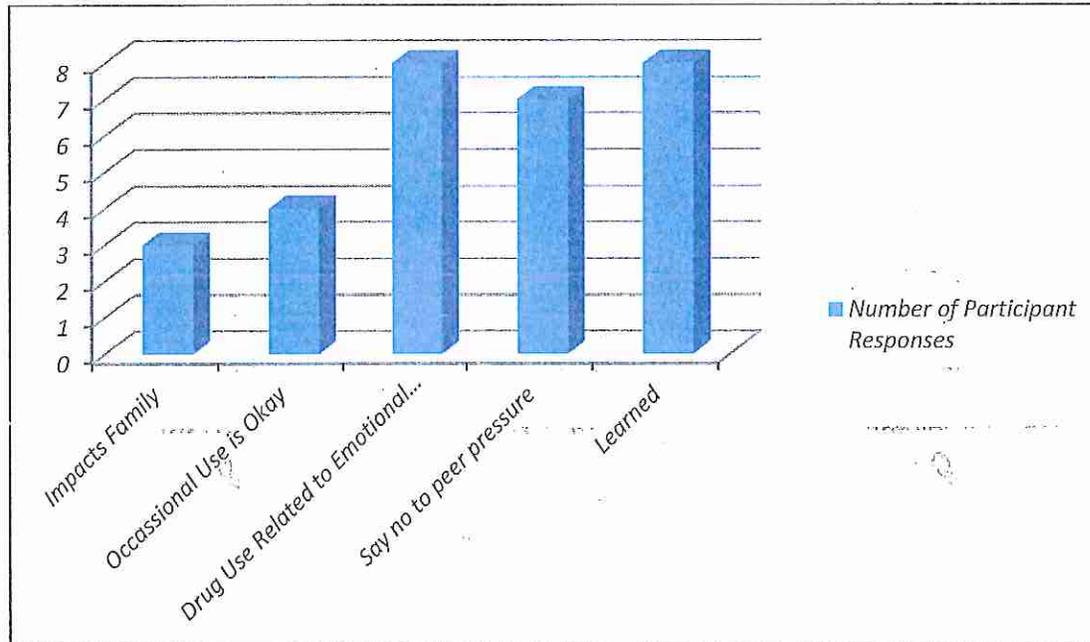
Psychological Services: Teen Court provides psychological services to its service population. During the month of February 2015, 38 youth and family members were provide care.

Summary of Psychological Services

The clinical psychologist continues to provide therapy with Teen Court participants. An intellectual assessment was completed for a female client due to her I.Q. of record being much lower than expected. In fact, the I.Q. score was 19 points lower than the current finding. The I.Q. of record combined with another assessment measure could have theoretically helped to qualify her as having an intellectual disability. The current test resulted in an average intelligence score although there were some relative strengths and weaknesses. The mother received a completed report for her records. Typically, Teen Court Psychological Services does not complete psychological assessments; however, an exception was made in this case. This case underscores the importance of the need for culturally competent psychological assessments, especially intelligence testing for children of African descent and various socio-economic backgrounds as well.

Survey: A survey was conducted of eight Teen Court participants who responded anonymously at the North Court on February 25, 2015, following an hour-long substance abuse workshop conducted by the psychologist. Table I displays the survey results.

Table I: Survey Results



- The survey found that three of the eight participants reported that the use of drugs or alcohol has *impacted their family*.
- Four reported that before coming to the workshop they believed that *occasional drug use is okay* as long as it does not affect anyone.
- All of the participants understand that *people who have problems with drugs generally have other emotional or mental health issues as well*.
- The majority of the participants (seven of the eight) believe *that one should not use a substance for the purpose of being accepted by others*.
- All eight participants feel that they *learned more about the impacts of substance use* by coming to the workshop.

Conclusion: This small sample underscores the impacts that substances have on the lives of the population and that a significant sample believed that occasional substance use is okay prior to coming to the workshop. Although the survey did not query to find out if the opinion of the participants changed as a result of the workshop, it is clear that the workshop caused them to think about how substance use, including so called minor use, impacts themselves and others around them. Finally, it is concluded that this type of workshop is important and effective when used with the Teen Court population.

Offender Information for February 2015

Referrals per fiscal year:

12/31/98 – 09/30/99	334	Carried Over	5,852
10/01/99 – 09/30/00	506	12/01/13 – 12/31/13	41
10/01/00 – 09/30/01	323	01/01/14 – 01/31/14	33
10/01/01 – 09/30/02	336	02/01/14 – 02/28/14	29
10/01/02 – 09/30/03	293	03/01/14 – 03/31/14	46
10/01/03 – 09/30/04	390	04/01/14 – 04/30/14	95
10/01/04 – 09/30/05	267	05/01/14 – 05/31/14	39
10/01/05 – 09/30/06	215	06/01/14 – 06/30/14	46
10/01/06 – 09/30/07	245	07/01/14 – 07/31/14	42
10/01/07 – 09/30/08	356	08/01/14 – 08/31/14	48
10/01/08 – 09/30/09	424	09/01/14 – 09/30/14	51
10/01/09 – 09/30/10	454	10/01/14 – 10/31/14	47
10/01/10 – 09/30/11	619	11/01/14 – 11/30/14	29
10/01/11 – 09/30/12	537	12/01/14 – 12/31/14	27
10/01/12 – 09/30/13	501	01/01/15 – 01/31/15	64
10/01/13 – 10/31/13	32	02/01/15 – 02/28/15	95
11/01/13 – 11/30/13	20		
	5,852	TOTAL REFERRALS	6,547

Monthly Sanctions for Referrals Completed (February 2015):

Anti-Theft Class Attendees	37	Jail Tour Attendees	0
Curfew	0	Jury Duties Completed	216
Declined Referrals	0	Letter of Apology/Closed	8
Civics and Business Attendees	0	Peer Circle Attendees	0
Substance Abuse Attendees	41	Restitution	0
Essay Completed/Closed Cases	9	Victim Awareness Panel Workshop to Attendees	14
Ethics Workshops Attendees	12	Verbal Apology to Parent	17
Hours of Community Service/Closed Cases	130	Psychological Services	38

Referral Sources:

Other Juvenile Services Departments (JSD) Programs	7
Civil Citation Program	23
Prevention Initiative Program (PIP)	4
Other Agencies	0
Miami-Dade County School Based Referrals	61

Offenses and Number of Charges:

Note: Some defendants have multiple charges

Battery	3	Giving False Name While Lawfully Detained	1
Burglary Unoccupied Structure	1	Loitering/Prowling	1

Criminal Mischief	1	Petit Theft	8
Defiant	1	Physically/Verbally Aggressive	1
Disciplinary Problems	2	Resisting Arrest Without Violence	1
Drug Experimental	2	Retail Theft	17

Age:

Seven	0	Thirteen	4
Eight	0	Fourteen	4
Nine	0	Fifteen	6
Ten	0	Sixteen	5
Eleven	0	Seventeen	12
Twelve	3	Eighteen	0

Gender/Race – Male:

African American	7
Caucasian	2
Hispanic	11
Other	0

Gender/Race – Female:

African American	4
Caucasian	1
Hispanic	9
Other	0

Commission Districts and Zip Code February 2015:

District 1: 33015 - 1 33055 - 1 33179 - 2	4	District 8: 33030 - 1 33033 - 1 33157 - 1	3
District 2: 33150 - 1 33162 - 1 33181 - 1	3	District 9: 33034 - 2 33035 - 1	3
District 3: 33127 - 2 33137 - 1 33138 - 1 33150 - 1	5	District 10: 33174 - 1	1
District 4: 33162 - 1	1	District 11: 33175 - 1 33184 - 1 33185 - 2 33193 - 1 33196 - 1	6
District 5: 33135 - 1	1	District 12: 33018 - 2 33174 - 1 33178 - 1 33182 - 1	5
District 6:	0	District 13: 33012 - 1	1
District 7: 33135 - 1	1		

Commission Districts for Fiscal Year 10/01/14 – 09/31/15:

District 1	63	District 8	90
District 2	74	District 9	110
District 3	77	District 10	20
District 4	29	District 11	42
District 5	22	District 12	35
District 6	22	District 13	21
District 7	17		

COMPARISON OF YEAR-TO-DATE REFERRALS:

Referrals for 10/01/13 – 09/30/14		Referrals for 10/01/14 – 09/30/15	
Date cases received	No.	Date cases received	No.
10/01/13 – 10/31/13	32	10/01/14 – 10/31/14	47
11/01/13 – 11/30/13	20	11/01/14 – 11/30/14	29
12/01/13 – 12/31/13	41	12/01/14 – 12/31/14	27
01/01/13 – 01/31/13	61	01/01/14 – 01/31/14	27
02/01/13 – 01/28/13	49	01/01/14 – 02/28/14	28
TOTAL	203	TOTAL	158

VOLUNTEER COMPONENT

COURT HEARING SITES	MONTH	HOURS PROVIDED BY YOUTH	MONTH	# OF YOUTH RECRUITED	MONTH	HOURS PROVIDED BY ADULTS	MONTH	# OF ADULTS RECRUITED	MONTH	# OF HOURS PROVIDED BY VOLUNTEER JUDGES
South	Feb. 2015	120	Feb. 2015	3	Feb. 2015	69	Feb. 2015		Feb. 2015	8
Central	Feb. 2015	45	Feb. 2015		Feb. 2015	9	Feb. 2015		Feb. 2015	6
Hialeah	Feb. 2015	21	Feb. 2015	1	Feb. 2015	9	Feb. 2015		Feb. 2015	0
North	Feb. 2015	63	Feb. 2015		Feb. 2015	39	Feb. 2015		Feb. 2015	6
	TOTALS	249		4		126				20

DEPARTMENTAL MONTHLY REPORT

VI. D

PUBLIC INFORMATION REPORT

Memorandum



INFORMATION ITEM

TO: Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust Board
FROM: Susana Cortázar, Marketing Administrator
THRU: John E. Dixon, Jr., Executive Director
DATE: January 31, 2015
SUBJECT: Marketing Report for January, 2015

PURPOSE OF ITEM

The purpose of the item is to inform the MDEAT Board of activities associated with marketing and public relations. It covers a multi-media mix of communication vehicles positioned to build awareness about the agency's advocacy and programmatic operations. The following activities occurred in December 2014-January 2015.

3rd Annual MLK Business Expo

- Held the 3rd Annual MLK Business Expo in conjunction with West Perrine CDC.
- Approximately 85 vendors attended, showcasing their products and services to include areas of community health and government agencies; financial institutions; tax preparation companies; newspapers; caterers who provided food from ethnic to barbecue, from seafood to cakes; clothing and jewelry sellers; small business owners; promotional products companies; and attorneys, among others.
- Close to 150 community residents attended the event where they networked with the vendors and learned about all the services available to them.
- An event survey was provided to participants. Responses were tallied by staff and 82.61% of attendees rated the event as "excellent."
- The event was submitted to the following and publicized in the media marked with a Y:



Medium	Published
MDEAT website home page	Y
MDEAT website inside page	Y
Miami-Dade County What's New – 1/12/2015	Y
Miami-Dade County check stub – 1/9/2014	-
Miami-Dade County Happy Friday – 1/9/2015	-
Miami-Dade County portal calendar of events	Y
Soulofmiami.com	Y
CBSlocal.com	Y
Yelp	Y
Miami New Times	-
Business Monday	-
Community Newspapers	Y
Miami Herald events	Y
WASD water bills to Levine Cava's and Moss's zip codes	Y
Press release from mayor's office to media	Y
Miami Times	-
WLRN	Y
Evenbrite.com	Y
Socialmiami.com	Y
Bloggngblackmiami.com	Y
Eventful.com	Y
Soflanights.com	Y
Sflnights.com	Y
Miami Herald Neighbors – zone 1; 1/11/2015	Y
The Miami Times Facebook page	Y
WHQT PSA – 1/12/2015; 7:57 a.m.	Y
WHQT PSA – 1/13/2015; 7:58 a.m.	Y

Website

- Continued to review the agency's website for revamping

Social Media (January 2015)

MDEAT owns and maintains three agency-branded social media profiles on Twitter, Facebook, and LinkedIn. The agency also distributes communications through the Constant Contact platform.

The agency posts content including MDEAT's *Tuesday Tidbits*, the agency's electronic newsletters, and provides insight on topics including upcoming events, juvenile justice,

housing, business growth opportunities and economic development. Most of the content is aggregated from MiamiDade.gov, BlackEnterprise.com, Entrepreneur.com, U.S. Small Business Administration, Minority Business Development Agency, Florida's Enterprise Development Corporation, Florida Housing Finance Corporation, and other governmental and non-profit agencies.

During January 2015, the agency utilized the following mediums:

- **Constant Contact:** MDEAT delivered two electronic communications utilizing this platform. The platform has 1363 (1-percent decrease) active contacts and an average open rate of 24-percent. The agency sent the *Tuesday Tidbits e-newsletter*, *Youth Action Committee notices* and a holiday message.
- **Facebook (www.Facebook.com/MDEATInfo):** The platform has 323 active members (5.88-percent membership increase) and 57 posts. The agency sent the *Tuesday Tidbits e-newsletter*, *agency committee notices* and *other timely resources and information*. Staff also forwarded pertinent county news and information from local and national news outlets.
- **LinkedIn (www.TinyURL.com/MDEATInfo):** The platform has 40 members and 4 posts. These posts included the *Tuesday Tidbits e-newsletter* and links to articles, upcoming events, juvenile justice, housing, business and economic development.
- **Twitter (www.Twitter.com/MDEATInfo):** This platform has 224 members (4.46-percent membership increase) and 62 posts. These posts included the *Tuesday Tidbits e-newsletter* and links to articles, upcoming events, juvenile justice, housing, business and economic development.

Memorandum



INFORMATION ITEM

TO: Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust Board
FROM: Susana Cortázar, Marketing Administrator
THRU: John E. Dixon, Jr., Executive Director
DATE: February 27, 2015
SUBJECT: Marketing Report for February, 2015

PURPOSE OF ITEM

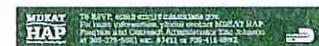
The purpose of the item is to inform the MDEAT Board of activities associated with marketing and public relations. It covers a multi-media mix of communication vehicles positioned to build awareness about the agency's advocacy and programmatic operations. The following activities occurred in December 2014-January 2015.

Housing Advocacy Committee – Breakfast Series – March 4, 2014

- Site visits, selection and coordination with venue staff
- Developed and printed flyers for distribution
- Developed and printed generic posters for future breakfasts
- Developed and printed sign-in sheets for future breakfasts

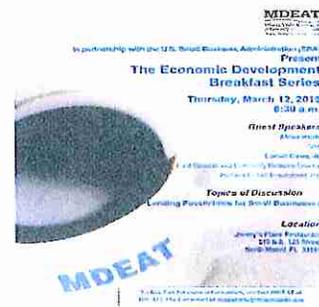


Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust's Homeownership Assistance Program and Housing Advocacy Committee
 Present
The HAP Breakfast Series
 Thursday, March 4, 2015 8:30am
 Location: **St. John's Episcopal Church**
 1000 S.W. 1st St., Miami, FL 33135
 Guest Speakers:
 • Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, Mayor of City of Miami
 • Mayor A. Carlos G. Manó, Mayor of City of North Miami
 • Mayor Fredi A. Durán, Mayor of City of North Miami Beach
 • City of North Miami Beach, Planning and Development
 • City of North Miami Beach, Planning and Development
 Sponsors:
 • City of North Miami Beach, Planning and Development
 • City of North Miami Beach, Planning and Development
 • MDEAT 100% (Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust)



Economic Development – Breakfast Series – March 12, 2014

- Site visits, selection and coordination with venue staff
- Developed and printed flyers for distribution for the event
- Developed and printed generic posters for future breakfasts
- Developed and printed sign-in sheets for future breakfasts



MDEAT
 in partnership with the U.S. Small Business Administration
 Present
The Economic Development Breakfast Series
 Thursday, March 12, 2015
 8:30am - 9:30am
Guest Speakers
 • Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, Mayor of City of Miami
 • Mayor Fredi A. Durán, Mayor of City of North Miami Beach
 • Mayor Carlos G. Manó, Mayor of City of North Miami
Topic of Discussion
 Launching Private Equity for Small Businesses
Location
 Jimmy's Place Restaurant
 210 S.W. 121 Street
 North Miami, FL 33181

Teen Court Certificate of Appreciation

- Developed a certificate of appreciation for Teen Court to present to speakers at various engagements

ID tags

- Worked with Lissie Allen to design and produce tags to place on our equipment to avoid loss

Central Dade Business Expo – May 14, 2015

- Identified the Joe Celestine Community Center as venue
- Communicated with center's director to request fee waiver
- Filled out forms for fee waiver, which was approved
- Filled out and submitted permit agreement with City of North Miami for use of center

General posters

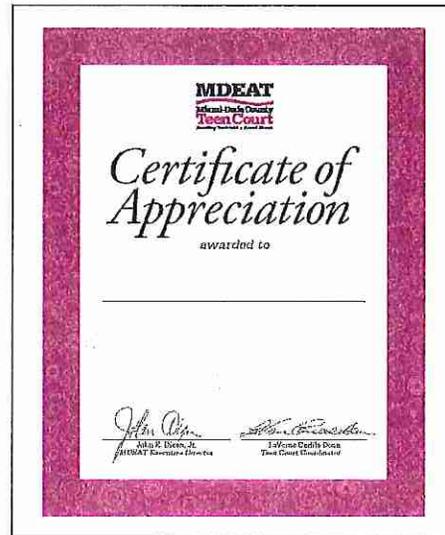
- Developed and printed WELCOME poster and door sign to insert in frames on 18th floor at the Stephen P. Clark Center to display notice for MDEAT meetings

Website

- Met with housing staff to effect changes to the website
- Some changes have been submitted to CIAO and made
- Some changes are being by CIAO reviewed for translation accuracy and will be incorporated into website when finalized

Social Media

- **Constant Contact:** MDEAT delivered two electronic communications utilizing this platform. The platform has 1416 (3.74-percent decrease) active contacts and an average open rate of 58.5-percent. The agency sent a thank you note for people visiting Teen Court booths during two outreach events and an invitation the upcoming EDAC business development breakfast.
- **Facebook (www.Facebook.com/MDEATInfo):** The platform has 335 active members (3.58-percent membership increase) and 58 posts. The agency sent the *Tuesday Tidbits e-newsletter*, *agency committee notices* and other timely resources and information. Staff also forwarded pertinent county news and



information from local and national news outlets. New followers include the Commissioner Audrey Edmonson, among others.

- **LinkedIn (www.TinyURL.com/MDEATInfo):** The platform has 41 members (2.39-percent increase) and 5 posts. These posts included links to articles, upcoming events, juvenile justice, housing, business and economic development.
- **Twitter (www.Twitter.com/MDEATInfo):** This platform has 242 members (7.45-percent membership increase) and 62 posts. These posts included links to articles, upcoming events, juvenile justice, housing, business and economic development. New followers include Miami-Dade Cultural Affairs; Dedrick Muhammad, senior director of the NAACP Economic Development Department; Miami Senior High School; MSNBC's PoliticsNation featuring Al Sharpton; Miami-Dade County Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava, among others.

Current Events: The State of Affairs

- Provided MDEAT staff and Board of Trustees with 31 newspaper articles which can generate conversations and action related to the agency's mission.

**MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MOTION AND APPROVAL BALLOT**

SUBJECT: I-A. to request approval from the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust to expend up to \$120,000 from the Housing Budget during fiscal years 2015 – 2017 for a Request for Application (RFA).

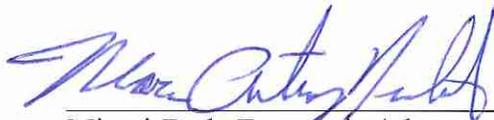
Motion made by: Ron Butler

Seconded by: Stephanye Johnson

	MEMBERS	YES	NO	ABSENT
1 st Vice Chair	Butler, Ron	X		
	Crews, Cornell Jr.	X		
Chairperson	Douthit, Marc, Esq.	X		
	Edwards, Sheldon L.	X		
	James, LaTonda	X		
	Johnson, Stephanye	X		
	Mizell, Cheryl			X
	Montero, Barbara B.	X		
	Morales, Carlos E.	X		
	Ray III, George			X
	Reverend Richardson, Walter T.			X
	Sims, Charles F.			X
2 nd Vice Chair	Toney, H. Leigh			X
	(2 vacancies)			
	TOTALS	8	0	5

 X APPROVED

 NOT APPROVED


 Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust
 Chairperson

3.28.15
 Date

**MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MOTION AND APPROVAL BALLOT**

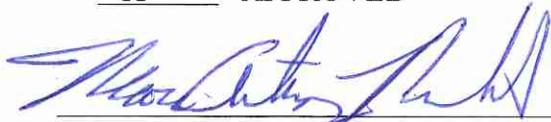
SUBJECT: I-B for approval of the MDEAT Board authorization to allocate funds not to exceed \$150,000 from the current Homeownership Assistance Program (HAP) pool of Documentary Surtax funds to provide funding for two Green Housing initiatives for development by Palmetto Homes with assistance from the Poinciana Development Group.

Motion made by: Carlos Morales
Seconded by: Stephanye Johnson

	MEMBERS	YES	NO	ABSENT
1 st Vice Chair	Butler, Ron	X		
	Crews, Cornell Jr.	X		
Chairperson	Douthit, Marc, Esq.	X		
	Edwards, L. Sheldon	X		
	James. LaTonda	X		
	Johnson, Stephanye	X		
	Mizell, Cheryl	X		
	Montero, Barbara B.	X		
	Morales, Carlos E.	X		
	Ray III, George			X
	Reverend Richardson, Walter T.			X
	Sims, Charles F.			X
2 nd Vice Chair	Toney, H. Leigh			X
	(2 vacancies)			
	TOTALS	9	0	4

 X APPROVED

 NOT APPROVED


Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust
Chairperson

3.25.15
Date

**MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MOTION AND APPROVAL BALLOT**

SUBJECT: I-C. to request MDEAT Board approval to enter into an interagency service agreement with the Greater Miami Service Corporation (GMSC) for the purpose of covering MDEAT receptionist duties, light clerical work and staff support on targeted initiatives as needed, the total cost for work related to this project is not to exceed \$16,000 from the MDEAT Fiscal Year 2014 – 2015 General Funds.

Motion made by: Ron Butler

Seconded by: Stephanye Johnson

	MEMBERS	YES	NO	ABSENT
1 st Vice Chair	Butler, Ron	X		
	Crews, Cornell Jr.	X		
Chairperson	Douthit, Marc, Esq.	X		
	Edwards, L. Sheldon	X		
	James. LaTonda	X		
	Johnson, Stephanye	X		
	Mizell, Cheryl	X		
	Montero, Barbara B.	X		
	Morales, Carlos E.	X		
	Ray III, George			X
	Reverend Richardson, Walter T.			X
	Sims, Charles F.			X
2 nd Vice Chair	Toney, H. Leigh			X
	(2 vacancies)			
	TOTALS	9	0	4

 X APPROVED

NOT APPROVED



Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust
Chairperson

3.25.15

Date

**MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MOTION AND APPROVAL BALLOT**

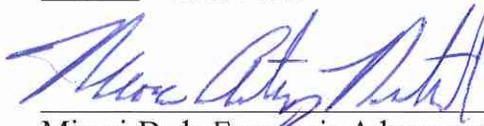
SUBJECT: I-E. to authorize collaboration between Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) and the Miami-Dade Black Advisory Board to publish the Black World Guide, 2015 Edition; the cost of this project is not to exceed \$10,000.

