

MESSAGE FROM THE MAYOR



December 14, 2012

Dear Fellow Residents of Miami-Dade County:

The FY 2012-13 budget continues to fulfill the promises I made to you during the past two years. This is a responsible budget that reduces the tax rate and property tax revenues while maintaining the current level of services and avoiding employee layoffs.

The FY 2012-13 Adopted Budget:

- Reduces tax rates by 2% to offset the growth in property values for 2012, which combined with the 12% reduction in last year's budget will save taxpayers more than \$405 million over two years
- Utilizes \$5.8 million less in property tax revenue than FY 2011-12
- Includes \$43 million in savings from efficiencies brought about by reducing the number of County departments to 25 from 42, for a total of nearly \$80 million in savings over two years
- Eliminates the additional 4% contribution to group health insurance imposed on employees last fiscal year, but still includes approximately \$158 million in employee concession savings
- Minimizes the use of one-time revenues, improves operational efficiency, funds infrastructure investments, and provides resources to support projects to promote, attract, and retain businesses in Miami-Dade County

Last year was just the beginning. We have made tremendous strides in fulfilling the promises made to our community. However, there is much more to be done.

Over the next four years we will continue to work hard to restore economic prosperity to our community; provide essential services, in particular to those most in need – the elderly and children; and do all we can to make Miami-Dade County a great place for our families now and in the future. I look forward to working with the Board of County Commissioners and leading our team of dedicated County employees to achieve these goals.

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Gimenez
Mayor