Motion made by: Sheldon Edwards
Seconded by: Carlos Morales

	MEMBERS	YES	NO	ABSENT
1 st Vice Chair	Butler, Ron	X		
	Crews, Cornell Jr.	X		
Chairperson	Douthit, Marc, Esq.	X		
	Edwards, L. Sheldon	X		
	James, LaTonda	X		
	Johnson, Stephanye	X		
	Mizell, Cheryl	X		
	Montero, Barbara B.	X		
	Morales, Carlos E.	X		
	Ray III, George			X
	Reverend Richardson, Walter T.			X
	Sims, Charles F.			X
2 nd Vice Chair	Toney, H. Leigh			X
	(2 vacancies)			
	TOTALS	9	0	4

APPROVED

NOT APPROVED



Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust
Chairperson

3.25.15
Date

**MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MOTION AND APPROVAL BALLOT**

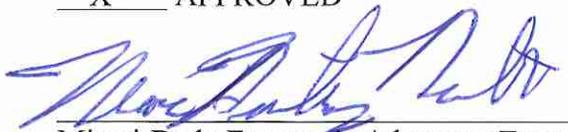
SUBJECT: I-F. to request the Board of Trustees of the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) to authorize staff to issue an Request for Application (RFA) to solicit the services of qualified economic development individuals, partnership or corporation to provide an economic development proposal to assist businesses in South Dade Targeted Urban Areas (TUA); additionally staff is requesting authorization to perform all tasks associated with executing an agreement with the successful proposer and requesting authorization to follow a concurrent pat to determine if there is an organization that currently provides an economic service that may be contracted with through a public or quasi-public agreement. The fiscal impact of this item is a \$50,000 allocation from the Economic Development Budget.

Motion made by: Ron Butler
Seconded by: Stephanye Johnson

	MEMBERS	YES	NO	ABSENT
1 st Vice Chair	Butler, Ron	X		
	Crews, Cornell Jr.	X		
Chairperson	Douthit, Marc, Esq.	X		
	Edwards, L. Sheldon	X		
	James. LaTonda	X		
	Johnson, Stephanye	X		
	Mizell, Cheryl	X		
	Montero, Barbara B.	X		
	Morales, Carlos E.	X		
	Ray III, George			X
	Reverend Richardson, Walter T.	X		
	Sims, Charles F.			X
2 nd Vice Chair	Toney, H. Leigh			X
	(2 vacancies)			
	TOTALS	10	0	3

 X APPROVED

 NOT APPROVED


Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust
Chairperson

3.25.15
Date

**MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MOTION AND APPROVAL BALLOT**

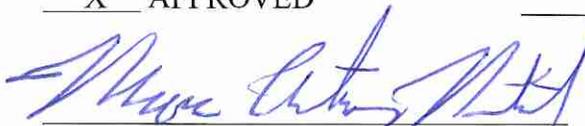
SUBJECT: I-I. to request the Board of Trustees authorization to purchase advertising for the recruitment of new board members. The requested advertisement expenditure is an amount not to exceed \$4,000.

Motion made by: Carlos Morales
Seconded by: Barbara Montero

	MEMBERS	YES	NO	ABSENT
1 st Vice Chair	Butler, Ron	X		
	Crews, Cornell Jr.	X		
Chairperson	Douthit, Marc, Esq.	X		
	Edwards, L. Sheldon	X		
	James. LaTonda	X		
	Johnson, Stephanye	X		
	Mizell, Cheryl	X		
	Montero, Barbara B.	X		
	Morales, Carlos E.	X		
	Ray III, George			X
	Reverend Richardson, Walter T.	X		
	Sims, Charles F.			X
2 nd Vice Chair	Toney, H. Leigh			X
	(2 vacancies)			
	TOTALS	10	0	3

APPROVED

NOT APPROVED


 Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust
 Chairperson

3-25-15
 Date

**MIAMI-DADE ECONOMIC ADVOCACY TRUST BOARD OF TRUSTEES
MOTION AND APPROVAL BALLOT**

SUBJECT: I-J. to request approval form the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust Board to increase the salary of the agency's Executive Director by \$25,000 from the agency's General Fund budget, increasing the Executive Director's salary to \$128,000.

Motion made by: Carlos Morales
Seconded by: Barbara Montero

	MEMBERS	YES	NO	ABSENT
1 st Vice Chair	Butler, Ron	X		
	Crews, Cornell Jr.	X		
Chairperson	Douthit, Marc, Esq.	X		
	Edwards, L. Sheldon	X		
	James. LaTonda	X		
	Johnson, Stephanye	X		
	Mizell, Cheryl	X		
	Montero, Barbara B.	X		
	Morales, Carlos E.	X		
	Ray III, George		X	
	Reverend Richardson, Walter T.	X		
	Sims, Charles F.			X
2 nd Vice Chair	Toney, H. Leigh			X
	(2 vacancies)			
	TOTALS	10	1	2

X APPROVED

NOT APPROVED


Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust
Chairperson

3.25.15
Date

STATE OF FLORIDA)
) SS:
COUNTY OF MIAMI-DADE)

I, HARVEY RUVIN, Clerk of the Circuit Court in and for Miami-Dade County, Florida, and Ex-Officio Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners of said County, DO HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing is a true and correct copy of the motions and votes tallied at the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust Board of Trustee's meeting of March 18, 2014, pertaining to agenda item(s): I-A; I-B; I-C; I-D; I-E; I-F; I-I; and I-J.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and official seal on this 31st day of March A.D. 2014.

HARVEY RUVIN, Clerk
Board of County Commissioners
Miami-Dade County, Florida

By *Yorlan G...*
Deputy Clerk



Board of County Commissioners
Miami-Dade County, Florida

Maria E. Hernandez

17972nd...

Education

Nova Southeastern University (1999-2001)

Completed 30 semester hours

- ▶ 4.0 grade point average
- ▶ Completed 30 semester hours of the Modified Educational Leadership Program above Master's Degree

University of... (1995-1997)

Master's In Science (FSOL)

- ▶ Master's in TESOL
- ▶ Obtained Master's Degree through a fully paid scholarship

Florida International University (1988-1990)

Bachelor's Degree in Childhood Education (Elementary)

- ▶ Bachelor's Degree in Childhood Education (Elementary)
- ▶ Minor in Early Childhood
- ▶ Member of the Dean's List
- ▶ Member and Secretary of Kappa Delta Pi

Miami Dade College (1985-1987)

Associate's Degree in Psychology

Miami Sunset Senior High School (1983-1985)

High School Degree

Experience

Adjunct Professor (2011-- Present)
Carlos Albizu University (2173 NW 99th Ave Miami, FL 33172)

- Develop and manage syllabus materials
- Coordinate courseware and curriculum with academic chair
- Facilitate class instruction
- Evaluate student performance
- Adhere to protocol and guidelines
- Respond promptly to grade determination
- Input midterm and final grades in Webinar and into the Blackboard (when applicable)
- Developed and Designed Online Course for TESL502A-Applied Curriculum & Materials (Graduate Level)

Courses Taught:

- TESL502A - Applied Curriculum and Materials Development (Graduate Level)
- EDF102A - Teaching Diverse Populations
- EDF101A - Introduction to Education
- EDF201A - Curriculum Development

Instructional Supervisor (2013 - Present)
Miami-Dade County Public Schools / School Operations (1080 Labaron Drive, Miami Springs, FL 33166)

- Teen Court/Student Court - Oversee the day to day operations of the Student Court Program
- Special Projects School Operations
- Special Projects Miami-Dade Schools Police Department

Instructional Supervisor (2007-- 2013)
Miami-Dade County Public Schools / School Operations (1080 Labaron Drive, Miami Springs, FL 33166)

- Developed and designed the Miami Partnership of the Truancy Reduction Plan/Truancy Court Pilot Program (Grant funded program through the City of Miami funded by the Children's Trust).
- Organize and recruit the governance board of the Miami Partnership of the Truancy Reduction Plan / Truancy Court Pilot Program
- Recruit and work effectively with community organizations (i.e. 11th Judicial Circuit Court, City of Miami Mayor's Office, Department of Juvenile Justice DJJ, Department of Families and Children, Mental Health Organizations etc...)
- Co-Chaired in the governance board
- Ensure that all grant deliverables are complied with
- Manage and oversee the day to day operations the grant
- Develop systems to manage the truancy program and conduct data analysis
- Present before Commissioners and Governance Boards on the truancy court program
- Appear in court for truancy court proceedings
- Write grants to obtain funding source
- Present at Conferences and Symposiums
- Prepare reports with regards to the grant

- Work closely with the Miami-Dolphins LTD. as a Dade Partner, as well a volunteer and participate in all community events with M-DCPS students.
- Oversee the day to day administrative functions
 - Act as the designee of the Director, approve payroll, supervise instructional and non-instructional staff, evaluate instructional staff performance, research statutory changes to align with current policies and procedures with new statutory requirements, design and develop manuals, draft policies, procedures, memorandums, letters, briefings, identify issues with special projects and design plans for resolution, conduct analysis of programs, mitigate issues from a compliance matter

Program Director (2007-2009)

City of Miami Mayor's Office (3500 Pan American Drive, Miami, FL 33133)

- Developed and designed the Miami Partnership of the Truancy Reduction Plan/Truancy Court Pilot Program (Grant funded program through the City of Miami funded by the Children's Trust).
- Organize and recruit the governance board of the Miami Partnership of the Truancy Reduction Plan / Truancy Court Pilot Program
- Recruit and work effectively with community organizations (i.e. 11th Judicial Circuit Court, City of Miami Mayor's Office, Department of Juvenile Justice DJJ, Department of Families and Children, Mental Health Organizations etc...
- Co-Chaired in the governance board
- Ensure that all grant deliverables are complied with
- Manage and oversee the day to day operations the grant
- Develop systems to manage the truancy program and conduct data analysis
- Present before Commissioners and Governance Boards on the truancy court program
- Appear in court for truancy court proceedings
- Write grants to obtain funding source
- Present at Conferences and Symposiums
- Prepare reports with regards to the grant

Assistant Principal (2006-2007)

M-DCPS/ Henry E.S. Reeves Elementary School (2005 NW 111th Street, Miami, FL 33167)

Assistant Principal (2004-2006)

M-DCPS/ Orchard Villa Elementary School (5720 NW 13th Avenue, Miami, FL 33142)

- Assist the principal in developing and maintaining an effective educational program consistent with State and Federal guidelines and the philosophy, policies and goals of the School Board; meeting and conferring with students, parents, faculty and staff; maintaining records and files; preparing reports
- Assist the principal in the overall administration of the school; interpret and enforce school and school division policies and regulations
- Serve as principal in the absence of the regular principal

Samuel T. McKinnon

22680 SW 114th Court • Miami, Florida 33170 • Cellular (786) 514-5202 • SAMUEL9338@ATT.NET

PROFILE

- Energetic, team oriented Administrator, with extensive and diverse experience encompassing management and administrative functions.
- **Significant strengths in**
 - Professional Management
 - Database Development
 - Technical Assistance
 - Budget Development and Management
 - Grant Writing
 - Policy and Procedure Development
 - Microsoft Office Proficiency
 - Community Consensus Building and Organization
- Worked with culturally diverse populations including children, families and young adults.
- Excellent interpersonal and communication skills resulting in effective and productive interaction, communication and relationships with clients, families, co-workers, governing bodies and outside agencies.
- Strong analytical and problem solving skills, with demonstrated adeptness in troubleshooting and evaluating critical needs. Develop and initiate creative solutions to complex operating problems in high-volume environments.
- Experienced manager and developer. Successfully hired, directed and motivated individuals and teams to produce optimum results and bottom-line performance in pursuit of organizational goals. A strong team player able to build consensus and effectively communicate corporate strategies.
- Proven track record of positively impacting the overall objective of a mandate while encompassing the provision of delivering high quality services.

PROFESSIONAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- Supervision the largest contract management team for The Children's Trust, without out any Senior Level supervision, during the Fiscal Year 2011-2012. This team was responsible for over 50 individual contracts, valued at \$9 million dollars, without any direct supervision.
- Managed a \$4 million dollar agency as Executive Director
- Increased agency revenues from \$2.1 to 4 million within 2 year of hire
- Submitted the #1 overall ranked proposal for funding with the City of Miami for 2 consecutive years
- Developed complete agency policy and procedures based on various funding guideline
- Was solely responsible for research, response, preparation, submission and management for all solicitations
- Developed all reporting tool used to convert staff action to various reporting methods required by numerous funding sources.
- Function as day to day operation manager allowing for Executive Director to operate as County Commissioner and only have to come in to the agency office on a monthly basis.

PROFESSIONAL POSTIONS

- | | | |
|--|------------------------|-------------------------------|
| • The Children's Trust | Contract Administrator | August 1, 2006-Present |
| • The Children's Trust | Contract Manager | January 1, 2006- July31, 2006 |
| • St. Alban's Child Enrichment Centers | Executive Director | August 2001- February 2005 |
| • Richmond Perrine Optimist Club | Operation Manager | April 2001- August 2001 |
| • Richmond Perrine Optimist Club | Soc. Service Coord. | March 1994- April 2001 |
| • Richmond Perrine Optimist Club | Program Coord. | March 1987- February 1994 |
| • Richmond Perrine Optimist Club | Counselor | June 1986- February 1887 |
| • Jartran Truck Rental (Corporate) | Account Group Supv | Nov. 1985- April 1986 |
| • Jartran Truck Rental (Corporate) | Accounting Clerk | April 1984- Nov. 1985 |
| • Jartran Truck Rental (Corporate) | File Clerk | Jan 1979-April 1984 |

Samuel T. McKinnon

22680 SW 114th Court • Miami, Florida 33170 • Cellular (786) 514-5202 • SAMUEL9338@ATT.NET

(Seasonal during college breaks)

EDUCATION:

Bachelor of Science Degree, Political Science
Fort Valley State University; Fort Valley, Georgia
GPA 3.11 (Cum Laude)
(Graduation date: Mar 1984)

TRAINING AND SEMINARS ATTENDED

Childhood and Adolescent Mental Health

Florida International University
2011-2012 (various training/workshops)
Topics ranged from Intervention with Aggressive Children to School Based Interventions

Office Software

New Horizons Computer Learning Center
(August 2013-November 2013)
Outlook, Access, PowerPoint, Excel, and Adobe Acrobat

Supervisory Management

Florida International University (Metropolitan Center)
(January –February 2013)

Skill Path

(August 2009)
Training on management techniques useful in diverse workplace environment

Outcome Measures

United Way of Miami Dade
(Jan 2004)
Training on identifying and developing tangible short and long term objectives, illustrative task of delivered measurable processes within the funding sources identified impact target areas

Fiscal Management

Head Start Region IV, Atlanta, GA
(Feb 2003, 3 Day)
Daily Training on Federal Mandates for development, management, and administration of Head Start funding

New Directors Conference

National Training Site - Washington, D.C.
(January 2002, One Week)
Annual Orientation of Head Start Directors with less than two years experience in the administration of a Head Start Program

Housing Development

Miami Dade Community College
(Mar 1995-Jun 1995)
Monthly seminar on process of doing non-profit development
Use of the HP-12 Calculator Financing a Deal
Calculating Interest and Monthly payments schedules

Non-Violence Conflict Resolution

Samuel T. McKinnon

22680 SW 114th Court • Miami, Florida 33170 • Cellular (786) 514-5202 • SAMUEL9338@ATT.NET

Kingian Center for Non-Violence
(Feb 1989- Apr 1989)

Weekly seminar for conflict resolution used by Miami-Dade County Law Enforcement Officials in Training

Black Family Symposiums

Miami Dade Department of Human Services
(Feb 1987- Feb 1999)

Yearly Symposium provided by the county for addressing social misunderstanding and deficiencies in the African American Community

Asses the equality of 5 CEU for Social Work Students

State of Florida Governors Conf. on Child Welfare

Tampa, FL.

(Mar 1998- Mar 1998)

A one week symposium on the progress of the Family Preservation and Support Initiative. Share and compare strategies that work, make recommendations to the Governor's Panel on direction of policy

Weed and Seed National Conference

San Antonio, TX

(May 1993- May 1993)

Facts gather in assignment for pending joint County/City proposal sponsored by the Miami Coalition

References:

Dennis C. Moss, Miami Dade County Commissioner (305) 375-4832

Patricia Ruffin, Deputy Director Rich-Perrine Optimist (305) 233-9325

Ronald Tookes, Miami Dade Police Office (305) 219-0300

Ed Hanna, West Perrine CD Executive Director (786) 298-6925

Khalid Salahuddin

11635 NE 21st Drive / North Miami, Florida 33181
H: 305-542-6463 / W: 305-893-6511 / khalidsalahuddin@yahoo.com

TRAINING & ASSOCIATIONS

- NRPA
- CPR & First Aid.
- North Miami Optimist Football Board Member
- North Miami Little League Baseball Board Member
- FRPA
- ESAC Member at Natural Bridge Elementary

EXPERIENCE

05/07 – to date **Recreation Supervisor – City of North Miami**
Responsible for budgeting, planning, promoting, coordinating, supervising (6) full-time, (50+) part-time and a year round volunteer program for a Recreational Division to meet the needs and the interests of citizens of all ages. Work extends to direct Athletics, After School, Adult, Teen programs, Tennis, Community Centers, Playgrounds, Summer Camps and under the direct supervision of the Parks and Recreation Manager

10/06 – 05/07 **Recreation Coordinator – City of North Miami**
Responsible for Afterschool programs, Community Center programs, adult and teen programs, scheduling of facility rentals, athletic programs

11/99– 10/06 **Recreation Leader II – City of North Miami**
Responsible for after school camps, summer camps, athletics, teen programs

COMPUTER KNOWLEDGE

Microsoft Word, Excel, Publisher, PowerPoint, Eden, Active Net and Outlook

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

- North Miami Beach Optimist Football
- North Miami PAL Basketball
- North Miami Little League Baseball
- Risky Business Organization – Community Events
- Special Olympics
- Senior Games – City of Delray Beach
- 5000 Role Models

BIOGRAPHY of VIVILORA D. PERKINS SMITH. M.ED.

Vivilora D. Perkins Smith is a career professional in the areas of community based programs, economic development, mental health services, business/media development and grant writing. She has an unyielding passion for the advancement of the African American community and is a tireless advocate for the advancement of the African American communities/children/families and the greater communities of Miami Dade County residents.

She holds a Master's Degree in Education from Troy University in Counseling/Psychology. Undergraduate Degree in Counseling from St. Thomas University, Miami Gardens.

Her parents Edward/Myrtis Perkins moved into the Buena Vista community in Miami, Florida in 1963 as one of the first African American families; raising nine (9) children. All attended/graduated high school (Miami Edison Senior High School) and completed college and advanced graduate degrees.

Vivilora has worked in Miami and Atlanta Georgia as a Social Service Administrator/Program Administrator; initial employment with Miami Dade College-Wolfson Campus with mentors; Congresswoman Carrie Meek and Bennie Moore, Dr. Bill Stokes, Dr. Eduardo Pardon, Dr. Sharon Thomas, Dr. Jose Vicente, Ms. Jerolyn Roberson and a host of others.

Currently she is the Project Coordinator for a federally funded program: Urban Partnership Drug Free Community Coalition serving Greater Liberty City and Little Haiti communities with Gang Alternative, Inc. serving as the fiscal agency. UPDFCC received initial funding from SAMHSA, October 1st, 2011 and is currently in its 3rd year of a 5-10 years grant cycle with over 270 members, partners, volunteers, including county, city governments; State of Florida ABT; Miami Dade County Police/Miami City Police departments; Miami Dade County Public Schools; US Justice Department; State Attorney Office; Public Defenders Office; Miami Children Initiatives; elected State, Federal and local officials and a host of others.

The mission of UPDFCC is to reduce/prevent underage drinking and usage of marijuana. She has embarked on presenting MOCK DUI's at target high schools; with the first event held at Miami Northwestern Senior High School- May 2013 with over 750 students and guests; second at Miami Edison Senior High School-May 2014 with over 750 students and guests and the third scheduled at Miami Central, May 2015.

My name is Valerie G. Staten. In fall 2002, I became a member of the Miami-Dade School Police Department. I came to the police department with the following credentials predated my hiring by the police department: BS degree from The Florida State University in Tallahassee, Florida; Certification in Paralegal Studies obtained through the Paralegal Studies program at Florida International University in Miami. In addition to these credentials, I became an active participant in community youth-at-risk programs: Big Brothers / Big Sisters of Greater Miami, and the Florida Guardian Ad Litem Program. From my experiences in these programs came my decision to pursue becoming a School Resource Officer.

The reason for my pursuit of the position of SRO was a desire to work with the youth of our community. My qualifications and youth program experiences became invaluable in my immediate past position as a Patrol Sergeant.

As the front line supervisor, my primary task was the responsibility for passing on valuable and critical information from upper management to the team in the field. During my time spent on patrol, my major contributions came in roles as an instructor, a mentor, and most importantly, as a listener and sounding board for my team. As an instructor, I provided each member of my team with a Patrol Response folder. This folder contained the department mission, the department's standard operating procedures which pertained to patrol, a list of community resources, a daytime officers contact list, and each person's school assignment. Providing these folders created a sense of continuity between shifts for my team. Building relationships as a coach and mentor was imperative. Each member of Patrol Shift C was encouraged to not limit themselves only to the calls assigned but to interact with the surrounding community. This additional interaction proved to have a positive impact on our stakeholders (students) and enable the team to better assess the needs of our stakeholders and to better provide resources to our stakeholders. Finally, a constant dose of encouragement, listening, and positive feedback to C Shift contributed to additional team confidence, esprit de corps, and fostered a team approach.

I am currently assigned as a Sergeant in the Professional Compliance Bureau. In this role, I am responsible for conducting staff inspections and internal affairs investigations. The Professional Compliance Bureau is an integral component of the police department. Inherently the bureau's purpose is the department's strength which is to provide

quality assurance that the department is operating in a mode of compliance.

The number one strength I have as a Police Sergeant in the Miami-Dade Schools Police Department is the immediate effect I can have on a child through mentoring. Mentoring builds self-respect and respect for one's community.

Looking out into the future, my career goals include positioning myself to be advanced to the next level, as I am currently on the promotional list for the position of Police Lieutenant, while continuing to be a contributor to the department's growth and expansion. I would like to become involved in establishing a partnership with the Traffic Safety Foundation (AAA) in the interest of fostering relationships within the elementary school's Safety Patrol. I would also like to implement a year round youth program that focuses on resources and problem solving in our community. Examples of some of the items that would be addressed by this program include missing / runaway juveniles, careers, housing, and basic services. Finally, I would like to introduce / sponsor service groups that have at their core a focus on our youth. This focus is necessary because the number one issue facing the urban community is youth gang turf wars.

It is important that Police Departments and Community Leaders continue to strive for better relationships within communities. One of the ways to achieve this improvement would be the establishment of a youth resource center, where the youth-on-youth conduct the business and the adults provide a listening ear.

In closing as a Sergeant within the Miami-Dade Schools Police Department as I look back over the course of my career there are three components that have helped me obtain my goals and that have readied me for the next level they are education, training and mentorship.

These three components create a professional police department and in turn will create better communities for the youths.

MIDEAT



Miami-Dade Economic
Advocacy Trust



Working Together for Economic Change

BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

March 18, 2015

Articles

Business Monday

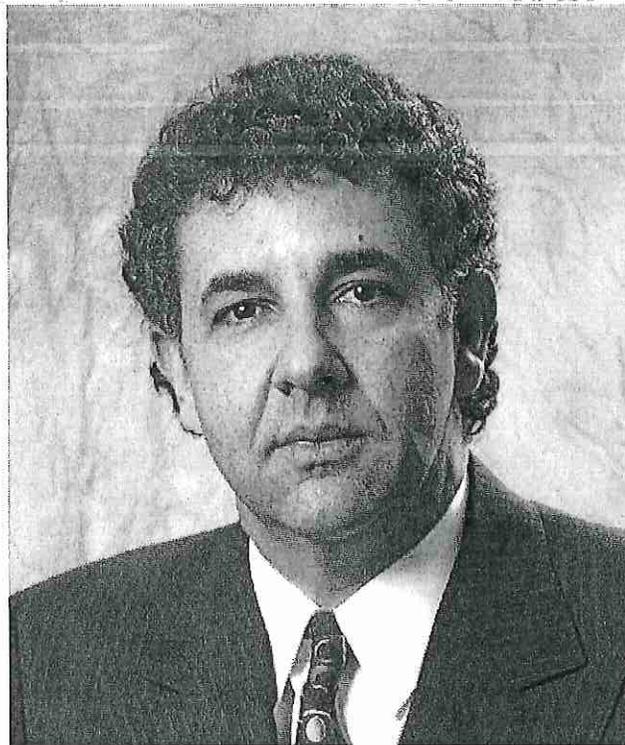
SUBSCRIBE



Time to stop Miami's brain drain: Bring our children home

BY JAMES S. CASSEL - SPECIAL TO THE MIAMI HERALD

03/15/2015 3:00 PM | Updated: 03/15/2015 7:00 PM



CASSEL

While it is great that many of our children are attending prestigious out-of-state colleges and universities and starting their careers elsewhere, it is a real problem that many aren't coming back to work in Miami after they have graduated or gained useful work experience. Putting the brakes on this "brain drain" is critical for Miami's future — especially in light of our ongoing efforts to position the city as a global business hub. We need a stronger local talent pool to support our city's continued growth and to create new business opportunities, and our youth are one of our best assets.

Our business community must take a proactive approach to address this issue. How?

For starters, we should actively connect Miami's youth with potential employers, referral sources and other key contacts. A quick email introduction or phone call from a trusted contact can go a long way toward motivating a business owner or a hiring manager to move certain résumés to the top of the stack and consider the candidates or at least forward their résumés to others who may be interested. I have made it a habit of connecting people in this way. I tell candidates I cannot guarantee them the job but I can generally get their résumés noticed. My matchmaking has greatly benefited the candidates and employers alike.

When facilitating these introductions, keep in mind that a major selling point helping these highly qualified candidates stand out is that they are from the local community. Employers recognize that they are better off hiring candidates with local connections and who are comfortable living here, as these candidates are more likely to stay and succeed. Greatly coveted are graduates with a few years of training and experience working at top companies in New York, Boston, California, etc. Candidates like these are music to a potential employer's ears because they have the top-notch education and experience as well as commitment to Miami as "home."

About a year ago, one of my daughter's friends from Miami working at a New York private equity firm called me for advice. We decided she should talk to Baptist Health, among others, and I connected her to one of my contacts who helped her navigate Baptist. The result: She received a job offer and returned to Miami, which is great for her, for Baptist, and for Miami.

Similarly, our youth will be much more likely to return to Miami if they believe they can access quality introductions and opportunities to pursue their careers with leading companies in industries they're interested in such as private equity, wealth management, healthcare, technology, etc. For our biggest players in some of these industries such as H.I.G. Capital, Trivest Partners, Rialto Capital Management, Baptist, Ryder and the cruise lines, to name a few, qualified candidates like these are worth their weight in gold. Considering our growing startup scene, we can also encourage candidates to return to Miami to start businesses and help them navigate the local environment.

Personal introductions and referrals are highly beneficial for all parties involved. Vehicles like job-posting websites aren't the most effective tools for either applicants or employers. In a saturated ecosystem like ours where résumés abound, recruitment processes can often feel like crapshoots for both parties.

Based on my experience, I know there is significant opportunity in networking to help bring quality talent and employers together. Miami offers many networking opportunities for business leaders and candidates, including professional organizations, local meetups and other events, and social networking websites like LinkedIn, which, unlike the aforementioned and quite transactional job-posting websites, facilitate discussions among like-minded individuals in similar and adjacent verticals, fostering meaningful and organic connections. Networking can also connect candidates with companies that may not be seeking to fill immediate vacancies but may be looking for good talent who can provide distinct value to organizations. A classifieds website cannot help anyone forge such deep connections.

Without a doubt, rather than applying their knowledge, skills and talents to grow other regions, our youth should be focused on investing those valuable assets here and supporting our city's ongoing growth. They will be much more motivated to do this if they know they will have the platform and access they need to succeed here. Recognizing this, now is a good time for us to ask ourselves how we can contribute, and, most importantly, take decisive action to help. We must bring our children home.

James Cassel is co-founder and chairman of Cassel Salpeter & Co., LLC, an investment-banking firm with headquarters in Miami that works with middle-market companies. www.casselsalpeter.com (<http://www.casselsalpeter.com/>)

Op-Ed

SUBSCRIBE



Black business community must define itself

BY ERIC KNOWLESWWW.M-DCC.ORG

03/13/2015 8:14 AM | Updated: 03/13/2015 8:14 AM

During the state of the county, Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Gimenez spoke about being a “tech mayor;” he spoke about the eMerge Americas Conference. But it’s what wasn’t said that is the reason there is a need for a Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce.

What was not mentioned was Black Tech Week, launched the very same week, by inspiring young black tech pioneers who are paving their own path each and every day. I will defend the mayor by saying that, possibly, he was not aware of Black Tech Week. If so, perhaps it is my fault for not pushing as hard as I could to inform the community about the event, but there has to be a Black Tech Week because there still remains a gap that must be bridged in order to pave the way for inclusiveness as we build this world-class community.

Some ask why there is a chamber of commerce that focuses on the black community; some ask: “Why do we have to keep reminding us that they are black?”

Because only 40 years ago, the black business community had to fight for recognition when it was not being recognized by the leading business organization, the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce; 40 years ago, it was not an inclusive organization. Today I applaud the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce and its president and CEO, Barry Johnson, as we work together, creating synergies that lift all businesses in Miami-Dade County.

Mayor Gimenez mentioned that the county unemployment rate is hovering around 6.7 percent, and in the true urban core – not the sexy new urban core – the unemployment rate shoots through the roof, standing above 20 percent. I commend the mayor for his new Employ Miami-Dade initiative, working with Associated Builders and Contractors,

Rick Beasley and CareerSource South Florida, along with Leroy Jones, of Neighbors And Neighbors Association – NANA – to recruit, train and place residents to current jobs and those that will become available as the billions of dollars are being spent on construction projects.

The mayor also mentioned the Liberty Square project, which I think should be built by black general contractors. Liberty Square Rising should be the beginning of a true partnership with the county as it prepares its disparity study to tell us that blacks have not been treated fairly when it comes to securing county contracts.

If a young black child can see and talk to a contractor or to a surveyor or to someone who owns their business instead of the dope dealer or the rock slinger, then maybe there is hope. The goal should be to bring residents back to the neighborhood – and building a neighborhood.

That is why there is a Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce: If we don't say it, if we don't fight for it, we will never get it. That is why our Business Leaders Luncheon has become a Symposium and Business Leaders Luncheon, which will be held Friday at the Hyatt Regency downtown Miami. R. Donahue Peebles, CEO of the Peebles Corporation, will give the keynote address.

We have to do more than recognize those who have supported us in the past year or celebrate those who are doing great things. We have to have a "come to Jesus" meeting with ourselves. We fight each and every day for opportunities. But are we ready for those opportunities, do we have the capacity? The symposium is designed to stimulate and create economic growth, to ascertain where the opportunities are and how we participate, creating our own economic foot print.

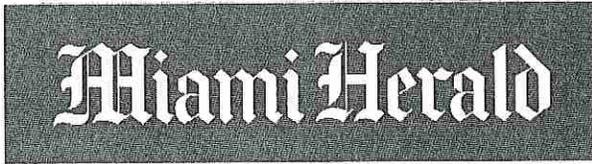
After the symposium, the chamber will engage the business community through a series of meetings throughout Miami-Dade County, working along with Florida Memorial University to create an inventory and an assessment of our capacity, answering the question: Who are we as a business community? We have to have a dialogue that addresses our concerns and find real solutions to our economic challenges among ourselves and with the community at large.

Working with the Beacon Council and its president, Larry Williams, we will take a deep dive, as I ask the question, what is the black community's "One Community One Goal?" How does it line up with the Miami Dade County's initiative? For instance, who in the black business community works with in aviation? Is there someone whose business sells fuel, sells tires, services aircraft? What is our capacity, and how do we participate in the economic boom? How many black millionaires are we creating?

ERIC KNOWLES IS PRESIDENT OF THE MIAMI-DADE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Op-Ed

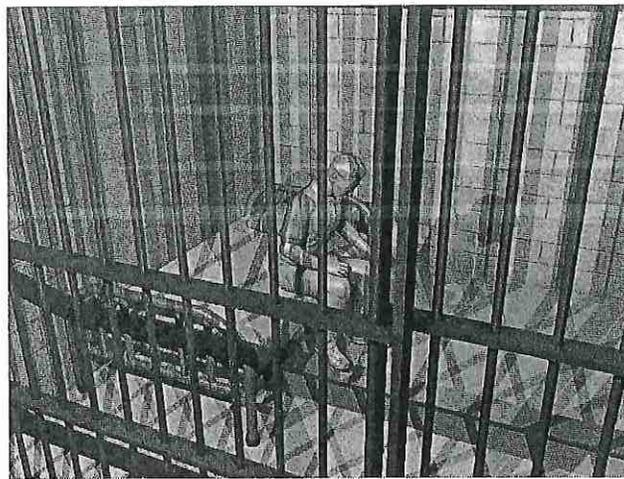
SUBSCRIBE



Public Defender: Don't put kids in adult prisons

BY CARLOS J. MARTINEZ - CMARTINEZ@PDMIAMI.COM

03/11/2015 6:33 PM | Updated: 03/11/2015 6:33 PM



TNS

More than 20 years ago, during a wave of highly publicized tourist murders, Florida enacted laws giving prosecutors the power to remove children from juvenile court and send them to adult court without a court hearing.

These “direct file” laws turn a teenager into an adult without judicial consideration of that child’s intellectual, moral or cognitive capacity, or the child’s amenability to treatment and rehabilitation. Before direct file, a child could be tried as an adult, but only after a judicial hearing or indictment by a grand jury.

Floridians were sold on the idea that getting tough on juvenile offenders would make everyone safer and deter young offenders from committing crime. However, there has not been a single study that shows that direct filing reduces crime. To the contrary, numerous studies conclude that direct-filed youth re-offend sooner and more violently than their similarly matched counterparts who remain in the juvenile system.

Children do not have the same decision-making abilities as adults. Children, particularly teens, are wired for impulsiveness, thrill seeking and peer approval. They biologically have less executive function because their frontal lobe, the brain's planning region, is not mature. That's why we have laws restricting children from entering into contracts, from voting and even smoking. But children's innate lack of formation means they have an increased capacity to change and reform.

Yet, Florida ignores that reality.

One key issue is, Where will we place our developing teens – in a prison environment with hardened adults or in a secure juvenile facility with education, services and appropriate adult role models? And, who should make that decision – impartial judges or prosecutors?

In arguing against changing direct-file laws, prosecutors point to a drop in direct files. This drop corresponds to reductions in overall crime. Even the 35 states that do not direct file are experiencing record lows of juvenile and adult crime. Prosecutors also say that they only transfer the worst of the worst. But studies show 60 percent were direct filed for nonviolent offenses, and there is disparate treatment of children and high rates of incarceration in some parts of the state.

In some Florida counties, the prosecutors use the threat or possibility of transfer to adult court to force children into juvenile commitment programs. To avoid the transfer, the children are forced to decide on plea bargains in juvenile court without having access to the evidence (discovery), without the names of witnesses, with no opportunity to question the witnesses, no testing of the evidence (e.g., fingerprints, DNA), no opportunity to challenge any possible constitutional violations and without a trial.

Judges do not decide the child's sentence, prosecutors do. Unlike all other juvenile cases, the prosecutor and not the Department of Juvenile Justice determine the most appropriate placement for that particular child. In essence, the child has to give up every constitutional and statutory right to avoid adult court.

The children who want their day in court are filed into adult court where they face terms in prison, where sexual and other abuse can occur. Apparently, a child is not the "worst" as long as the child pleads guilty immediately and gives up all due-process rights.

Unchecked government power over our children undermine basic American values – due process of law, equal justice under law and checks and balances on government power. The level of due process a child receives should not depend on where that child lives. The prosecutor's unchecked power makes a mockery of the adversarial system, and exacerbates distrust and disdain for our justice system.

We can do better this year. Several bills have been filed to reform Florida's "direct file" system. Join me in urging the Legislature to place a minimum age for children who can be indicted, eliminate or curtail direct files and instead require judicial hearings, prohibit children with mental illness or developmental disabilities to be charged as adults, establish more uniformity throughout state and house all children in juvenile detention centers before trial and not in adult jails. Additional information is available at www.noplaceforachild.com (<http://www.noplaceforachild.com/>).

CARLOS J. MARTINEZ IS THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC DEFENDER.

Sponsored Content ()

Top 10 Florida Theme Parks



0:00 / 0:00

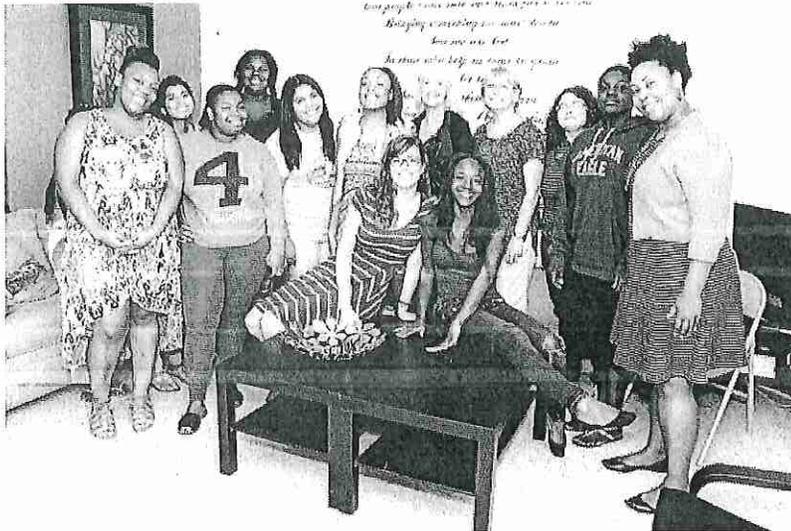


The Miami Times

The Children's Trust: Provider Profile

CASA VALENTINA

Miami Times staff report | 3/11/2015, 2 p.m.



"Each day, I am thankful that at least 28 young adults and children have a roof over their heads and place to call home. I am so grateful to everyone in the community and at Casa Valentina for reaching out and making this possible!" — Deborah Korge, executive director.

Casa Valentina is a nonprofit organization that provides housing and support services to at-risk youth transitioning from foster care to independent living. It has the capacity to serve 28 residents — seven young men, 13 young women and four mothers, as well as their children. The young men live in a



facility near Lummus Park, owned by Camillus House. The mother/child residents live in two duplexes in Coconut Grove and seven of the young women live in the apartment building next door, which is owned by Casa Valentina. The remaining six women live in an apartment building that is leased near the Vizcaya Metrorail.

WHERE: Casa Valentina's headquarters is located at 2990 SW 35th Ave. Miami.

PURPOSE: Casa Valentina was founded in 2006 by Susan Lampen, Sharon Langer, Marcia Reisman, Lisa Schejola Akin and Sharon Socol. They saw that many young girls who were aging out of the foster care system at age 18 in Miami-Dade County had no place to go and were at risk of becoming homeless, exposed to abuse and other dangers. As a result, they wanted to do something to provide the girls safety and skills needed to live independently upon leaving Casa Valentina.

WHO: The organization caters to youth transitioning out of foster care who lack the life experiences, financial stability and support they need to live independently. Without being adopted or permanently reunited with their families, these youth are vulnerable to incarceration, pregnancy, physical/sexual abuse, mental illness, drugs and homelessness. Casa Valentina's goal is to turn this around. While starting with six young women in 2006, the leadership saw that there was a greater need and expanded to a second building for young women in 2008. In 2011, they began their partnership with Camillus House and Our Kids to provide the same services to young men at Emmaus Place. Later that year, they added housing and services for young mothers and their children.

SERVICE: Casa Valentina provides safe, affordable housing and services, including academic support, employment training, life skills and wrap-around services. Residents are encouraged to stay for two years, during which the focus of the staff is to help residents obtain the educational and employment training they need to achieve their goals and to develop the life skills they need to become self-sufficient. Each resident develops a

personal life plan for not only their time at Casa Valentina but for afterwards, when they are living on their own and their progress is monitored. More than 140 residents have been served since 2006.

RECOGNITION: Casa Valentina's recent honors include: recipient of the 2013 Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce Award for Nonprofit Excellence; recipient of the 2013 Bank of America Neighborhood Builder Award; and being named an Outstanding Community Partner by Educate Tomorrow in 2014. In April, executive director Deborah Korge will be honored by the Junior League of Miami at its "Women Who Make a Difference Luncheon." Miami Today also named Korge one of two "Best of Miami NonProfit Executives" in 2014.

SUPPORT: Casa Valentina is supported by The Children's Trust and works closely with all foster care agencies and organizations that assist at-risk youth. The Young Men's program has a successful partnership with Camillus House. The organization has also benefitted from citizen donations and contributions.

GET INVOLVED: Casa Valentina has many different volunteer events and is always eager to engage not only individuals but groups in its programs and services. This fall, Casa Valentina will begin its 10-year celebration with a play called "Reach Out!" to commemorate this milestone. It will be presented on Nov. 5 at the Olympia Theater at Gusman Center in Downtown Miami. Tickets are now on sale. Volunteers are also needed to help be part of the production.

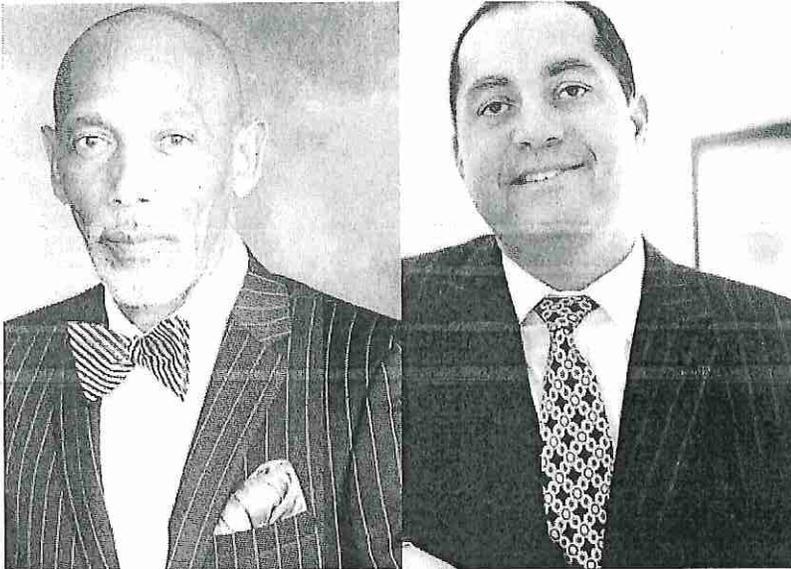
CONTACT: Casa Valentina can be reached by phone at 305-444-0740 or email at info@casavalentina.org. Visit www.casavalentina.org for more information.

The Miami Times

Peebles to speak at chamber's business leaders luncheon

Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce event will focus on the Black economy and communities

Jose Cassola | 3/11/2015, 2 p.m.



G. Eric Knowles and R. Donahue Peebles

Real estate entrepreneur, author and political activist R. Donahue Peebles says while there are opportunities in the tourism and real estate industries for minorities, access to capital is still limited.

Peebles will discuss this and more at the Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce's Annual Symposium and Business Leaders Luncheon at 9 a.m. Friday, March 13.

"Certainly the tourism industry has improved immensely where minorities, particularly African-Americans, are concerned, but there is still a long way to go," Peebles said. "There is little diversity in real estate, for example, and a lot of that has to do with access to capital. The banking community needs to step up and support minority businesses and developments more."

Peebles joins a list of community movers and shakers at the annual event, which will take place at the Hyatt Regency Miami Hotel, 400 SE Second Ave., and include workshops and discussions focusing on the Black economy and its impact on Black communities. Peebles, chairman and CEO of the Peebles Corp. -- a Black-owned real estate development company -- will serve as the keynote speaker.

The Peebles Corp. is responsible for multi-billion dollar developments of luxury hotels, high-rise residential and commercial properties in New York City, Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, Las Vegas and Miami Beach. The Royal Palm Crowne Plaza in South Beach was the first Black-owned resort in the U.S. Peebles redeveloped the hotel as part of an economic plan to help Blacks move into the tourism industry following a two-and-a-half-year boycott of Miami hotels by Blacks in the early 1990s.

The Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce focuses on creating business opportunities for minority companies in the urban core. The chamber also works closely with organizations such as the Black Hospitality Initiative of Greater Miami (BHI), which was established in 1991 to advance economic participation and open doors for Blacks in the Greater Miami visitor industry.

According to its web site, BHI has provided more than 200 scholarships and 2.5 million job placement and in-kind services. Additionally, 80 percent of BHI undergraduate scholars graduate within five-and-a-half years, a rate nearly 30 percent higher than the national average for all races and ethnicities.

Graylyn Swilley-Woods, vice president of the Multicultural Tourism Dept. at the Greater Miami Convention and Visitor's Bureau, said the Academy of Hospitality and Tourism has also grown to reach more than 1,500 students in 14 Miami-Dade County public high schools.

"We are reaching more and more students, not just for the standard two-year and four-year college degree programs, but certifications, too," Swilley-Woods said. "It's important to understand that there are a wide range of jobs in the hospitality industry. It's not just hotels and cruise lines anymore. The landscape has broadened to include health, accounting and technology within the industry, as well."

The symposium and business leader's luncheon is the Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce's opportunity to acknowledge those individuals who have worked hard in the community and recognize its members for their business savvy and accomplishments.

This year's honored guests will include: Barron Channer, CEO and founder of Bach Real Estate; Stephanie M. Clark, president and CEO of Milestones Marketing; Rev. Dr. Joaquin Willis, pastor at the Church of the Open Door; David Wilson, president of The Real Estate Resource Group; Beatrice Louissaint, president and CEO of the South Florida Regional Minority Supplier Development Council; Dr. Pandwe Gibson, executive director of EcoTech Visions; Rick Beasley, executive director of CareerSource South Florida; T. Willard Fair, president of the Urban League Greater Miami; John Dixon, executive director of the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust; Adora Obi Nweze, president of the Florida NAACP; Grady Mohammad, community activist; Renita Holmes, advocacy and community support specialist; and Gepsie M. Metellus, executive director of Sant La Haitian Neighborhood Center.

G. Eric Knowles, president and CEO of the Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce, said the symposium and luncheon will be a meeting of the minds.

"As the developer of the first Black hotel, we find it appropriate to bring someone of Mr. Peebles' background to speak about the Black economy and how Blacks fit into it," Knowles said. "This event will be a great learning experience for everyone to express and share their ideas and get an understanding of who is doing business in our Black communities and how do we become a part of the real economics."

Miami Dade College News and Events

Miami Dade College's Homestead Campus to Host Annual Day of the Young Child April 11

Miami, March 11, 2015 - Miami Dade College's (MDC) Homestead Campus and the School of Education will celebrate the 13th annual *Day of the Young Child*, Saturday, April 11, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. This year's theme is *Sustaining Our Future*. The event is free and open to the public.

Children and families will enjoy a host of interactive, early-childhood educational activities with a primary focus on the mental, physical, and emotional development of children from birth to eight years of age. Health screenings, nutritional information and parenting resources will also be made available.

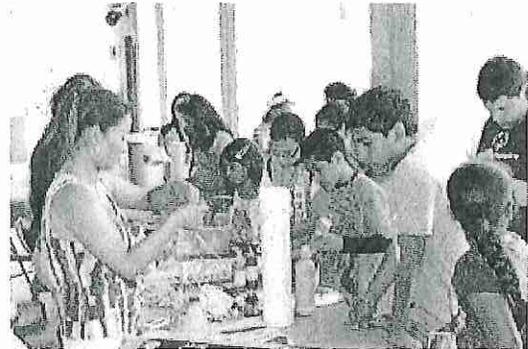
Co-sponsored by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, *Day of the Young Child* is hosted in conjunction with *Week of the Young Child* (April 12-18), a nationwide campaign by the National Association for the Education of Young Children. The purpose is to focus public attention on the needs of young children and their families and to recognize the early childhood programs and services that meet those needs.

"The factors that shape early childhood are multifaceted and *Day of the Young Child* reflects the all-encompassing approach that is necessary to address our children's well-being and development," said Homestead Campus president Dr. Jeanne Jacobs. "This annual event offers cultural, educational, and healthcare activities that enhance parenting skills and a healthy upbringing."

Families will enjoy a variety of educational activities including: dance presentations, science activities, face painting, music, gardening, creative art experiences and a parade. Featured performances will include Chinese lion dancers and a Haitian rara band.

Many community organizations will participate in this year's event, including Miami Children's Museum, the South Florida Association for the Education of Young Children, Homestead Hospital and Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation & Open Spaces.

In honor and memory of the event's founder, the third annual *Beverly Tate Scholarship* award will be presented to a student majoring in education.



MDC Homestead Campus to Host Annual Day of the Young Child

- **WHEN:** Saturday, Apr. 11, 10:00 AM - 4:00 PM
- **WHERE:** MDC Homestead Campus, Central Lawn 500 College Terrace

For more information, contact Department Chair Dr. John Barimo at 305-237-5134.

Media-only contacts:

Juan Mendieta, 305-237-7611, jmendiet@mdc.edu, MDC communications director
Sue Arrowsmith, 305-237-3710, sue.arrowsmith@mdc.edu, media specialist
Roxana Romero, 305-237-3366, rromero3@mdc.edu, media specialist
Allison Horton, 305-237-3359, ahorton2@mdc.edu, public information coordinator
Alejandro Rios, 305-237-7482, arios1@mdc.edu

Copyright © Miami Dade College • 300 N.E. 2nd Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132-2204 • 305-237-8888
Request Information • Privacy Policy • Regional Accreditation • Site Directory • Campuses / Centers • Follow us on Social Media

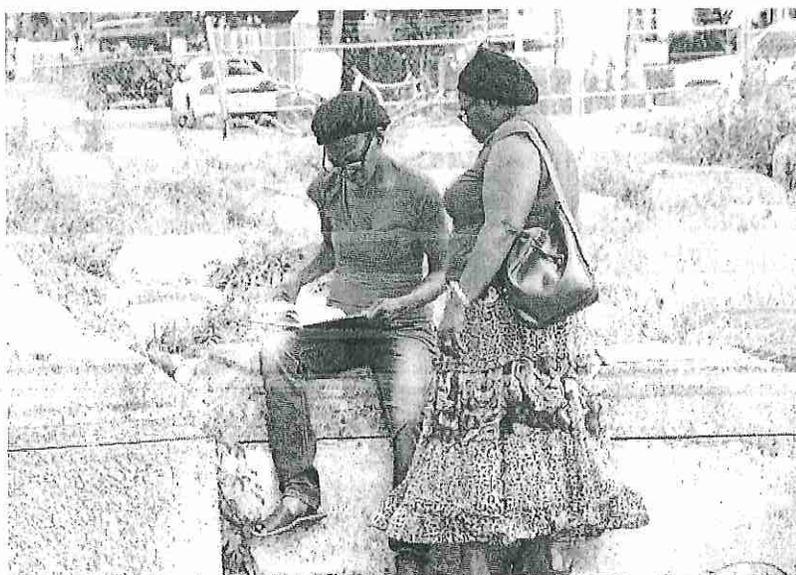
Miami Dade College is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Commission on Colleges to award associate and baccalaureate degrees. Contact the Commission on Colleges at 1866 Southern Lane, Decatur, Georgia 30033-4097 or call 404-679-4500 for questions about the accreditation of Miami Dade College. Miami Dade College is an equal access/equal opportunity institution and does not discriminate on the basis of gender, race, color, marital status, age, religion, national origin, disability, veteran's status, sexual orientation, or genetic information. Contact the Office of Equal Opportunity Programs/ADA Coordinator, at 305.237.2577 for information.

The Miami Times

Community unites to save a landmark

Cleanup effort planned for Lincoln Memorial Cemetery after neglect

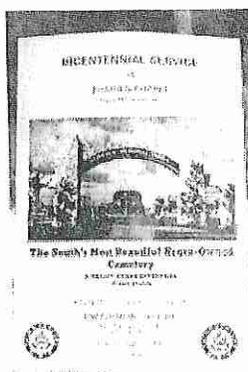
Erick Johnson | 3/11/2015, 2 p.m.



Jessica Williams, left, the new manager and owner of Lincoln Memorial Cemetery, helps relatives find the graves of their loved ones. Miami Times photo/Erick Johnson

The remains of D.A. Dorsey, Miami's first Black millionaire, lie in Brownsville's Lincoln Memorial Cemetery in a dirty mausoleum, where squatters broke the glass windows on the doors and left their tattered clothes on the floor.

Located at 3001 NW 46th St., the cemetery has hundreds of deteriorating above-ground vaults that are



By Erick Johnson

A program from a Bicentennial service at Lincoln Memorial Cemetery in 1976 referred to the property as the "South most beautiful owned cemetery" packed next to each other in tight rows. Bottles, cans and debris litter the spaces narrow walkways where relatives are unable to find their loved ones. Overgrown weeds have nearly eclipsed the many weathered rectangular concrete boxes.

It's so bad that Theresa Brown, 64, a Liberty City resident has not seen the graves of her brother and step father since 2006. Tall weeds, vines and uncut bushes keep her from getting close to her relatives.

"This is terrible," said Brown. "It gets worse every year."

But after public appeals, the cemetery's new manager, Jessica Williams, and the community are coming together with plans to clean up the property, where Miami's Black elite are buried. The plans come as the county sues the cemetery to collect thousands of dollars in fines for code violations.

The outpouring of support has moved Brown and other residents who have grown weary from watching the 91-year-old cemetery deteriorate from years of neglect to rally behind Williams as she prepares to have the cemetery

designated as a historic site.

Lincoln Memorial Cemetery, which sits on about 20-acres, was built in 1924 and was once called one of "the South's most beautiful negro-owned cemeteries" with its towering evergreen trees and coral rock front entrance. Cemeteries Lincoln, Evergreen Memorial Park in Brownsville and Charlotte Jane in Coconut Grove are where many Blacks were buried during segregation and the Jim Crow era. These cemeteries have above-ground vaults because of the high water table in the area. Lincoln Memorial Cemetery stopped accepting burials two years ago.

With just more than 1,000 graves, Lincoln is the smallest and is the resting place of many pioneers whose names grace buildings, schools and parks in Miami-Dade County. They include Gwen Cherry, the state's first Black legislator and the first Black female in the county to be admitted to the Florida Bar; Henry S. Reeves, founder of The Miami Times; and Father John Culmer, whose efforts to address quality housing in Overtown led to the creation of the Liberty Square housing projects in 1937, according to the South Florida Black Archives.

But with little funds and constant care, the cemetery has deteriorated over the years. In 2012, seven graves were desecrated after vandals broke into the vaults and removed the remains, according to an incident report from the Miami-Dade police.

In addition to trash and debris, the cemetery needs extensive landscaping and modern upgrades. Many of the graves need new nameplates. There is no computerized database to document the cemetery's burials so Williams uses old binders containing handwritten documents to help visitors find their loved ones.

Williams said her aunt, Elyn Johnson, was given ownership to Lincoln Cemetery from her godfather, Kelsey Pharr, Miami's first Black funeral director and embalmer, who is buried there. Williams said maintaining and protecting the property eventually was too much for Johnson, who had managed the cemetery since the 1950s.

[| Read More >>](#)

The Miami Times

Life after prison

The South Florida Reentry Center Hub will hold a workshop March 12 for former offenders

Tiffani Knowles and Livingstone Knowles | 3/11/2015, 2 p.m.



Pastor Terrell Matthews readies to visit inmates who will soon be released. Miami Times photo/Chris Cutro

Fifty years since Martin Luther King Jr. led the march from Selma to Montgomery, Alabama, Black men in communities like Miami-Dade's Liberty City are among the 32 percent of incarcerated Blacks in the state of Florida.

And, according to the Bureau of Justice Statistics, recidivism -- the rate at which inmates return to prison -- is at nearly 50 percent nationwide. In Florida, the rate ranges from 26 to 33 percent, according to a 2013 Florida Prison Recidivism Study.

"Incarceration is likened to slavery and the prison industry is the new way to keep slavery going," said Wayne Rawlins, coordinator of the South Florida Reentry Task Force. "This is why we do what we do." The South Florida Reentry Center Hub was founded in 2004 to provide services to former inmates to counter those statistics. Most of his clients are Black men because the Florida Department of Corrections claims this group demonstrates the highest incidence of recidivism.

"When we meet white guys in jail they tell us 'they're good, they'll have a home, a job, a family,'" said Rawlins. "Most of the Black guys we service don't have these things and if they return to Miami-Dade County without adequate reentry support, the likelihood of reoffending is high."

Rawlins uses a very simple formula for reentry: capacity-building, direct services, advocacy and physical change.

"People need to first have the capacity to be successful: life skills training, a GED. Yet, if a man doesn't have money, a roof over his head or food, he is more likely to commit a crime," said Rawlins, who has worked with this population for about 20 years. "We also advocate for rights and services then, finally, there needs to be some environmental changes conducive to positive reentry. If you see nothing but dope being sold and people being shot up, you're not in a productive environment to sustain reentry."

HELP INSIDE, OUTSIDE THE WALLS

Pastor Terrell V. Matthews, senior minister of 54th Street Ministries in Liberty City, has been volunteering as a prison chaplain for more than 12 years and has helped dozens of inmates acclimate to life outside of the prison walls.

"The first thing I tell my guys is there is always hope and never to lose heart. If you want to change your life and circumstances, you must change your mind and way of thinking," said Matthews. "After you acknowledge that you have been on the wrong path, you must begin the process of forging a new path for your life."

Still, "it is not that easy," said retired Corrections Officer Arthur Billings who worked at four different jails throughout his 29-year career in Miami-Dade County.

"I've seen repeat offenders so many times. One time an inmate was released then returned to my jail before the end of my shift," said Billings. "Religion, education and being in a structured environment will help as long as an individual wants it, goes after it and keeps it."

Larry Moore, a 59-year-old Army veteran who lives in Little Haiti, says that he forged a new spiritual path after serving two different prison sentences – both of which stemmed from his cocaine and heroin addiction.

| [Read More >>](#)

The Miami Times

Business workshop assists owners

Miami Times staff report | 3/11/2015, 2 p.m.



Stephanie Clark, president & CEO of Milestones Marketing LLC and the Moderator of "Open for Business: Small Business Workshop.

"To play the game, you've got to get in the game" reasoned Stephanie Clark, president & CEO of Milestones Marketing LLC and the moderator of "Open for Business: Small Business Workshop."

To operate a business, "you've got to 'show-up, to go-up,'" continued Clark as she, along with an eight-member panel and the Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce Minority and Small Business Enterprise Grants Manager Parker Gammon, joined by Opa-locka City Manager Kelvin L. Baker; Planning and Community Development Department Director Gregory D. Gay, and a supporting cast of participants from Career Source South Florida, local business owners and others.

The workshop's purpose was to help motivate, lend support and access to the

keys for starting, growing or expanding a business. Open For Business workshop was put on by Opa-locka Commissioner Joseph L. Kelley, sponsored by the City of Opa-locka Mayor and Commission and the Planning and Community Development Department, in partnership with The Miami-Dade Chamber. It was held in Sherbondy Village Community Center Thursday, March 5. During the free workshop, attendees seeking to take part in future bidding processes, seize advantage of resource opportunities or merely increase their understanding, received hints, tips, suggestions and assistance from an elite panel of presenters.

Panel members included Melissa Adames and Roslyn Alic-Batson, both from Procurement Management Services Internal Services Department, Miami-Dade County; Vivian O. Walters Jr., from the Small Business Development Division, Miami-Dade County; John Dixon, executive director of Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust's (MDEAT); Denise Mincey-Mills, with Miami-Dade County Public Schools Office of Economic Opportunity; Kenneth Robertson, director of Procurement, Construction Services, Jackson Healthcare System; Gladys Keith, president, FSB Agency Inc.; and Rose McKay, with the City of Opa-locka.

Each panelist offered one-on-one opportunities, along with pamphlets, brochures and an inside perspectives on how to create an influential bid that would attract attention and stand-out among competitors. Dixon elaborated on the importance of 13 simple documents needed to accompany future business owners, during the application process. Keith also shared "the ABC's" of bonding resources. Attendees were reminded that it was their responsibility to act on the information given to them. Mincey-Mills advised, "It's important who you know, but more importantly, Who knows you!" Dixon recommended: "Knock on doors and be a thorn in their side!"

In her presentation on "How to do Business with the City of Opa-locka," Procurement Officer McKay said part of the problem — regarding the City of Opa-locka — is that people don't know that we are here.

"We have a growing, vibrant community with a lot to offer and we are willing to spend money in small businesses," McKay said.

Walters shared a story about being out-of-town and asking for directions to the Subway. Someone pointed him to Subway restaurant, when he was actually inquiring about the underground transportation system. He then drew a parallelism to compare his story to the importance of clarity in expressing what you want, when preparing presentations for contract bids. "You must be specific," he said.

The City of Opa-locka strives to obtain maximum competition and encourage new sources of supply.

Kelley has already begun planning to work with the members of the Department of Community Development to participate in the next business workshop.

According to Commissioner Kelley, "The purpose behind the business workshops is to introduce those with expertise and resources to help businesses develop and grow in the City of Opa-locka."

Miami-Dade County

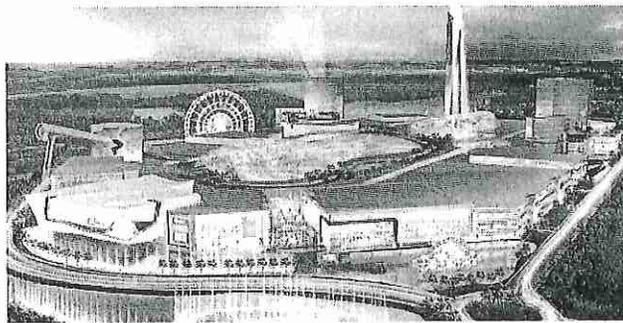
SUBSCRIBE



Largest mall in the nation proposed for Miami-Dade

BY DOUGLAS HANKS - DHANKS@MIAMIHERALD.COM

03/05/2015 1:16 PM | Updated: 03/06/2015 6:51 AM



An aerial view of the proposed American Dream Miami entertainment and retail complex, a massive attraction planned for Northwest Miami-Dade. Backed by the company behind the Mall of the America in Minnesota, it's described as the largest mall in the United States. MIAMI

The company that owns and runs the largest mall in America wants to build an even bigger one in northwestern Miami-Dade, a roughly 200-acre entertainment complex with submarines, a Legoland, sea lions and an artificial ski slope.

Backed by the owner of Minnesota's Mall of America, American Dream Miami is proposed for land at the intersection of Florida's Turnpike and Interstate 75 near Miami Lakes. It's projected to cost as much as \$4 billion to build and employ 25,000 people once opened, more than enough to give it Miami-Dade's largest private-sector payroll.

It also would bring the largest mall in the United States to what's now pastureland in Miami's congested suburbs, using vacant real estate flanked by two of the region's busiest highways.

Miami's version of the Mall of America



Sign in

Miami-Dade Mayor Carlos Gimenez revealed the deal Thursday in an interview, and said the venture promises to provide a historic boost to the county's economy. Mall of America owner Triple Five is not asking for government dollars or free land, Gimenez said, but wants to create the kind of large-scale theme park that can attract visitors from around the world and sustain thousands of jobs across Miami-Dade.

"It takes a lot of logistics to keep a thing like that going. All the food, and the mechanical equipment, air-conditioning — there's going to be a huge spin-off," he said.

A glossy development proposal released Thursday lays out the broad plan for American Dream Miami (which was called Americana World when the proposal was put together but has been renamed, according to a source close to the discussions).

It's largely modeled after Triple Five's other East Coast expansion, another massive American Dream complex planned for New Jersey. That 3-million-square-foot complex is described as having some of the same features as the Miami proposal, including an indoor domed amusement park with a roller coaster, a water park and a Ferris Wheel.

Development there fell behind schedule amid financing complications, but Triple Five, which took over in 2010, says the project should open next year, the (Bergen, N.J.) Record reported in January.

The Miami proposal shows a live sea-lion show on the eastern side of the complex, and an indoor ski slope (with 800 feet of artificial powder) on the western side. To the north sits a "lake" offering submarine rides. Miniature golf, the water park, a skating rink and indoor gardens would go in the southern part of the complex, which also includes both hotels and condominiums, according to the proposal.

Triple Five's materials do not lay out the dimensions of the proposed Miami-Dade project, but county and company officials said American Dream Miami is expected to be larger than the Mall of America. Corporate materials say that complex in Bloomington, Minn., comprises 4.2 million square feet, with 520 stores and 50 restaurants. By comparison, the Aventura Mall, currently Florida's largest, has 300 stores and about 2.7 million in floor space.

"It is our intent that this project – American Dream Miami – will exceed our other world famous projects in all respects," Triple Five said in a statement.

The proposed American Dream Miami site sits within the county's Urban Development Boundary, meaning Triple Five only needs a change in the land's zoning to move forward. Jose "Pepe" Diaz, the county commissioner whose district includes the proposed site, sounded guardedly supportive of the plan.

"From what I'm hearing, it could be a great thing," Diaz said. "But I have a lot of questions." He cited concerns about traffic, and said he may request Triple Five contribute funds to expand mass transit to the area.

Though in the works for at least a year and involving three governmental bodies, the American Dream venture remained secret until Thursday. Much of the 200 acres will come from the Graham Companies in a deal with Triple Five, but about 80 acres of it belong to the state of Florida. Further complicating negotiations, Miami-Dade's school system holds a lease on a large chunk of the state parcel in a land-bank arrangement for the possibility of future development there.

Triple Five has agreed to pay \$7 million to compensate the school system for waiving its lease, and Miami-Dade would then purchase it from the state, county officials said. Triple Five would pay \$11 million for the state land, officials said, with Miami-Dade County acting as a pass-through for the transaction. County commissioners and school board members are expected to consider the proposals later this month.

The state is declaring the land surplus, and Miami-Dade is using its ability to acquire spare property to secure the site for Triple Five under the county's economic-development ordinance. Miami-Dade would also act as the conduit for Triple Five's payment to the school board, officials said.

Triple Five is a family-owned company started in Canada by Iranian rug dealer Jacob Ghermezian in the late 1950s. Its first mall opened in West Edmonton, Canada, in the 1980s. Ghermezian and his four oldest sons (the five in the company's name) pioneered the concept of building malls so massive they could serve as tourist attractions. Opened in 1992, the Mall of America reports about 42 million visitors a year.

With its Miami venture, Triple Five faces a market that has turned away large and extravagant ventures in recent years. Genting, the Malaysian casino giant, retracted its plan to build the world's largest casino in downtown Miami in favor of a more modest proposal that remains stalled amid a debate over Florida's gambling laws.

David Beckham last year failed to win support for his offer to build a soccer stadium at PortMiami or on the Miami waterfront. Developer Jeffrey Berkowitz won voter backing for his SkyRise Miami observation tower, but it's now the subject of a lawsuit by potential Gimenez challenger Raquel Regalado over county funding.

The American Dream project arrives as Gimenez is gearing up for reelection in 2016 on a theme of expanding prosperity and economic development.

Another theme park, Miami Wilds, is already pursuing a deal in southern Miami-Dade and won approval for a \$14 million county subsidy with Gimenez's backing. Tourist attractions and retail outlets traditionally offer some of the lowest-paid jobs in the economy, so the bulk of American Dream Miami's payroll won't consist of well-paying jobs at the top of Miami-Dade's economic wish list.

“There’s going to be a layer of high-paying jobs” in management, said Sean Snaith, an economist at the University of Central Florida, “but if you’re talking about people working at stores and running amusement park rides, you’re talking about the typical low-paying tourism jobs you find throughout Florida.”

Triple Five said it plans to employ 25,000 people during construction, and create that many permanent jobs once open. Gimenez said the planned private investment will instantly vault Triple Five into a top taxpayer, with an estimated \$50 million yearly bill. He noted the ongoing economic recovery has left out some of the county’s poorest neighborhoods, and residents there will welcome the new employer.

“There are a lot of folks in this town” who see these as good jobs, Gimenez said. “Everybody is focused on high-paying jobs. Not everybody is qualified for them. Twenty-thousand jobs are twenty-thousand jobs.”

Sponsored Content ()

Top 10 Florida Theme Parks



Your News The Way You Want It



search eWallstreeter



Subscribe

email for Real Estate News

Real Estate News

Home	Finance	Tech	Media	Life	Sports	Health	Geo	College	Green	All
----------------------	-------------------------	----------------------	-----------------------	----------------------	------------------------	------------------------	---------------------	-------------------------	-----------------------	---------------------



Consider well-capitalized U.S. Technology.
Turn BlackRock insights into action with iThinking



IShares U.S. Technology Fund



The 10 US cities where home values are growing fastest



From Business Insider: Real Estate

March 9, 2015 - 10:10am

The federal government's recent jobs report provides more evidence that the nation's recovery is in full swing. January's report showed the economy continued to add jobs, building on the strong momentum of 2014, a year that rivaled the late 1990s for the number of jobs created. But a broad recovery isn't only about unemployment figures. American homeowners saw the equity in their homes plummet in the Great Recession, so NerdWallet searched for the places where home values are increasing the fastest. Using data from the real estate site Zillow, we found the cities with the biggest increase in home values since 2009. Key findings Extreme growth is clustered. Not only are all of our top 10 cities in California and Florida, our top spots are grouped around two distinct

areas — Silicon Valley and Miami. Small and affluent cities. Cities with smaller populations and higher overall home values saw higher rates of growth in home values. Tech's upturn. Seven of our top 10 cities are either in, or are part of, greater Silicon Valley, suggesting that strong tech industry growth has supported an increase in home values and affluence more than any other industry from 2009 to 2014. For similar studies and more, visit NerdWallet Cities.

Cities with the fastest growing home values

1. Palo Alto, California It's no secret why this city landed at the top of our list. Home to Stanford University, Mark Zuckerberg and other members of Silicon Valley's elite, Palo Alto's housing market is fueled by the growth in the tech industry happening in and around the city. One company contributing to the demand for housing is Tesla Motors, which has been headquartered in the city since 2010. The upscale Stanford Shopping Center and the downtown University Avenue area, both bursting with shopping and cafes, cater to this affluent community.
2. Key Biscayne, Florida This small island town just outside Miami has seen tremendous growth in population, spurred by the construction of luxury condominiums and hotels. This development increased the island's population density to 10,070 residents per square mile, according to the 2010 census, which is nearly eight

times the population density of Miami-Dade County. Key Biscayne offers miles of sandy beaches, relaxed dining and local shops to ensure both tourists and residents are enchanted by the beautiful village.

3. Cupertino, California This city is the home of Apple, yes, that Apple, and that explains why housing values here have outpaced the rest of the nation. The company's stock went from about \$11 at the beginning of 2009 to \$113 by the end of 2014, a surge in value that has trickled out to the community. This city boasts some of the best schools in the state, with top performers, such as Monta Vista High School, ranking high nationally. The stellar schools, along with the city's pleasant weather, keep this wealthy community in high demand among families.

4. Mountain View, California This city claims Google as its largest employer and economic engine. Google, along with LinkedIn and startup incubator Y Combinator, are headquartered in the city, which borders Sunnyvale and Palo Alto. These tech giants, as in so many cities in Silicon Valley, are behind the demand for housing and have boosted the value of homes in Mountain View. The city also serves as a musical hub with the Shoreline Amphitheatre outdoor venue that regularly attracts a variety of musical artists and festivals.

5. Sunnyvale, California As the location of Yahoo's headquarters, which employs nearly

5,000 people, Sunnyvale owes some of its rapid growth in home values to the success of the company. Yahoo has seen its stock price grow nearly fivefold since 2009. Yahoo's performance, along with growth in the broader tech industry, helps explain why Sunnyvale's home values have increased 51\% to a median home value of \$1.1 million from 2009 to 2014. 6. Redwood City, California This city, with its motto "Climate Best by Government Test," is known for its mild Mediterranean microclimate. Local officials have worked to redevelop the downtown into an entertainment space made for walking. The opening of shops, restaurants and a theater over the past 10 years, has reshaped the city's center into a thriving downtown destination. This development — along with the economic stability provided by the headquarters of Oracle and Electronic Arts — also has helped drive up housing prices. 7. Bay Harbor Islands, F

Share this article »   

[Continue reading this article »](#)

[About](#) · [Submit](#) · [Personalized Updates](#) · [Popular](#) · [Sitemap](#)
[Advertise](#) · [Contact](#) · [Disclaimer](#) · [Terms of Use](#) · [Privacy](#)
[Policy](#)

© 2015 eWallstreeter LLC, All rights reserved

THE REAL DEAL

NEW YORK CITY REAL ESTATE NEWS

Related's \$7.4M affordable housing project opens in Miami

34-unit building in Shenandoah is fully leased
 March 05, 2015 12:00PM

« PREVIOUS NEXT »

Related Group's affordable housing division celebrated the grand opening of a 7.4 million affordable housing community in Miami's Shenandoah neighborhood Thursday morning.

Edificio Piñeiro, an affordable elderly rental building developed by Related Urban, will house extremely low income seniors, according to a press release. City of Miami Mayor Tomas Regalado, Commissioner Francis Suarez, Miami-Dade County Commissioner Bruno Barreiro and Related Urban principal Alberto Milo Jr. attended the event.

The three-story building, at 1176 Southwest 20th Avenue, was built on 30,000-square-foot site of a now-demolished vacant building.

Edificio Piñeiro has 32 one-bedroom, one-bathroom units and 2 two-bedroom, one-bathroom units, which includes on-site parking, a multi-purpose room and a computer room. The building is fully leased.

"With the reopening of Edificio Piñeiro, Related Urban is taking another step towards giving the city's neediest residents a place they can be proud to call home. Everyone is entitled to a clean, pleasant and affordable residence," Milo said in the press release.

Funding for the project came from the Department of Community & Economic Development, Department of Housing & Urban Development, and Miami-Dade County General Obligation Bonds. — *Katherine Kallergis*

Tags: related urban, shenandoah



Edificio Piñeiro in Shenandoah

Now Trending on The Real Deal

by Taboola

Aventura office building trades for \$14.5M

The 6 percent home sale fee isn't sacred

Is Zillow's "Portlandia" takeover a step too far?

From The Web

Sponsored Links by Taboola

The Most Hilarious, Amazing, Perfectly Timed Photographs Taken At Th...

Well Timed Photos

From Miss Teen USA to CBS "It Girl": Who is Allie LaForce?

Lost Lettermen

How One Boy Saved An Entire Town's Animal Population

Viral Nova

Tips for Better Heart Health

American Expert

Which Cars Were The Most Sold in 2014?

Carophile

The Amazing Truth About The Wealthy And Credit Cards

NextAdvisor



Home » Research Center » CPE Research » Market Reports

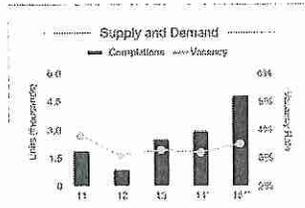
- [Home](#)
- [News](#)
- [People & Transactions](#)
- [Regions / Cities](#)
- [Property Types](#)
- [Finance](#)
- [Economy Watch](#)
- [Business Management](#)
- [Business Specialties](#)
- [Digital Magazine](#)
- [CPE TV](#)
- [Webinars/Chats](#)
- [Blog](#)
- [Slideshows](#)
- [CPE Awards](#)
- [Polls](#)
- [Research Center](#)
- [Guest Columns](#)
- [About Us](#)
- [Contact CPE](#)
- [Editorial Calendar](#)
- [Advertising/Media Kit](#)
- [Manage Subscriptions](#)
- [Back Issues](#)
- [RSS Feeds](#)
- [CPN Archives](#)

March 5, 2015

Market Snapshot: Welcome to Miami!

By Balazs Szekely, Associate Editor

Yet another year of considerable growth awaits the Miami-Dade County apartment market, according to Marcus & Millichap's forecast for 2015. Analysts expect the area to climb another four places following last year's impressive eight-place jump in the firm's National Apartment Index, landing on the 9th spot and leading the way in the state of Florida.



Miami-Dade Apartment Market – Supply and Demand – 2015 Outlook

Owners can expect a series of strong results this year due to growing rents and a high overall occupancy rate. Despite a slight increase in vacancy, the boost in demand fueled by the strengthening employment market in the area is expected to rapidly fill in the vast amount of new space that is coming online. Although seasonal vacancy fluctuations are inevitable, specialists predict that the Miami apartment market's fundamental mainstays will guarantee solid performance in the long run. It is estimated that 35,000 jobs will be created, marking a 3.2 percent increase, while as many as 4,800 new units will be delivered this year, nearly 40 percent more than in 2014. The difference in the growth of supply and demand translates into a 30-basis point increase in vacancy to a modest 3.5 percent. A large number of rentals are being built in the Coral Gables/South Miami and West Miami/Doral submarkets.

As a result of the low vacancy rate, landlords are expected to raise the average monthly rent by 4.3 percent to \$1,297 over this year, which is 1.3 percent more than the increase registered in 2014. Some other factors also contribute to the rent growth—such as the debt market and the operating conditions, which facilitate value-add investments and ultimately drive the rents up. Cap rates stay relatively steady despite the fact that some equity will flee out of the county in pursuit of higher yields. The average capitalization rate should remain in the mid- to high-5 percent range thanks to a highly diversified pool of potential investors that seek safety in a relatively safe gateway market like Miami.

Chart courtesy of Marcus & Millichap

Tags: Marcus & Millichap, market report, Miami

RELATED POSTS

- [Carrfour Celebrates Opening of \\$30M Affordable Housing Community in Liberty City](#)
- [Joint Venture Grabs Downtown Dadeland for \\$38.9M](#)
- [Blanca Commercial Real Estate to Broker Leases at Douglas Entrance Office Park](#)
- [Chilean Hospitality Chain Broke Ground on Atton Brickell Hotel](#)
- [Four Seasons to Brand Fort Capital's Luxury Oceanfront Mixed-Use Project](#)

Comments
comments

THE BUSINESS REPORT

UBS' GREATER MIAMI BUSINESS OPPORTUNITY FUND

Small businesses told of UBS' Fund

BY NANCY DAHLBERG
ndahlberg@miamiherald.com

UBS, together with its small business lending partners, explained its new Greater Miami Business Opportunity Fund on Wednesday and met with small businesses interested in applying during a morning Elevating Entrepreneurs event in downtown Miami.

Funded with \$5 million from UBS, the Greater Miami Business Opportunity Fund was announced in December. No loans have been made yet, but there are loans in the pipeline and the fund will be revolving, meaning more loans will be generated as loans are paid back, said Megan Mitchell, program manager of UBS's Elevating Entrepreneurs. The loan process is ad-

ministered by the national nonprofit VEDC, which has assisted more than 103,000 businesses, and Tampa-based Neighborhood Lending Partners.

The fund provides loans of \$50,000 to \$500,000 to existing qualifying businesses, growing companies of 1 to 200 employees and revenues up to \$10 million. The business must operate in a low and moderate income community or 75 percent of its jobs must be for low to moderate income residents. The market interest rate in the program currently is 8.25 percent. For more information on the loan program, go to www.vedc.org or email apollan-sanchez@gmbfof.org.

At the event, small businesses also heard about alternative financing programs, such as Accion for loans up to

\$50,000 and Liquid Capital for accounts receivables financing services. Frank Velasco of the U.S. Small Business Administration South Florida District spoke about the services of the SBA and Florida Small Business Development Centers, which are full-service shops offering free help with incorporation, licensing, leasing and business planning, he said. The newest center opened recently at Florida International University. Small businesses not ready for VEDC financing were encouraged to look into Accion. "It's not just about getting the money into your hands, it's about the advice they offer. It's an incredible resource," Velasco said.

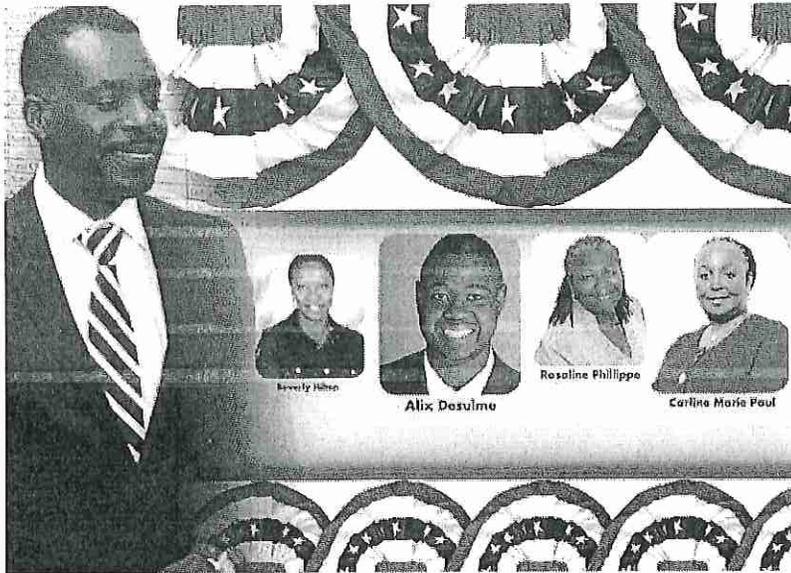
Elevating Entrepreneurs educational events are in the plans, Mitchell said.

The Miami Times

North Miami Mayor Dr. Smith Joseph unopposed in election

Five candidates seek seat left by Councilwoman Steril

Erick Johnson | 3/4/2015, 2 p.m.



With the North Miami elections just two months away, a fresh crop of candidates are seeking to replace outgoing councilwoman Marie Erlande Steril for the District 4 seat, while the city's new Mayor Dr. Smith Joseph seeks re-election without opposition.

The candidates join several incumbents who are seeking to keep their positions in the predominately Haitian-American city.

The elections will be held Tuesday, May 12, after the city council rejected a proposal that would have moved the elections to August 2016.

So far, five candidates have filed their applications to replace Steril, who announced her decision to not seek re-election last month, after serving four years on the city council. The candidates include Alix Desulme, a former North Miami city clerk who ran unsuccessfully for the State House District 108 seat in 2010 and 2012; Roseline Phillippe, a member of the Haitian-American Democratic Club of Greater Miami and the Haiti Cherie Heritage Foundation; Carline Marie Paul, a political consultant and commentator on Haitian radio; Beverly Hilton, a community activist who lost to Steril for the District 4 council seat in 2011 and lost a mayoral bid in 2009; and Jessica Alston, a retired dropout intervention specialist who was employed with Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

Three other positions are up for election. Mayor Joseph, who's serving out the term of Lucie Tondreau, so far has no opponents running against him. Two other incumbents, Councilman Scott Galvin and City Clerk Michael Etienne, are also running unopposed so far.

Potential candidates have from March 30 to April 7 to file papers for any seat.

The candidates for the District 4 seat all have similar concerns about problems in the district, which runs from Northwest 119th to 135th Street and Northeast Second to Northwest 17th avenues.

Their biggest concern is the Northwest Seventh Avenue Business Corridor, a commercial district that suffers from urban blight and boarded up businesses.

Desulme said he will use his leadership skills to increase funds from the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) in order to help spruce up the corridor.

"It will definitely help the home values go up," Desulme said. "I'm looking forward to making sure we get a fair share of the CDBG funds."

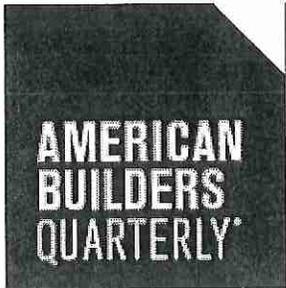
Hilton said she wants the area be like Fort Lauderdale's Las Olas Boulevard, a street that hums with restaurants and shops. Hilton said she is a tough person who will fight to improve the area.

"I am a person who doesn't back down," Hilton said. "I feel that the city is in a standstill."

Paul said as councilwoman she would look into securing state funds from the Florida Department of Transportation to revitalize the Northwest Seventh Avenue Business Corridor.

Paul also said she will push for infrastructure improvements in District 4, which she said experienced heavy flooding from recent downpours. Paul also said she will address high water bills her constituents receive. In addition, Paul said she will work with the Miami-Dade County Commission to increase the number of bus shelters in her district.

[| Read More >>](#)



FREE for
qualified industry
professionals.

Subscribe Now



APR/MAY/JUNE 2015



The combination of residential, retail, and office space will give the community of Doral “a true downtown, a heart,” says Ana-Marie Codina Barlick, CEO of Codina Partners.

Creating a Community for Urban Life

On the northwestern outskirts of Miami-Dade County, a sophisticated urban center has taken shape: Downtown Doral, a 120-acre, \$1 billion mixed-use development by Codina Partners LLC. Here, CEO Ana-Marie Codina Barlick discusses the project and its diverse offerings

By Julie Schaeffer

Talk about how Downtown Doral came into being.

Doral was an area in northwestern Miami-Dade County, named after the iconic Doral Golf Resort, which is nearby. There was a countywide incorporation movement in the 1990s and early 2000s, and in 2003, Doral incorporated. Soon after, we entered into a joint venture with the owners of the property, institutional investors advised by JPMorgan, and have been developing what we call Downtown Doral now for 10 years.

Downtown Doral Milestones

1970: Koger Office Park begins to take shape in northwestern Miami-Dade County, housing mostly government workers

1994: Koger Company files for bankruptcy, and Koger developments across the United States are sold throughout the late 1990s to different owners

2003: The area surrounding Koger Office Park, known as Doral for the nearby Doral Golf Resort and Spa, incorporates

2004: Codina Partners enters into a joint venture with the owner of the Doral Koger Office Park

2006: The company completes the entitlement process for the Downtown Doral development

2010: Codina Partners finishes the first phase of Cordoba Luxury Rentals

2011: The company builds its first new class A office building, 8333 Downtown Doral

2012: The company erects Doral’s city hall

2013: The second phase of Cordoba Luxury Rentals wraps; Codina Barlick is named the CEO of Codina Partners

What was the vision for the project?

We saw that a number of areas that incorporated didn't have a true downtown, a heart, so our vision was to create a community where people could enjoy all aspects of urban life—living, working, learning, and playing—in the same place.

Where did you begin?

Phasing was a major challenge because it's an infill project. With a green-field project, you start with the front door then build out the infrastructure. We didn't have that option. The property itself was an old office park, with 31 buildings and existing infrastructure. We tore down 24 buildings and will tear down two more by early next year because they were obsolete. But we couldn't just terminate tenants: we had to wait for leases to expire or negotiate with tenants in order to get them to vacate. And, as we demolished buildings, we had to upgrade roads, which required redirecting existing tenants.

Then?

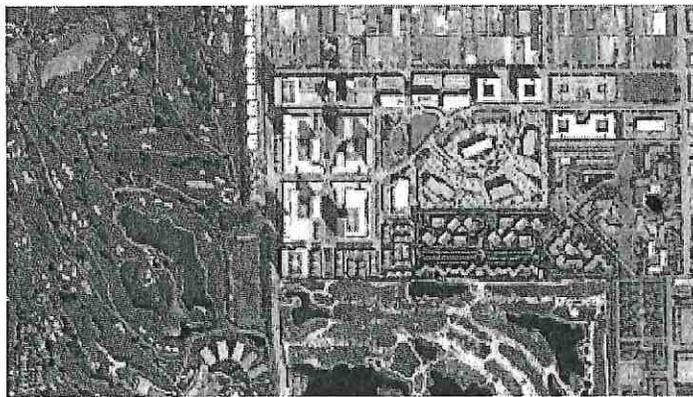
After we dealt with the first part of phasing, addressing the physical location, we had to deal with the second part, which is product type. You need some critical mass of retail, but it's a chicken-and-egg problem. Do you get retailers first because people want to live where they have amenities? Or do you get the people to live there to draw the retailers? Balancing when to proceed with each product type has been a challenge.

Where does the development stand now?

Almost half of the 120 acres of land has been developed. We kept four office buildings, a total of 365,000 square feet, and they're 95 percent leased. We built a 450-unit rental apartment community, Cordoba Rentals, and a 150,000-square-foot class A office building. We built a 60,000-square-foot city hall. And, we improved a three-acre park across the street from city hall. It features a massive \$1 million public art sculpture designed by prominent artist Michele Oka Doner, which we donated.

What about ongoing construction?

There's a 20-story, 203-unit condo tower called 5252 Paseo. There's a 75-unit townhome complex; we've sold 60 of them, and the first closing will begin at the end of 2015. And, we've broken ground on the first phase of our retail project, which will have 80,000 square feet. We've already signed a few anchor tenants, including restaurants Bulla Gastropub, Suspiros Ceviche, and Dragonfly, plus a dry cleaner and a bank. It should be open by late 2015.



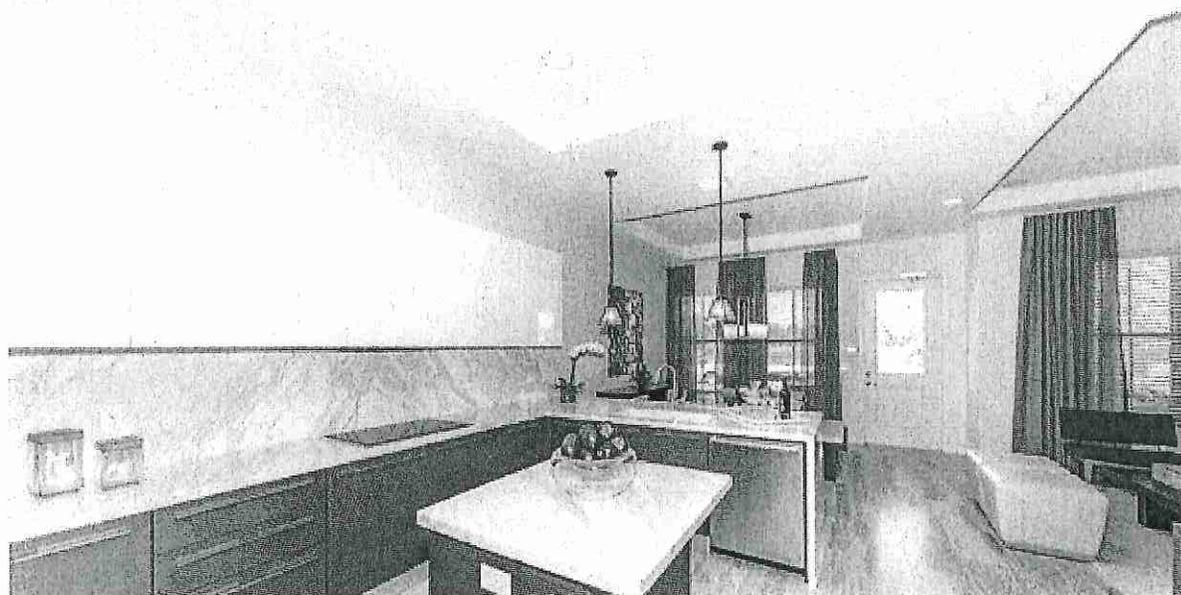
The Downtown Doral development is going up on the site of a former Koger office park situated near the Doral Golf Resort. Codina Partners had to get creative to work around the location's existing infrastructure.

You've worked on this project for 10 years. Has it been meaningful to you to see it develop?

I love all my projects. I like that you create something and you leave something behind. You can physically touch what you're working on. You can drive by and show it to people. But this is my favorite project to date. It has every aspect of development except industrial. Within Downtown Doral, I can't say I have a favorite building because if you take any building and put it anywhere else, it wouldn't be the same building as it is in Downtown Doral. All of the parts together make a community.



Third-floor townhomes in the heart of Downtown Doral will offer sun and panoramic views of the community.



THE REAL DEAL

NEW YORK CITY REAL ESTATE NEWS

The week in luxury: A map of Miami-Dade's priciest condo sales

An interactive look at where the biggest deals were struck
 March 02, 2015 02:15PM
 By Sean Stewart-Muniz

« PREVIOUS NEXT »

Sunny Isles topped the list for last week's priciest condo sales, with three units closing for a total \$8.28 million, according to data from Condo.com.

One Fisher Island condo more than doubled the price for any unit sold in Miami-Dade County last week, fetching \$8.9 million. Don Pingaro of Ocean Insiders handled the listing.

There were a total of 117 sales in the county last week, totalling \$70.9 million traded in condos. Prices averaged \$400,754 per unit and \$263 per square foot.

The week's top brokers were all one-hit-wonders. Each brought in a single sale that made the list of the top 10 priciest condo listings in the county. Pingaro lead the pack with his Fisher Island unit.

Here is a breakdown of the data from Feb. 22 to Feb. 29.

Click on the map for more information:

Most expensive

Fisher Island, Miami | \$8.9 million | \$2,312 psf

Least expensive

Grovenor House, Coral Gables | \$1.7 million | \$968 psf

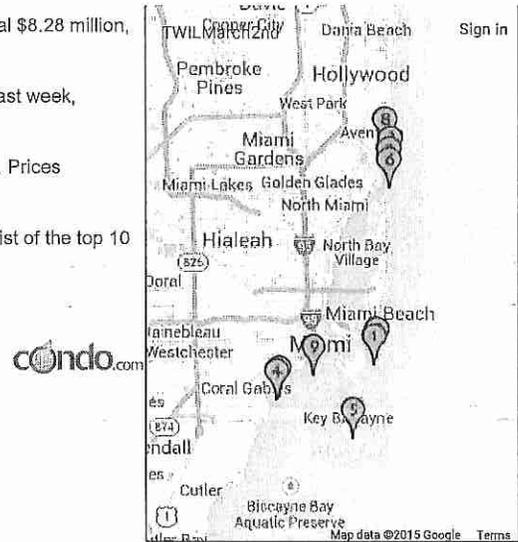
Most days on market

Porto Vita, Aventura | 527 days on market | \$1.83 million | \$541 psf

Least days on market

Fisher Island, Miami | 12 days on market | \$8.9 million | \$2,312 psf

Tags: condo.com, miami-dade county, weekly condo sales



Now Trending on The Real Deal

by Taboola

Gloria and Emilio Estefan-owned Star Island villa listed for \$40M

Agnelli family to sell Cushman & Wakefield

Doubts grow about presale condo commission "promises"

From The Web

Sponsored Links by Taboola

15 Tattoos That Took Over The World In 2014

Answers

19 On-Screen Cars That Had A Life Of Their Own

Clipd

The Top 36 Cities To See In Your Lifetime

Shockpedia

Select Language

Search...

Log in Register



WE COVER YOUR WORLD

Downloads Pay for your Ad

Latest Events Classifieds

HOME	NEWS	SPORTS	BUSINESS	EDUCATION	REGIONAL	FEATURE	ENTERTAINMENT	OTHER...
------	------	--------	----------	-----------	----------	---------	---------------	----------

Breaking News 2015 Dominos Championship (Wednesday, 25 February 2015 15:23)

MIAMI COMMISSIONERS UNANIMOUSLY VOTE FOR MIAMIS WORKING FAMILIES

font size Print Email

City of Miami Commissioners unanimously voted to pass the "Responsible Wage Ordinance." The Coalition for Responsible Wages, a diverse group of faith, labour, and community groups came together to fight for an ordinance that will raise the wages of Miami's working families.

The Responsible Wage Ordinance will address multiple challenges: the ordinance will strengthen working families; decrease unemployment and poverty; reduce crippling tax deficits, prohibit wage theft practices, ensure safer workplace conditions, and promote more robust economic development.

The Responsible Wage Ordinance is "a rising tide that will lift all boats." Beyond wages, the ordinance is designed to build Miami's workforce capacity by expanding skills training and apprenticeship programs. The Responsible Wage Ordinance also introduces new safeguards and accountability measures for public projects. The ordinance decreases the waste of public tax dollars and increases the transparency of the contracting process.

Research shows that every dollar spent on responsible wage projects generates \$1.50 in economic activity—that's money spent at local businesses such as restaurants, shopping malls, and grocery stores – resulting in larger tax receipts and spurring additional job creation that keeps local communities and businesses economically sound.

In the end, supporting the Ordinance means that commissioners are prioritizing Miami's economy and working families by creating a more sustainable economic model that keeps our economy and community moving forward. The City of Miami deserves a growing middle class, an expanded skilled workforce, increased economic activity, greater tax receipts, and more accountability of public spending.

Associated Builders and Contractors (ABC), opponents of the ordinance argued that the ordinance would negatively impact small businesses and contractors as a result of added wage and compliance requirements. However, Cynthia Hernandez, FIU researcher stated that, "Research findings show that small business contractors have benefited from the Miami-Dade County's Responsible Wage Ordinance which has been in place since 1990. Specifically members of ABC have been awarded over \$40 million dollars in construction projects from January 2013-December 2014."

Having a Responsible Wage Ordinance in place will ensure that workers in the City of Miami are paid correctly and avoid wage violations because contractors will have to submit their payroll information. "Having worked in the construction industry for over 35 years I have seen the abuses of crooked contractors cheating employees and their families out of well-earned wages and benefits. This ordinance will assure tax payer money goes to qualified responsible contractors by extending the 25 yr. old Miami Dade County Ordinance to City of Miami Capital Improvement Projects," said Mark Schaunaman, of the International Union of Operating Engineers Local 487.

The City of Miami deserves a growing middle class, an expanded skilled workforce, increased economic activity, greater tax receipts, reduced tax deficits, and more accountability of public spending. The Coalition for Responsible Wages is happy that all five of the City of Miami Commissioners voted to approve the ordinance. "This is a victory not only for workers, but to families, and our economy," stated Jeanette Smith, executive director of South Florida Interfaith Worker Justice and member of the Coalition for Responsible Wages.

Tweet 0

g+1

Published in Latest News

MORE IN THIS CATEGORY: « Dori Maynard Diversity Champion Dies at 56

Back To Top

CT 25TH CELEBRATIONS




ADULT & CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION
careerinyear.com

- Home
- News
- Features
- Market Data
- Research Center
- Directories
- Product Gallery
- Awards
- Multimedia
- Slideshows
- Webinars
- Blog
- Polls
- Events
- Editorial Calendar
- Advertising
- Subscriptions
- Magazine Archive
- About Us
- Contact Us

Mar. 2, 2015

Market Snapshot: Miami-Dade's Apartment Market Continues to Forge Ahead in 2015

By Balazs Szekely, Associate Editor

Yet another year of considerable growth awaits the Miami-Dade County apartment market, according to Marcus & Millichap's forecast for 2015. Analysts expect the area to climb another four places following last year's impressive eight-place jump in the firm's National Apartment Index, landing on the 9th spot and leading the way in the state of Florida.

Owners can expect a series of strong results this year due to growing rents and a high overall occupancy rate. Despite a slight increase in vacancy, the boost in demand fueled by the strengthening employment market in the area is expected to rapidly fill in the vast amount of new space that is coming online. Although seasonal vacancy fluctuations are inevitable, specialists predict that the Miami apartment market's fundamental mainstays will guarantee solid performance in the long run. It is estimated that 35,000 jobs will be created, marking a 3.2 percent increase, while as many as 4,800 new units will be delivered this year, nearly 40 percent more than in 2014. The difference in the growth of supply and demand translates into a 30-basis point increase in vacancy to a modest 3.5 percent. A large number of rentals are being built in the Coral Gables/South Miami and West Miami/Doral submarkets.

As a result of the low vacancy rate, landlords are expected to raise the average monthly rent by 4.3 percent to \$1,297 over this year, which is 1.3 percent more than the increase registered in 2014. Some other factors also contribute to the rent growth—such as the debt market and the operating conditions, which facilitate value-add investments and ultimately drive the rents up. Cap rates stay relatively steady despite the fact that some equity will flee out of the county in pursuit of higher yields. The average capitalization rate should remain in the mid- to high-5-percent range thanks to a highly diversified pool of potential investors that seek safety in a relatively safe gateway market like Miami.

Chart courtesy of Marcus & Millichap

Tags: Marcus & Millichap, market report, Miami

RELATED POSTS

Market Uptick Prompts Plans to Build 2 Hotels on Olenyangy Rd.

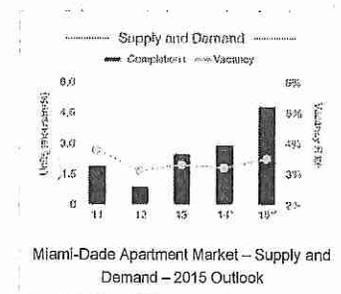
MARKET SNAPSHOT: Regional Investors Eye Ohio for Cash-on-Cash Returns

MARKET SNAPSHOT: Strong Job Growth and Single-Family Woes to Boost Atlanta Apartment Sector

TODAY'S DEALS: Construction Loan Kicks-Off NOVUS Development in Maryland

MARKET SNAPSHOT: Indianapolis Fundamentals Remain Strong; Investors Seek All Asset Classes

Comments
comments





Follow Yahoo Homes



Find A Home
 Must-See Homes
 Home Finance
 Ideas & Projects

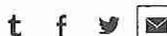
4 Annoying Mortgage Hurdles & How to Overcome Them

Recommended Games



More games »

credit.com By Scott Sheldon
 February 27, 2015 1:24 PM



Banks want you to believe getting a mortgage these days is easier — and that may be the case if your financial house is in order. However, the reality is that if you want a mortgage in today's lending environment, you need to prepare to prove your ability to repay and meet every threshold lenders have in place. These guidelines are on a checklist used by every underwriter in every mortgage company across the nation, with some subtle variances. And if you don't perfectly fit the lending criteria, you may face some

challenges — meaning you could be asked to submit additional documentation, or letters of explanation, or you could even hurt your chances of getting approved.

Here are some common stumbling blocks that borrowers encounter in the mortgage process that you might just be able to overcome with the right help. If any of the following issues (or others not covered here) apply to you, make sure you discuss these details upfront with your loan professional so they can help your financial information conform to the underwriter's checklist.

1. A High Debt Ratio

It doesn't matter how great your credit score is, or even if you have millions of dollars to pay the mortgage off five times. When it comes to getting a mortgage, neither will save you from your high debt load. Sounds illogical, right? If your housing payments plus credit obligations exceed 45% of your monthly income, you're not getting a mortgage. That is, not without making some changes.

[Ready to get a mortgage? Click to compare loan options and interest rates now.]

The solution: If you have debt preventing you from getting a mortgage, such as a car payment or even minimum payments on student loans or credit cards, it's time to sharpen your pencil. Can any of these accounts be paid off in full? Can these debts be consolidated for a lower payment? If yes, have a conversation with your loan officer and run these ratio numbers upfront with pragmatic figures. Most loan officers can look at your financial picture and advise you what debts need to be reworked to help move your mortgage process forward.

2. When the Solution to a Problem Creates a New Problem

This one can be the most frustrating for borrowers. Here's an example of this problem: Let's say your lender requests your end-of-year pay stubs, showing your total income for the year. But for whatever reason, this year shows less income than previous years. So the lender creates another condition based on this information, requiring a letter of explanation about declining income. In short, conditions brought on by a mortgage underwriting can create more conditions based on the documentation provided to support the original conditions.

The solution: Having a few resubmissions (about three) to the underwriter during your loan process is quite normal. But if it becomes too cumbersome, perhaps canceling the loan and starting over fresh with clearer direction can help fix a runaway lending laundry list.

3. Undocumented Funds

It's your money, but you may not be able to use it if you can't document it.

Even if you are self-employed, lenders will still want you to document your funds. Any deposits going into your bank account independent and separate from your income need to be documented,

explained and sourced in order for those monies to be considered *loan eligible* — both for being counted toward your savings after sealing the deal, as well as for cash to close.

[Shopping for a home loan? Click to compare mortgage interest rates now.]

The solution: If possible, try to avoid depositing monies in your bank account that you are unprepared to document. Alternatives include using a different asset account without the deposit activity, or obtaining documentable gift funds.

4. Business Expense Write-Offs

Your lender will not ignore this issue.

The Internal Revenue Service allows a taxpayer who incurs expenses in the course of their employment to write off these expenses against their income rather than being reimbursed for these expenses via their employer using Form 2106. These expenses might be comprised of uniforms, educational items, dues, tools, things necessary to fulfill their job requirements, etc.

Accountants will suggest writing off these expenses as a means to offset a tax liability, which is perfectly acceptable for your tax situation ... but it could hurt your mortgage chances. Here's how a lender views your tax write-offs: These monies come directly off your income otherwise used to qualify you for a mortgage payment, which reduces your chances of qualifying. Banks average two years of your write-offs, and subtract that from your income.

The solution: Just because the IRS allows the deduction does not always mean you should take it.

If you have taken these expenses in previous years, it will be counted against your income, unless there has been a change. If these expenses will continue in the future, your qualifying numbers might have to be adjusted accordingly to offset this income risk.

The key here is if you no longer need to take these write-offs moving forward, they won't be counted by your lender nor hurt your borrowing ability. Here's such an example: Let's say you are working full time as a police officer taking employee expenses. During that time you became permanently injured. The likelihood of your need to take these expenses moving forward becomes unlikely. Talk with your lender about how to proceed if your expense situation is expected to change in the future.

[Ready to get a mortgage? Click to compare loan options and interest rates now.]

Overcoming Mortgage Obstacles

Even if you have a solid mortgage payment history and good credit, there still may be factors that change the dynamic of your loan, or how you'll be viewed on paper. Lending guidelines are meant to predict whether a borrower will default, and are meant to be one-size-fits-all, even if that isn't always how life works. Be pre-

pared to tell your lender in great detail about any of the possible additional following items:

- The origin of the gift monies you'll be using.
- Deferred student loans.
- A second job you've held for less than two years.
- A brand-new job, or being brand-new to being self-employed.
- IRS debt, spousal support or alimony of any kind.
- Previous short sale, foreclosure or bankruptcy of any capacity in the past seven years.
- Being self-employed less than two years.
- Co-signed debt for which someone else makes the payment.

Relatively speaking, procuring a loan is a breeze for those who don't have these particular issues and otherwise have a high credit score, strong equity, some savings and a low debt ratio. You can get an idea of how much house you can afford by using this calculator. You can also see what shape your credit is in by looking at your free credit report summary on Credit.com.

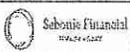
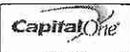
We're not likely to see lending requirements loosen up anytime soon, however. Until then, understand that when the lender asks for something that seems peculiar, redundant or unnecessary, this may help explain why.

More from Credit.com

- How Much House Can You Afford?
- How to Get Pre-Approved for a Mortgage
- Why You Should Check Your Credit Before Buying a Home

Mortgage Rates Miami, FL

Desired Loan: \$250000

1	 <small>NMLS#86247</small>	Sebonic Financial APR 3.618% Rate 3.500% Rating
2	 <small>NMLS#453156</small>	Capital One APR 3.721% Rate 3.625% Rating
3		RateZip 2.6% Rate in Florida

 [View Comments \(52\)](#)

Share this <https://homes.yahoo.com/news/4-ar>    

Recommended for You



Paradise Found: Guana Island in the BVI

I've been following NYC-based Yolanda Edwards's Instagram feed (@yolandaedwards) for a while now; Remodelista

MENU

WORLD PROPERTY JOURNAL (/)

Residential

Real Estate News

TALENT, TECHNOLOGY & A NETWORK OF 4,000 REAL ESTATE AGENTS. PUT THE POWER OF ELLIMAN TO WORK FOR YOU.



<http://g.adspeed.net/ad.php?>

[do=clk&aid=194374&zid=71523&t=1425303846&auth=9cc686767bc237a0babeba347b275c4c](http://g.adspeed.net/ad.php?do=clk&aid=194374&zid=71523&t=1425303846&auth=9cc686767bc237a0babeba347b275c4c)

- [WORLD NEWS \(/\)](#)
- [RESIDENTIAL NEWS \(/RESIDENTIAL/\)](#)
- [COMMERCIAL NEWS \(/COMMERCIAL/\)](#)
- [VACATION NEWS \(/VACATION/\)](#)
- [AGENT SEARCH \(/REAL-ESTATE-AGENTS/\)](#)
- [GLOBAL LISTINGS \(/REAL-ESTATE-LISTINGS/\)](#)



U.S. Mortgage Rates Rise Again, Third Consecutive Week

[Residential News \(http://www.worldpropertyjournal.com/real-estate-news/united-states/\)](http://www.worldpropertyjournal.com/real-estate-news/united-states/) » [United States Edition \(http://www.worldpropertyjournal.com/real-estate-news/united-states/\)](#) | [By WPI Staff \(http://www.worldpropertyjournal.com/author/wpc-staff/\)](#) | February 26, 2015 12:10 PM ET

[Sign up for News Alerts » \(http://worldpropertyjournal.us5.list-manage.com/subscribe?u=1c8e3c36d062563bf7134b081&id=11958aeb79\)](#)

According to Freddie Mac's latest *Primary Mortgage Market Survey* (PMMS), the average fixed mortgage rate moved higher amid solid housing data on new home sales and house price appreciation. Regardless, fixed-rate mortgages rates still remain near their late May, 2013 lows.

Len Kiefer, deputy chief economist, Freddie Mac, "Mortgage rates rose for the third consecutive week in February following solid housing data. New home sales beat market expectations at an annual pace of 481,000 units, down slightly from 482,000 units in December, but up 5.3 percent from a year ago. Also, the S&P/Case-Shiller National House Price Index rose 4.6 percent over the 12-months ending in December 2014."

Freddie Mac Report News Facts

- 30-year fixed-rate mortgage (FRM) averaged 3.80 percent with an average 0.6 point for the week ending February 26, 2015, up from last week when it averaged 3.76 percent. A year ago at this time, the 30-year FRM averaged 4.37 percent.
- 15-year FRM this week averaged 3.07 percent with an average 0.6 point, up from last week when it averaged 3.05 percent. A year ago at this time, the 15-year FRM averaged 3.39 percent.
- 5-year Treasury-indexed hybrid adjustable-rate mortgage (ARM) averaged 2.99 percent this week with an average 0.5 point, up from last week when it averaged 2.97 percent. A year ago, the 5-year ARM averaged 3.05 percent.
- 1-year Treasury-indexed ARM averaged 2.44 percent this week with an average 0.4 point, down from last week when it averaged 2.45 percent. At this time last year, the 1-year ARM averaged 2.52 percent.

OPINION

JOHN S. KNIGHT (694-6987)

ALEXANDRA VILLOCH, PUBLISHER | AMINDA MARQUES GONZALEZ, EXECUTIVE EDITOR | NANCY ANCRUM, EDITORIAL PAGE EDITOR

JAMES L. KNIGHT (694-6991)

MIAMI HERALD | EDITORIAL

A conversation on race

OUR OPINION: Prominent law officers acknowledge need to bridge racial divide

The cries of anguish from the black community that greeted the Department of Justice decision not to charge George Zimmerman with a federal hate crime in the killing of Trayvon Martin is a stark reminder that the teenager's death remains a painful wound for many.

The action came as no surprise. In such cases, prosecutors must meet a high standard, and are often reluctant to prosecute what many would see as a second trial for the same crime, even if the legal distinction the department was examining is significant.

Yet the outcome offers little comfort to the victim's parents in Miami-Dade and his many supporters elsewhere. Their frustration and feeling of helplessness is

understandable. Even so, Trayvon Martin's death was not for naught. It sparked a needed conversation about race in this country.

The tensions between the black and white communities that the killing of Trayvon Martin inspired were heightened by subsequent killings of unarmed blacks by police in Ferguson, Mo., and Staten Island, N.Y., and in those cases, too, no one was punished.

George Zimmerman, it must be emphasized, was not a police officer, and he was most assuredly not acting under the color of law. In the black community, however, that distinction is less important than the vital element that binds all these shootings together — the unpunished death of an unarmed black person at the hands of a

white individual who ultimately walks away.

That's why comments by two prominent (white) law enforcement officers recently are encouraging. They suggest that the guardians of law and order, whose role and behavior are central to the debate over black/white encounters, are trying to turn the corner because they realize something has to change lest tensions escalate.

The first comments came from FBI Director James B. Comey. He candidly acknowledged that police officers, white and black, are not immune to bias and went on to make clear that law enforcement must examine and reform itself. "At many points in American history, law enforcement enforced

the status quo, a status quo that was often brutally unfair to disfavored groups," he said.

On Tuesday, New York City Police Commissioner William J. Bratton made similar comments, touching on slavery and the "vile" legacy of racism. "Many of the worst parts of black history would have been impossible without police," he told a mostly black audience in a crowded church basement in Jamaica, Queens.

Both men made clear that the presence of police officers is not the cause of tensions in the inner city, nor are the men and women in uniform the problem. But by daring to change the discourse from the usual outright denial of police misbehavior to recognition of past errors and the need to im-

prove, they have pointed the way to better understanding and reconciliation.

Next week, a task force appointed by President Obama in the wake of events in Ferguson and Staten Island will issue a report likely to recommend better training, body cameras, and guidelines for the use of military-type equipment, among other things.

Such measures are important, but the crucial need for a national discussion about race that became painfully evident after the killing of Trayvon Martin remains a priority if the nation is ever to bridge its racial divide. The conversation started by Director Comey and Comm. Bratton must continue in local communities in South Florida and around the nation.

BLACK HISTORY MONTH

Tours highlight historically black communities

REBECCA SAVRANSKY
rsavransky@miamiherald.com

Over the past few years, Miami's historically black and multicultural neighborhoods have continued to develop — and with the opening this week of the Historic Overtown Visitor Center, the neighborhoods'

rich histories are being told.

On Saturday, people who booked early will be able to tour the neighborhoods during open-top bus tours stopping in Overtown, Coconut Grove, Brownsville, Lemon City, Little Haiti and Liberty

City. But if you didn't book early, you're out of luck — both tours were sold out by Thursday.

LEADING TOUR

Timothy Barber, executive director of the Black Archives and History Professor at Florida Memorial

University, will lead the tours, talking about the historic landmarks and how local neighborhoods were affected by the African diaspora.

"We've come a long way here in Miami," he said.

The tours will stop at the Little Haiti Cultural Center, which showcases the Afro-Caribbean culture through activities and the arts; the Black Police Precinct and Courthouse Museum, a former base for "colored patrol officers" that documents the history of black officers; and the Kroona Gallery in Coconut Grove, an art gallery that features perspectives that came out of the African diaspora.

"It's an opportunity for the community to see the historic sights," said Dorothy Fields, a historian and founder of the Black Archives. "This isn't the first time we've done it, and it won't be the last."

But even if you didn't get a spot on one of the tours, there will be plenty to do.

The art exhibit, "A Man Among the People: A Purvis Young Homecoming Exhibition," will be on display Saturday at the Lyric Theater, 819 NW Second Ave. Built in 1913 and recently restored, the Lyric is the oldest theater in Miami and hosted such luminaries as Louis Armstrong, Count Basie, Josephine Baker and Billie Holiday, among others.

The Purvis Young exhibit runs through June. Young, who died in 2010, was known for his colorful paintings and murals, which he often painted on wood, on doors and other objects he found in and around his Overtown home.

The Lyric Theater will show historic movies from 7 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, including WLRN's *All Shook Up*, a one-hour documentary that details the rich history of the Miami music scene.

HISTORIC MOVIES

And you can check out

the new visitor center, part of the Lyric Theater and Welcome Center complex in Overtown.

"There will be a lot of things going on in addition to the tour," Fields said.

The visitor center, which opened Monday, is a partnership between the Black Archives History and Research Foundation of South Florida and the Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau. It showcases the heritage of Miami's black communities and provides information about the city's other multicultural neighborhoods.

Barber said he hopes to conduct the tours more frequently in the coming year, especially given the high demand of Saturday's tour.

"We're excited," he said. "What we hope it will do is raise awareness for people as to these accomplishments. And when you raise awareness for people, you're also raising the bar for people in how to respect other peoples' cultures."

Times-Post

Pendleton, Indiana

News Advertising Photos Web Extras Contact Us For Subscribers Sign-In Publications Search

Nebraska child advocates call restraints in juvenile court humiliating, disenfranchising

By ANNA GRONEWOLD Associated Press
 First Posted: February 25, 2015 - 9:50 pm
 Last Updated: February 25, 2015 - 9:55 pm

Share / Save

LINCOLN, Nebraska — Lawyers and advocates for juveniles say Nebraska children as young as 10 years old are treated more harshly in court than some adult offenders, perpetuating a cycle of shame, humiliation and repeat offenses.

State lawmakers heard testimony Wednesday on a bill by Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha that would prohibit handcuffs, chains, irons or straitjackets on juveniles during court appearances unless deemed necessary for courtroom security. Currently all juvenile offenders transferred from detention centers appear in court in restraints, regardless of the severity of their offense.

An anti-shackling resolution issued this month by the American Bar Association notes that in adult court, shackling implies guilt and danger and should be used only as a last resort. Child offenders aren't provided the same right, said Sen. Bob Krist of Omaha, who also introduced anti-shackling legislation.

"Juveniles should look as though they are innocent until they are proven guilty," Krist said.

Advocates say the presumption of restraints damages children psychologically and affects their courtroom behavior. Ninety-three percent of juveniles appearing in court have already experienced at least one traumatic event in their lifetimes and shackling worsens the powerlessness of those experiences, according to a 2013 report by the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

David Shapiro, representing the Campaign Against Indiscriminate Juvenile Shackling, said children in restraints have a harder time following instructions, taking notes, recollecting narratives and appearing truthful to judges.

Shapiro said other states, including Florida and South Carolina, have effectively passed similar legislation without consequences and Indiana, Connecticut, Minnesota, Utah, Tennessee and Colorado are currently considering legislation limiting shackling. Of the more than 20,000 children who have appeared in court unbound since Florida's Miami-Dade County outlawed shackling juveniles in 2006, not one has escaped or hurt anyone, according to 2011 data.

Dennis Marks of Nebraska Criminal Defense Attorneys Association said the bill doesn't eliminate shackling; it eliminates the one-size-fits-all presumption that all juveniles should be shackled. Before putting any juvenile in restraints, the bill mandates a brief hearing for the court to prove the defendant poses a danger to the public or presents a risk of flight from the courtroom.

We also have more stories about:
 (click the phrases to see a list)

Organizations:

- Nebraska State Legislature (14)
- Nebraska state government (34)

Subjects:

- State legislature (998)
- Legislation (1045)
- State governments (2237)
- Legislature (2453)
- Legal proceedings (3263)
- Law and order (4733)
- Government and politics (8163)

Places:

- Nebraska (547)
- Florida (987)

Find us on Facebook



Times-Post Newspaper
Like



Times-Post Newspaper
5 hrs

A Wind Chill Advisory continues for Hancock and Madison counties.
<http://goo.gl/2hrsYs>

Share



Times-Post Newspaper
11 hrs

A Wind Chill Advisory continues for Hancock and Madison counties.
<http://goo.gl/9IVUBY>

897 people like Times-Post Newspaper.



Opponents, including the Nebraska County Attorney's Association, said the bill compromises the safety of the courtroom and places an unnecessary burden on the county attorneys to decide whether a child's situation merits restraints or not.

The committee took no action on the bills.

0

All content copyright ©2015 Pendleton Times-Post, a division of Home News Enterprises unless otherwise noted.
All rights reserved. [Click here to read our privacy policy.](#)
Times-Post • 126 W. State St. • Pendleton, IN 46064 • (765) 778-2324

We provide the personal service it takes to resolve our client's problems.
 Call Patrick J. McNamara 813-229-2775

de la Parte & Gilbert, PA.
 ATTORNEYS AT LAW
 Tampa, Florida

Get FREE Business News Updates
 Enter your email address



Florida Trend

The Issues, People and Ideas that Define Florida Business

- HOME
- NEWS
- SMALL BUSINESS
- POLITICS & LAW
- DINING & TRAVEL
- PEOPLE
- MEDIA KIT

February 27, 2015

Recommend

- Share
- Email
- Print



UP FRONT - THE PUBLISHER'S COLUMN

Economics 101: Creating the right business climate in Florida

Florida needs an environment where new business can blossom.

Andrew P. Corty | 2/26/2015

The Legislature kicks off its two-month session on March 3, and in the March 2015 edition of Florida Trend, we preview the key issues that will be discussed in Tallahassee.

With Rick Scott re-elected as governor and solid Republican control of the House and Senate, you might expect smooth sailing. But instead there will be fierce debates on key topics such as health care, gambling, water, education and the environment. All of these topics are detailed in our report starting on page 80 of the magazine, or you can access it here.

I am personally interested in what lawmakers will do to further the state's economic development efforts. Enterprise Florida, the state's sales and marketing organization, just lost its energetic leader, Gray Swoope. He has joined the private sector after four years at the helm of this state agency that draws too much criticism from legislative leaders. Swoope put Florida back on the map, traveling to every corner of the world touting the benefits of locating in the Sunshine State. Why don't we embrace Enterprise Florida and put a little wind at the organization's back?

Perhaps that will occur under Swoope's successor, Bill Johnson, a veteran of Miami-Dade County, who is best known for excellent work at PortMiami, one of the nation's busiest container and cruise ports. Not only did Johnson expand the port's capacity and improve its financial position, but he also helped shepherd completion of the huge port tunnel project that will ease the flow of traffic around the port. I'm delighted that Miami-centric and marketing-centric Johnson will lead Enterprise Florida.

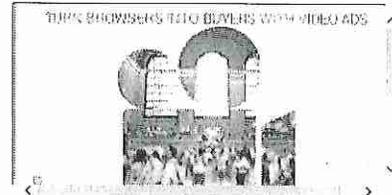
In addition to Enterprise Florida's marketing muscle, Florida continues to improve the regulatory climate. Companies looking to relocate here already know Florida doesn't have a personal income tax. They will be delighted to know that Gov. Scott wants to make further cuts to the corporate income tax.

I recently spoke with state Sen. Jeremy Ring, who was one of the early members of the Yahoo family and knows a good deal about business opportunity. He points out that pro-business tax/regulatory policies are just one of the three elements to create a thriving business sector. The second revolves around Enterprise Florida, with its sales and marketing message. In both cases, Florida now is showing signs of success.

But he worries that the third rail still lags -- creating an environment for new business to blossom. "Why are we pulling in an Amazon distribution center rather than allowing the next Amazon company to sprout here?" he asks. Who are the leaders that will spend the big dollars to create the next Research Triangle, the next IT sector or the next biotech enclave? "These endeavors create whole economies, not just jobs," Ring says.

Young MBA graduates might be part of the solution. Not only does Florida need academic research in fields like computer science, bio-engineering and marine biology, we also need the business minds to manage growing companies.

SEARCH:



Digital Access

DIRECT DIGITAL ACCESS
 Add digital to your current subscription, purchase a single digital issue, or start a new subscription to Florida Trend.

TABLE OF CONTENTS
 An overview of the features and articles in this month's issue of Florida Trend.

[ACCESS THIS ISSUE »](#)

Florida Business News

- » Florida exports reached nearly \$59 billion in 2014
 Goods exports from Florida reached \$58.6 billion last year, helping the U.S. set a record with \$2.35 trillion in good and services exports.
- » Gov. Scott faces big hurdles to push his legislative agenda
 Scott faces an emboldened Legislature that threatens to challenge him on an array of fronts from water to prisons to tax cuts.
- » Landmark net neutrality rules win FCC approval
 The Federal Communications Commission on Thursday approved tough net neutrality regulations to oversee online traffic.
- » Eugenie Clark, Sarasota's 'Shark Lady,' dies
 Eugenie Clark was a pioneering marine scientist, best-selling author and founder of Mote Marine Laboratory and Aquarium.
- » Are your executives "neglected middle children"?
 With all the conversation about Millennials, there's an important section of your management team you may be overlooking.

Florida Trend Video Pick

Rising Rents

We now have 50 MBA programs in Florida, ranging from traditional and executive to weekend and online. Many MBA programs now concentrate on specific fields such as sports management, entrepreneurship or consumer marketing. Please see the overview article here (on page 48 of the magazine).

If waterfront living is more your style than economics, the Legislature and business schools, then you'll love our article about floating homes (in the magazine, it's on page 100).

Fitness update: I'm embarrassed to say it was a month of sloth and inactivity. No report.

— Andy Corty
Publisher

[acorty@floridatrend.com]

Want to read the March issue?

Select from the following options:

<p>EXISTING DIGITAL SUBSCRIBERS</p> <p>Access Article Now!</p>	<p>DIGITAL SINGLE ISSUE</p> <p>Get a single DIGITAL copy of this issue</p> <p>\$4.95</p>	<p>PRINT SINGLE ISSUE</p> <p>Get a single PRINT copy of this issue</p> <p>\$4.95 plus \$3 postage & handling</p>
<p>PRINT SUBSCRIPTION</p> <p>One year in PRINT</p> <p>\$14.98* plus a FREE gift!</p>	<p>DIGITAL SUBSCRIPTION</p> <p>One year DIGITAL</p> <p>\$14.98* plus a FREE gift!</p>	<p>ALL ACCESS SUBSCRIPTION</p> <p>One year Combo PRINT + DIGITAL</p> <p>\$24.95* plus a FREE gift!</p>

CURRENT PRINT SUBSCRIBERS

If you are already a print subscriber, **ADD DIGITAL EDITION ACCESS** to your existing subscription here! (or call our office at 727-892-2643)

* offer valid for new subscribers only



Regents of New York City, San Francisco and Boston.

Earlier Videos | Viewpoints@FloridaTrend

Ballot Box

Gov Scott has proposed to increase funding to education, and half of those monies will come from property taxes. The debate is: A) is Scott's proposal a tax? Or, B) is Scott just using new monies that would come in because property values are increasing?

- A) It's a tax
- B) It's not a tax - only tapping natural increases in revenue

[See Results](#)



Also on FloridaTrend.com

- » Florida's Best Companies to Work For
- » Florida Economic Yearbook
- » 350 Biggest Companies in Florida
- » TopRank Florida lists for download
- » Special offer: Subscribe - get a FREE gift!

Most Read Articles

- » Friday's Daily Pulse
- » Thursday's Afternoon Update
- » Thursday's Daily Pulse
- » Tuesday's Daily Pulse
- » Wednesday's Afternoon Update

THE WIREPUBLIC

News Sports Living Fun Community Classifieds Search Subscribe! My Account E-Edition Contact Us About Us

Nebraska child advocates call restraints in juvenile court humiliating, disenfranchising

AP By ANNA GRONWOLD Associated Press
February 25, 2015 - 9:55 pm EST

Share / Save

LINCOLN, Nebraska — Lawyers and advocates for juveniles say Nebraska children as young as 10 years old are treated more harshly in court than some adult offenders, perpetuating a cycle of shame, humiliation and repeat offenses.

State lawmakers heard testimony Wednesday on a bill by Sen. Ernie Chambers of Omaha that would prohibit handcuffs, chains, irons or straitjackets on juveniles during court appearances unless deemed necessary for courtroom security. Currently all juvenile offenders transferred from detention centers appear in court in restraints, regardless of the severity of their offense.

An anti-shackling resolution issued this month by the American Bar Association notes that in adult court, shackling implies guilt and danger and should be used only as a last resort. Child offenders aren't provided the same right, said Sen. Bob Krist of Omaha, who also introduced anti-shackling legislation.

"Juveniles should look as though they are innocent until they are proven guilty," Krist said.

Advocates say the presumption of restraints damages children psychologically and affects their courtroom behavior. Ninety-three percent of juveniles appearing in court have already experienced at least one traumatic event in their lifetimes and shackling worsens the powerlessness of those experiences, according to a 2013 report by the federal Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention.

David Shapiro, representing the Campaign Against Indiscriminate Juvenile Shackling, said children in restraints have a harder time following instructions, taking notes, recollecting narratives and appearing truthful to judges.

Shapiro said other states, including Florida and South Carolina, have effectively passed similar legislation without consequences and Indiana, Connecticut, Minnesota, Utah, Tennessee and Colorado are currently considering legislation limiting shackling. Of the more than 20,000 children who have appeared in court unbound since Florida's Miami-Dade County outlawed shackling juveniles in 2006, not one has escaped or hurt anyone, according to 2011 data.

Dennis Marks of Nebraska Criminal Defense Attorneys Association said the bill doesn't eliminate shackling; it eliminates the one-size-fits-all presumption that all juveniles should be shackled. Before putting any juvenile in restraints, the bill mandates a brief hearing

We also have more stories about:
(click the phrases to see a list)

Category:

- [Nebraska](#)

Organizations:

- [Nebraska state government](#)
- [Nebraska State Legislature](#)

Subjects:

- [Government and politics](#)

for the court to prove the defendant poses a danger to the public or presents a risk of flight from the courtroom.

Opponents, including the Nebraska County Attorney's Association, said the bill compromises the safety of the courtroom and places an unnecessary burden on the county attorneys to decide whether a child's situation merits restraints or not.

The committee took no action on the bills.

Think your friends should see this? Share it with them!

- [Law and order](#)
- [Legal proceedings](#)
- [Legislation](#)
- [Legislature](#)
- [State governments](#)
- [State legislature](#)

Places:

- [Florida](#)
- [Nebraska](#)

Follow The Republic:

Like Share Be the first of your friends to like this.

Story copyright 2015 The Associated Press. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.

Feedback, Corrections and Other Requests: AP welcomes feedback and comments from readers. Send an email to info@ap.org and it will be forwarded to the appropriate editor or reporter.

All content copyright ©2015 The Republic, a division of Home News Enterprises unless otherwise noted. All rights reserved. [Privacy policy](#).

- [Cities](#)
- [Business Directory](#)
- [Book of Lists](#)
- [Upstart Business Journal](#)
- [Bizwomen](#)

- [Contact Us](#)
- [Sign In](#)

- [Like on Facebook](#)
- [Follow on Twitter](#)
- [Follow on LinkedIn](#)
- [Follow on Google+](#)

Subscribe ->

South Florida Business Journal

- [Home](#)
- [News](#)
- [People](#)
- [Events](#)
- [Jobs](#)
- [Resources](#)
- [Store](#)



[Subscribe Now](#) Limited Time Offer

Sign Up to receive South Florida Business Journal's Morning Edition and Afternoon Edition newsletters and breaking news alerts.

South Florida new home prices likely to rise as supply dwindles

Feb 25, 2015, 6:00am EST

[Share on Google +](#) [Share on Facebook](#) [Share on LinkedIn](#) [Share on Twitter](#) [Email this article](#)

[Save](#)

[Order Reprints](#)

[Print](#)



[Brian Bandell](#)

Senior Reporter- *South Florida Business Journal*

[Email](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Twitter](#)

The prices of new single-family homes in South Florida are expected to increase as developers run out of inventory to sell, according to [Metrostudy](#).

There were 1,691 single-family construction starts during the fourth quarter in Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River counties, Metrostudy said. That's a 16 percent decline from the third quarter, but a 19 percent increase from the quarter quarter of 2013.

For the full year, there were 7,334 construction starts, up 6.4 percent from 2013. Developers sold 6,852 new single-family homes, up 21 percent.

See Also

- [South Florida condo sales drop in January despite strong prices, as home sales grow](#)
- [South Florida falls to third-worst for foreclosure filings as market improves](#)
- [Lennar files plans for 743 homes in Miami-Dade](#)

However, there was only a 2.3-month supply of finished vacant new homes available at the end of the year. The lower the supply, the less developers are willing to compromise on price and incentives for buyers.

In the tri-county South Florida area, there aren't enough vacant developable lots in the pipeline to match the current level of supply, said [David Cobb](#), regional director of Metrostudy's South Florida market.

"We will see some price appreciation in 2015," Cobb said. "It probably won't be the same percentage jump of a year or two ago when we were coming off the bottom of the market."

In Miami-Dade County, there were 648 new single-family home starts in the fourth quarter, up 9 percent from the third quarter and 53 percent year-over-year. The annual starts increased 6.3 percent to 2,715. The busiest communities of 2014 in Miami-Dade were [Lennar's Aragon](#) with 393 home starts and 311 move-ins and Aventura Isles with 283 starts and 396 move-ins.

Miami-Dade had a 2.1-month supply of finished vacant homes.

Broward County had 280 home starts in the fourth quarter, down 5 percent from the third quarter and up 54 percent year-over-year. It had 1,194 annual starts, a 7 percent increase. The busiest communities of 2014 were MiraLago at Parkland with 209 starts and 145 move-ins and Watercrest at Parkland with 145 starts and 92 move-ins.

- [Page 1](#)
- [2](#)

[View All](#)

Brian Bandell covers real estate, transportation and logistics. Get the latest news with our free daily newsletter. [Click here to subscribe.](#)

Related links:

[Construction](#)

Industries:

[Residential Real Estate](#)

We Recommend

Promoted by Taboola



Corner property in downtown Miami bought by Israeli investor Mana



MBAF acquires Miami accounting firm Kane & Company



Federal Reserve Chair Janet Yellen: No interest rate hike until at least June; Audit the Fed bill would put ...

From Around The Web



Could this Stock be the Next Big Thing?
VentureCapital News



5 Of The Most Expensive Paintings Ever Sold At Sotheby's Auction
MyFirstClassLife



Top 10 Zoos in the World
LostWaldo.com



WorldofWatches.com	 a line... \$44.99 Shop Now!	 Maurice... \$1,149.99 Shop Now!	 Invicta  \$169.99 Shop Now!
--------------------	--	--	---

Miami Home Sales, Prices Rise in January

Posted: Feb 23, 2015 5:35 PM EST

This article was originally distributed via PRWeb. PRWeb, WorldNow and this Site make no warranties or representations in connection therewith.

Miami single-family home sales increased in January and all residential median sale prices continued their more than three years of consistent growth, according to the 36,000-member MIAMI Association of REALTORS® (MIAMI) and the local Multiple Listing Service (MLS) system.

Miami, Florida (PRWEB) February 23, 2015

Miami single-family home sales increased in January and all residential median sale prices continued their more than three years of consistent growth, according to the 36,000-member MIAMI Association of REALTORS® (MIAMI) and the local Multiple Listing Service (MLS) system.

Sales increase for Single-family Homes, Decline for Condos

Miami single-family home sales, which set an all-time annual record in 2014, increased 6.5 percent relative to January 2014, from 904 to 963. Condominium sales – which posted the second best year in Miami history last year despite increased supply of new condo construction – decreased 15 percent from 1,270 in January of last year to 1,080 last month. Combined, residential real estate sales decreased 6 percent to 2,043 last month compared to 2,174 during the same time period in 2014.

Miami is seeing a consistent and steady increase in single-family home sales while condo buyers are trending to the new coastal units becoming available, said Christopher Zoller, the 2015 Residential President of the MIAMI Association of REALTORS®. More houses are coming on the market, which means sellers are feeling confident about the housing market and strong sales show that buyers are also feeling confident.

Single-family home prices, which again increased in January year-over-year, remain at affordable 2004 levels despite more than three years of consistent year-over-year increases. Condo prices also increased in January 2015, marking 43 months of growth in the last 44 months. The median sale price for single-family homes increased 5.6 percent, up to \$237,500 in January 2015 from \$225,000 in January 2014. The average sale price for single-family homes decreased 4 percent to \$392,172 last month from \$408,626 during the same time period last year.

Compared to January 2014, the median sale price for condominiums increased 1.3 percent to \$188,500 from \$186,000 a year prior. The average sale for condominiums increased 3.2 percent to \$372,978 from \$361,282 in January 2014.

Miami Real Estate Continues Selling Fast, Close to List Price

Miami single-family homes and condominiums continue to sell close to asking price, reflecting a strong consumer demand. The median number of days on the market for single-family homes sold in January 2015 was just 51 days, an increase of 10.9 percent compared to the same period in 2014. The average percent of original list price received was 94.3 percent, down a negligible 1.2 percent from a year earlier.

The median number of days on the market for condominiums sold in January 2015 was 66 days, an increase of 17.9 percent compared to the same period in 2014. The average percent of original list price received was 93 percent, a 3.2-percent decrease.

National and State statistics

Nationally, sales of existing single-family homes, townhomes, condominiums, and co-ops posted a year-over-year increase in January. All national existing housing sales decreased 4.9 percent from December, but were up 3.2 percent from January 2014, according to the National Association of REALTORS® (NAR). Statewide closed sales of existing single-family homes totaled 16,087 last month, up 10 percent compared to the year-ago figure, according to Florida Realtors. Statewide sales of condominiums totaled 7,294, down 1.7 percent compared to January 2014.

The national median existing-home price for all housing types in January was \$199,600, which is 6.2 percent above January 2014, according to NAR. The national median home price has now seen 35 consecutive months of year-over-year price gains. The statewide median sale price for single-family existing homes last month was \$175,000, up 7.4 percent from the previous year, according to Florida Realtors. The statewide median price for townhouse-condo properties in January was \$137,000, up 5.4 percent over the previous year.

Cash Sales Decline Slightly, Condo Financing Remains an Obstacle

Cash sales in Miami continue to decline as more financing becomes available. Access to mortgage loans for condominium buyers, however, remains limited. The lack of Federal Housing Administration loans for a large number of existing Miami condominium buildings is preventing further market strengthening.

In Miami-Dade County, 57.3 percent of total closed sales in January 2015 were all-cash transactions, compared to 61.9 percent in the same time period last year. All-cash sales accounted for 42.5 percent of single-family home and 70.5 percent of condominium closings, compared to a year earlier when cash sales were 47.3 percent of single-family home sales and 72.3 percent of condominium sales. Miami's percentage of all-cash sales is more than double the national average. About 27 percent of all national housing transactions were in cash in January 2015, according to NAR.

Since nearly 90 percent of foreign buyers in Florida purchase properties all cash, this continues to reflect Miami's ability to attract international buyers.

Miami continues to be the place to be for the international market, Zoller said. And it's not just international buyers. Northerners are coming here in new numbers because they're being pushed out of the northeast by the weather. Miami's exciting world-class lifestyle, less expensive real estate, warm weather and strengthening job market are bringing buyers from the Northeast and elsewhere here.

Short Sales Continue to Decline in Miami

While traditional sales remain strong, distressed property transactions declined in Miami-Dade in January 2015 due to fewer short sales. In January 2015, only 34.9 percent of all closed residential sales in Miami were distressed, including REO (bank-owned properties) and short sales, compared to 38 percent in January 2014.

Short sales and REOs accounted for 7.8 percent and 27.1 percent, respectively, of total Miami sales in January 2015. Sales of REOs increased 3.6 percent year-over-year while that of short sales declined 45 percent.

Nationally, distressed homes accounted for 11 percent of January sales compared to 26 percent during the same time period last year.

Active Listings on the Rise

After three years of record sales activity that resulted in an inventory shortage, seller confidence continues to result in more properties being listed in Miami.

Active listings at the end of January increased 12 percent, from 16,358 in the same time period last year to 18,315 last month. Active listings remain about 60 percent below 2008 levels when sales bottomed. Inventory of single-family homes increased 8.4 percent from 6,021 active listings last year to 6,524 last month. Condominium inventory increased 14.1 percent to 11,791 from 10,337 listings during the same period in 2014.

At the current sales pace, there is a 5.8-month supply of single-family homes, an increase of 3.6 percent from 5.6 months in January 2014. There is an 8.7-month supply of condominium inventory, up from 7.2 months in January 2014, an increase of 21.6 percent. A balanced market between buyers and sellers offers between six and nine months supply of inventory.

New listings of single-family homes increased 3 percent from 2,288 in January of last year to 2,356 last month. New condominium listings decreased 4.3 percent to 3,190 last month, compared to 3,333 during the same time period in 2014.

At the end of the January, total housing inventory nationally decreased 0.5 percent to 1.87 million existing homes available for sale compared to the previous month, which represents a 4.7-month supply at the current sales pace.

January 2015 New Construction Market Update

Strong sales in the coastal new construction condominium Miami market (east of I-95) continue to reflect significant demand for new properties, according to the latest New Construction Market Status Report released by Cranespotter.com and MIAMI.

Since 2011, nine towers with 981 units have been completed in Miami-Dade County east of I-95. As of the Feb. 16 report, 68 towers with 9,624 units are under construction, and 79 towers with 11,832 units are planned but have not begun development. There are also 51 towers with 7,758 units that have been announced but not approved.

Overall in Miami-Dade County, developers have announced 207 towers with 30,195 units since 2011 through Feb. 16. Of the above projects in Miami-Dade:

- 97 projects with 113 towers comprising 16,863 units are currently selling.
- 67 percent of units have been sold.
- The mean price per square foot of these units is \$874, compared to \$856 last month.

Access January 2015 Miami-Dade Statistical Reports: SFMarketIntel.com

Note: Statistics in this news release may vary depending on reporting dates. MIAMI reports exact statistics directly from its MLS system.

About the MIAMI Association of REALTORS®

The MIAMI Association of REALTORS® was chartered by the National Association of Realtors in 1920 and is celebrating 95 years of service to Realtors, the buying and selling public, and the communities in South Florida. Comprised of five organizations, the Residential Association, the Realtors Commercial Alliance, the Broward County Board of Governors, the YPN Council and the award-winning International Council, it represents more than 36,000 real estate professionals in all aspects of real estate sales, marketing, and brokerage. It is the largest local Realtor association in the U.S., and has official partnerships with more than 125 international organizations worldwide. MIAMI's official website is <http://www.miamire.com>.

###

For the original version on PRWeb visit: <http://www.prweb.com/releases/2015/02/prweb12537015.htm>

Information contained on this page is provided by an independent third-party content provider. WorldNow and this Station make no warranties or representations in connection therewith. If you have any questions or comments about this page please contact pressreleases@worldnow.com.



CAN'T FIND SOMETHING?

You are not currently logged in [Log In](#)



	<p>Walk with Local 10 to fight heart disease</p>	<p>72° Miami Broken Clouds</p>	<p>Site <input type="radio"/> Web <input type="radio"/> Search <input type="text"/> GO</p>	<p>SPONSORED BY Paul Bange Realty, Inc.</p>
--	---	---	---	--

- [Home](#) [News](#) [Weather/Traffic](#) [Sports](#) [Call Christina](#) [Entertainment](#) [Pets](#) [Restaurant Insp.](#) [That's Life](#) [Contests](#) [Local](#)
[More Local News](#) [Investigates](#) [U.S./World](#) [Health](#) [Video](#) [Politics](#) [Money](#) [Slideshows](#) [Education](#) [Blogs](#) [Mugshots](#) [Sex Offenders](#) [Seen on Local 10](#)

Home > News

In Miami-Dade County public schools, black girls get punished more than boys, study says

Research: Educators' racist bias turns zero-tolerance policy destructive

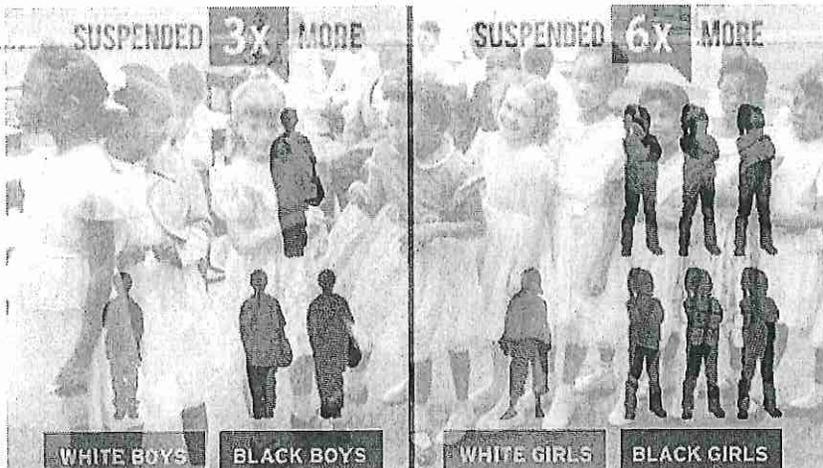
Author: Andrea Torres, Local10.com Reporter, atorres@local10.com

Published On: Feb 24 2015 04:45:29 PM EST | Updated On: Feb 24 2015 08:28:00 PM EST

Print

g+1 {0}

Tweet {9}



GRAPHIC: Images courtesy of Library of Congress and African American Policy Forum

When news that a police officer handcuffed a 6-year-old girl by her biceps, because her wrists were too small, the nation was outraged. A police officer escorted her to the police station in the back of a patrol car, the police report said.

Little Desre'e Watson's crime: A 20-minute tantrum at her school in central Florida. The kindergartener's charges: Battery on a school official, disruption of a school function and resisting a law enforcement officer.

When a New York Times columnist confronted the police chief about the "backward" move to arrest the black little girl, the law enforcer replied with a haunting question.

Quick Clicks

- [Florida schools suspension rate profile](#)
- [Miami-Dade suspension rate profile](#)

"Do you think this is the first 6-year-old we've arrested?"

FLORIDA 2011-2012 FACTS

Florida secondary schools suspended 20 percent of students at least once.

Civil rights advocates are convinced that over the years a trend in get-tough disciplinary policies has solidified the school-to-prison pipeline for vulnerable girls in Florida. And if a University of

Local 10 Investigates



Local 10 Investigates
The latest stories from Local 10's investigative team.

Most Popular on Local10

- | Articles | Slideshows | Videos |
|--|------------|--------|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Jeweler for stars dead of self-inflicted gunshot wound to head Officer caught on camera slapping homeless man BSO deputy under investigation after dragging inmate Homeless man out of jail after being slapped by officer Security guard trampled at Ultra Fest files \$10M lawsuit Gov. Scott officially suspends 11th grade test | | |

[View More](#)

ADVERTISEMENT

10,000,000 REASONS TO PLAY FLORIDA CASH

FLORIDA CASH

floridacash.com

ADVERTISEMENT

ENTER TO WIN

2 TICKETS to the Miami Heat game on March 20th

MIAMI HEAT

Brought to you by **TOYOTA** Let's Go Places

ADVERTISEMENT

California's Center for Civil Rights study released Monday is right, some black girls in Miami-Dade County may be on a pathway to hopelessness.

The study looked at U.S. Department of Education reports on school suspensions nationwide during the 2011-12 school year, which is the latest data available. There were "deep disparities" along the lines of race and disabilities in the states that have the highest corrections populations in the country.

Daniel Losen, director of the Center for Civil Rights Remedies, said that the fact that "21 percent of the districts suspended one of every four black secondary students is shocking."

The disparity, Losen said, inflicts upon millions of historically disadvantaged children "a legacy of despair rather than opportunity" and educators are "legally and morally obliged to take action."

Florida lead with the highest suspension rates in the country. A comparative analysis showed that a Florida district also placed first nationwide on reporting the greatest disciplinary disparity between black and white girls.

In Miami-Dade -- where records show 23 percent of the students are black and 67.5 percent are Hispanic -- the suspension rate was "alarming" and "disturbing," researchers said. The analysis found that at 16.5 percent, the suspension rate was "extraordinarily high" compared to the rest of the districts in the country, researchers said.

The recent study also found black girls were suspended at higher rates than boys of all races in Miami-Dade -- the fourth largest school district in the country.

The data on black girls with disabilities in secondary school may likely paint even a more grim picture. In that year, 64 percent of black students with verified physical, medical or psychological disabilities in Miami-Dade were suspended at least once.

The Civil Rights Project study has some educators nationwide questioning whether or not the reports on disciplinary practices reflect a bias in their district. They face a difficult dilemma. While the practices maybe preventing insubordination, they could also be damaging students.

Previous research shows that there is a proven link between the use of punitive disciplinary measures and subsequent patterns of criminal supervision and incarceration.

Making changes to public school discipline codes also requires a budgetary shift. In New York City, public school officials said implementing discipline changes that will take effect in September will cost \$5 million. The district plans to pay for conflict resolution training and will require school principals to get City Education Department approval for certain suspensions.

"No parent should have to choose between a school that is safe for their child and a school where every student is treated fairly," NYC Mayor Bill de Blasio recently told the Daily News, as he praised the changes. "All our schools can and must be both."

Florida elementary schools suspended 5.1 percent of students at least once.

DADE 2011-2012 FACTS

Dade secondary level schools suspended 16.5 percent of students at least once.

Dade elementary schools suspended 3.5 percent of students at least once.

QUESTIONS ANALYSIS POSES

Are teachers using the measure of giving up on students by removing them from the classroom as a last resort?

Are there deficiencies in policies or education resources that lead to more frequent suspensions?

SOME RECOMMENDATIONS

Support training for teachers

Make school climate an equal factor

Prohibit unjustifiable use of disciplinary exclusion

SOURCE: The Civil Rights Project



In the South Florida district, where school fights -- due to gang activity among predominantly African American students in poverty stricken neighborhoods -- have proven to be deadly, this balance is imperative.

Miami-Dade County Public Schools spokeswoman Daisy Gonzalez-Diego said the district is already using two programs linked to the code of student conduct that allow alternative punishments such as community service.

And because of these old programs, suspensions have "significantly" decreased, Gonzalez said. She also didn't disregard a change in the district's discipline code. She added that the educators are "seeking effective methods to continue reducing these suspension rates."

Follow Local 10 News on Twitter @WPLGLocal10

Follow Local10.com reporter on Twitter @MiamiCrime



Copyright 2014 by Local10.com. All rights reserved. This material may not be published, broadcast, rewritten or redistributed.



Follow Yahoo Finance

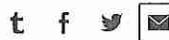


Finance Home 8:30AM EST - US Markets open in 60 mins

- My Portfolio
- My Quotes News
- Market Data
- Yahoo Originals
- Business & Finance
- Personal Finance
- CNBC
- Contributors

Rent affordability will deteriorate over next two years: Zillow CEO

YAHOO! FINANCE By Nicole Goodkind
23 hours ago



Recommended Games



More games »



A new report from Zillow shows that rents across the U.S. are increasing, and not just in the expected regions of New York City, San Francisco and Boston. Overall, rents increased 3.3% year-over-year as of January. But many cities outpaced that, including Kansas City, which saw rent grow more than double the national average, jumping 8.5% year-over-year. St. Louis saw rent increase by 4.5% over the same period. Rents in Detroit grew by 5.0% and rents in Cleveland grew by 4.2%.

Nationwide, rental appreciation is still below its peak - 6.3% hit in September 2012 after the housing bust. According to Zillow, monthly rents have grown at roughly twice the pace of wages in the U.S. since 2000. That means Americans are having to spend a greater share of their income on rent - about 30%, versus 25% in the past. And this problem isn't likely to go away anytime soon. Zillow surveyed a number of economists and real estate experts who all said they expected rental affordability to continue to "deteriorate for the next two years."

[Get the Latest Market Data and News with the Yahoo Finance App]

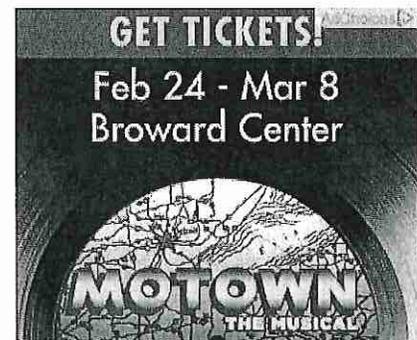
Economics

- Blodget: We have enough jobs, they just need to pay better
- Greece will blink first, here's why
- Zillow CEO says housing market doesn't look so bad
- Robert Shiller: Buying a home isn't necessarily a good investment
- Rand Paul defends his war on the Fed
- U.S. taking on more debt, what it means for the Fed



Top Stories

- Live: Stocks after Yellen boost; Lowe's strong quarter; Buffett loves Germany
- Lowe's fourth-quarter sales up 7.5 pct
- AmEx increasing rates for more than 1 million cardholders
- Buffett sets sights on German companies
- Alaska quietly becomes 3rd state to legalize marijuana



That will likely impact you even if you're a homeowner, since renting affordability issues tend to impact the broader housing market. Instead of becoming a stepping stone to homeownership, renting has become a barrier. Zillow CEO Spencer Rascoff explained the rental market following the housing crisis: "All of a sudden, there were 5 million new renters and the rental stock didn't increase."

Related: It's a great time to buy a home: Fannie Mae

That drove rental prices up; meanwhile, home prices were busy declining. "When home values came way down and the housing crisis emerged, we went from a homeownership rate of around 69% to 63%," Rascoff said. Since the crisis, home prices have crept back up: The most recent data shows the median price of existing homes sold in January was \$215,000, up from \$202,000 a year ago. But many economists have deemed the pace of this recovery "sluggish."

Related: Robert Shiller: Buying a home isn't necessarily a good investment

Still, just because some experts say now is a good time to buy a home doesn't mean buying is the way to go. "The right answer is to look at how long you're-going to be in the home," says Rascoff, something he calls the break-even horizon. Breaking even, according to Zillow, is when you're in your home long enough for ownership to be cheaper than renting. Nationwide, the break-even horizon is around two years - so after you're in your home for two years, ownership becomes cheaper than renting. In Miami and Detroit, it takes just one year, meaning buying looks like a good idea. However in some areas, like New York City, the break-even horizon is seven years - making renting a more appealing option.

More from Yahoo Finance:

Working women earn more than Patricia Arquette may realize

Blodget: We have enough jobs, they just need to pay better

Home care workers fight for higher minimum wage



Rates



JP Morgan Chase Closes Bank Branches, Cuts Jobs as More People Turn to ...



SF Startup Revolutionizing Used Clothing
Sponsored thredUP



Remaking of Tampa



Navigating oil's slippery slope



Federal Reserve Chairwoman Yellen Heads Back to Capitol Hill Today; Earnings ...



Let PANDORA Upstage Your Outfit at up to 70% Off
Sponsored Rue La La



Stocks on fire in February

CEO ROUNDTABLE | SURVEY OF LOCAL EXECUTIVES

Meet the new Miami Herald CEO Roundtable

To take the pulse of South Florida's business community, last year we established the Miami Herald CEO Roundtable, a panel of local chief executives. For six months, they graciously shared their opinions on business matters both serious and maddening. Today a new group takes over. The firms the CEO's lead span Miami-Dade and Broward counties. The firms are large and small, firmly established and start-ups, professional services and retail, publicly held and single-owner — a reflection of our overall business landscape. Here they are:



Daniel Ades, managing partner of Kawa Capital Management, which manages a global multi-strategy hedge fund specializing in asset backed securities and turnarounds.



Christine Barney, CEO of Coral Gables-based RBB marketing and public relations firm, and chairman-elect of the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce.



Richard Behar, founder and president of Capitol Clothing Corp, a Miami manufacturer of children's apparel under the brands Little Baron and Capitol Boys.



Carmen Castillo, president and CEO of SDI International Corp., a provider of global procurement outsourcing and managed service programs.



Jonathan Chariff, CEO of South Motors auto dealership group and incoming chairman of the Florida Automobile Dealers Association



Frank del Rio, president and CEO, Norwegian Cruise Line Holdings Ltd, parent company of Norwegian Cruise Line, Oceania Cruises and Regent Seven Seas Cruises.



Pandwe Gibson, executive director of EcoTech Visions, a business incubator for green manufacturing businesses.



Julie Grimes, managing partner of the Hilton Bentley Hotel on Miami Beach and co-founder of the Hospitality Institute in Overtown, which connects Miami inner city residents with opportunities in hospitality.



Felicia Hatcher, co-founder of Fe-verish Gourmet Pops and Code Fever Miami, a program dedicated to teaching diverse communities technology coding skills.



Alice Cervera Lamadrid, managing partner of Cervera Real Estate, which specializes in developer condo sales.



Ann Machado, founder and president of Creative Staffing, a Miami temporary and direct-hire staffing firm.



Victor Mendelson, co-president of Broward-based HEICO, an aerospace and electronics manufacturing company.



Nitin Motwani, managing principal of Miami Worldcenter Associates, developers of a \$2 billion mixed-use project in downtown Miami.



Abe Ng, founder and CEO of Sushi Maki Japanese restaurants, with 19 locations in Miami-Dade and Broward counties.



Todd Orestsky, co-founder of Pipeline Brickell, a co-working space for entrepreneurs, start-ups and independent professionals.



Eduardo Padron, president of Miami Dade College, the nation's largest institution of higher education with more than 165,000 students.



Joanna Schwartz, CEO and co-founder of EarlyShares, an online platform offering accredited investors direct access to vetted investment opportunities in real estate projects and companies.



Dave Seleski, founder, president and CEO of Stonegate Bank, which has 22 offices in southern Florida.



Darryl K. Shapton, president and CEO, The Shapton Group, an accounting and consulting firm, serves as chairman of the Public Health Trust Board and is a former board chair of the Miami-Dade Expressway Authority.



Andrew Smuljan, chairman and CEO of Akerman LLP, ranked among the top U.S. law firms by U.S. News & World Report, among others.



Gillian Thomas, president and CEO of the Patricia and Phillip Frost Museum of Science, due to open its new downtown Miami museum in 2016.



Paco Velez, CEO of Feeding South Florida, an advocacy and service organization dedicated to ending hunger.



Alina Villasante, founder of Peace Love, World clothing company.



Marlon Williams, serial tech entrepreneur and founder and CEO of Fenero, a cloud-based contact center software company.



John Wood, president of Amicon Construction Service, which currently manages more than \$200 million in South Florida projects.

February 19, 2015

REAL ESTATE

Industry leaders talk Miami real estate

The 2015 University of Miami Real Estate Impact conference touched on a variety of issues affecting local development.

BY NICHOLAS NEHAMAS
nnehamas@miamiherald.com

Focusing on such topics as luxury retail, undervalued neighborhoods and local prospects for "linear parks," industry leaders gathered in downtown Miami on Wednesday to discuss the state of South Florida's real estate market.

The city's cultural transformation and its ability to

draw wealth from the U.S. and abroad have made it an attractive target for developers, speakers at the University of Miami Real Estate Impact Conference agreed.

"This is now a world-class, international gateway city," said Ian Schragger, a developer who was behind the boutique Miami Beach Edition hotel, which opened last December.

As a result, Miami's luxury market has thrived.

"Miami is now the third-biggest market after New York and L.A. for luxury retail," said David Forbes, a partner at the Forbes Com-

pany, a high-end shopping center developer.

But that means commercial rents for retail have also skyrocketed, doubling over the past six years, according to Robert Cohen, an executive at the real estate broker RKF.

"Sustainability is a big word and we'll see what happens in the next cycle," Cohen said.

And another cycle is inevitable, said Richard LeFrak, the New York-based developer who now owns 183 empty acres, formerly a landfill, at Biscayne Landing in North Miami.

"There will be some vol-

atility in the market even if people are buying condos and putting 50 percent down," said LeFrak, the event's keynote speaker.

But LeFrak, who bought the Biscayne site during the last financial crisis, said volatility leads to new opportunities for developers to invest and keep building out Miami's growing urban core.

"People will look back at this time as a transformational period for this city," he said.

As prices flare up in Miami's downtown, develop-

• TURN TO REAL ESTATE, 3C

REAL ESTATE

UM conference touches on a variety of issues affecting local development

• REAL ESTATE, FROM 1C

ers are turning to new neighborhoods. The consensus favorite among conference speakers for new development seemed to be the Biscayne Boulevard corridor.

"It has frontage on the bay, it's close to the beach, there's a major north-south road, and it's an area with empty land," LeFrak said. "It's the next ring of development after downtown and the Beach."

One of Miami's newly developing neighborhoods, Wynwood, may not be ready for high-end projects yet, said Schragger. "Wynwood reminds me of Williamsburg [in Brooklyn]," he said. "I think it is not safe at night there yet, but it's cool. I'm keeping my eye on it."

The conference, which was at the JW Marquis Mar-

riott Miami, also hosted a panel on local efforts to create public green spaces, or "linear parks," along existing trails in Miami-Dade.

One such proposed project, called the Underline, would create 10 miles of bicycle and pedestrian paths on unused space under the Metrorail line that runs from Dadeland to Brickell Station.

"We want to find ways to take these leftover lands and give them back to the public in meaningful ways," said Meg Daly, who is spearheading the effort through a group called Friends of the Underline.

She cited the High Line, an elevated walkway in Manhattan that replaced an unused railway spur and drew new investment to a barren part of the city, as an inspiration.

Daly also said the project

could reduce accidents involving pedestrians and bicyclists.

Similar proposals include converting six miles of abandoned railway line between Dadeland and Miami International Airport — the Ludlam Corridor — into a walkable trail studded with parks and mixed-used developments.

Speakers also agreed that the county needs to make a serious investment in public transportation and existing roadways if Miami wants to compete with other international cities. Otherwise, traffic will continue to gum up the city's development as more people move into a confined space, LeFrak argued.

"You don't have the luxury or the geography of letting the city spread because you're bounded on the west by nature," he said.

The Miami Times

MDC graduates first class of '10,000 Small Businesses'

More than 70 local entrepreneurs complete classes to grow, create jobs

Miami Times staff report | 2/11/2015, 2 p.m.



Graduates of the first Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses program rehearse on Sunday. Photo courtesy of Suzan McDowell

More than 70 Miami small business owners on Monday graduated from the Goldman Sachs 10,000 Small Businesses initiative, a program that provides small business owners with practical business education, business support services and access to capital.

Goldman Sachs launched 10,000 Small Businesses in Miami in September 2013 and committed \$5 million for business education. The business owners who graduated participated in over 100 hours of curriculum delivered by MDC's School of Business in collaboration with the School of Continuing Education and Professional Development, studying a business and management curriculum designed by Babson College. The curriculum covered accounting, human resources, negotiation and marketing, among other topics. The program also included one-on-one business advising and accounting workshops.

Goldman Sachs Chairman and CEO Lloyd Blankfein, Dr. Eduardo Padrón, president of Miami Dade College (MDC), and Republican U. S. Sen. Marco Rubio gave remarks at the ceremony, congratulating the business owners on their growth that will contribute to the economic vitality in Miami. Lt. Gov. Carlos Lopez-Cantera, Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Giménez, City of Miami Mayor Tomás Regalado, Javier Palomarez, president & CEO of the U.S. Hispanic Chamber of Commerce and Dr. Kerry Healey, president of Babson College, were also present at the event.

"With the help of MDC and our partners in Miami, the small business owners who are graduating today have gained more of the skills and knowledge they need to hire more employees and grow their businesses," said Goldman Sachs' Blankfein. "The growth of these small businesses will have a ripple effect, contributing to the vitality of both the local and national economy."

"It's been amazing working with Goldman Sachs and we're just getting started. This program and its positive impacts on our community are



Pardon

catalysts for our region's continued economic growth and improvement. Small businesses are the backbone of our community and we are putting our energies and attention where it matters most," said Padrón. "We are honored that Goldman Sachs entrusted MDC, an institution with its ear on the ground like no other, with implementing this program, which is already yielding great results."

Graduate Suzan McDowell said because of the program she understands what it means to be a small business owner. McDowell's Circle of One Marketing is now 13 years old and she employees five people.

"Its amazing that after 13 years since founding Circle of One Marketing, it took the Goldman Sachs program to really introduce me to my business," McDowell said. "I learned how to really understand my financials; how to hire and manage based on personality types; the importance of leadership and the value of a strong growth plan. While its a very intense program, it was an invaluable experience to learn and grow as a professional and business owner. With the guidance the program, Circle of One Marketing is poised for our expansion of services and presence in the Los Angeles market, creating a bi-coastal footprint for the agency."

The business owners who are graduating today collectively have more than \$55 million in revenues and employ more than 1,000 people. 10,000 Small Businesses in Miami has seen a 100 percent graduation rate, with 89 percent of program participants collaborating with classmates and 100 percent of program participants saying they would recommend the program to a friend or colleague.

| [Read More >>](#)



Add a comment...

Also post on Facebook

Posting as Susana Cortazar ▾

Comment

Facebook social plugin

ABOUT ADVERTISE CONTACT

SEARCH CAPITAL SOUP..



Florida News
Straight From
The Source



🏠 ★ FEATURED © VIDEOS 📅 CALENDAR 📰 NEWSMAKERS

Rep. Edwards proposes changes to juvenile charging practices

FEB 17 • 124 VIEWS • VIEW COMMENTS

Share 2 1 0

EDWARDS FILES BILL TO CHANGE THE WAY FLORIDA TRIES CHILDREN IN ADULT COURT

TALLAHASSEE – Representative Katie Edwards (D-Plantation) filed legislation today that would restore balance to Florida's practice of charging children as young as twelve as adults.

HB 783 would restore the ability of judges to decide which juvenile cases that are eligible for transfer to adult court should be tried there. Under current law, prosecutors have the sole discretion to decide which cases end up in adult court.

"The current system is like a football game with no referee," Edwards said. "This legislation would limit the offenses that are eligible for transfer to only the most egregious, and provides much needed sentencing reform."

Edwards was motivated to file the bill after learning that juvenile transfer rates vary greatly by county. According to 2014 data from the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice, a child charged with a felony offense was almost twice as likely to be tried as an adult in Duval or Hillsborough County compared with a child charged with a felony in Miami-Dade County. The problem lies in a system that allows prosecutors to be the sole arbiter of whether a child's case ends up in adult court.

"The same child, accused of the same offense, may receive vastly different treatment depending on which circuit they are charged in," Edwards said. "That's not fair. We

FIND US ON FACEBOOK

Capital Soup
Like

548 people like Capital Soup.

Facebook social plugin

FOLLOW @CAPITALSOUP

need to develop a system where the facts of an individual child's case are the deciding factor, not which circuit they are in."

Other provisions in the bill require that children awaiting trial be held in juvenile facilities, even if they have been charged as adults, where they can receive child-appropriate services including adequate education. Current law requires that children charged as adults be transferred to adult jail pending a decision on their charges.

CONTACT: Rep. Katie Edwards, (954) 838-1371

LEAVE A COMMENT



Add a comment...

Also post on Facebook

Posting as **Susana Cortazar** ▾

Comment

Facebook social plugin

Tweets

 **Capital Soup**
@CapitalSoup

Rep. Reggie Fullwood "honored" and "excited" to be returning to Tallahassee. capitalsoup.com/2015/02/17/rep... @CapitalSoup
Expand

 **Capital Soup**
@CapitalSoup

House Democratic Leader Pafford Welcomes Representative Reggie Fullwood capitalsoup.com/2015/02/17/hou... @CapitalSoup

 **Capital Soup**
@CapitalSoup

ICYMI: Pro Sports Facilities Provide Positive Return on Taxpayers' Investment capitalsoup.com/2015/02/17/icy... @CapitalSoup
Expand

 **Capital Soup**
@CapitalSoup

MEDIA ADVISORY: Governor Scott Will Make Transportation Announcement in Fort Myers capitalsoup.com/2015/02/17/med...

[Tweet to @CapitalSoup](#)