



MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item 15(C)3

TO: Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez, and
Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: May 15, 2012

FROM: Honorable Harvey Ruvin, Clerk
Circuit and County Courts

SUBJECT: Nominations for Appointment to
the Children's Trust by the
Governor

Christopher Agrippa, Division Chief
Clerk of the Board Division

It is recommended that the Board consider the nomination of candidates for the gubernatorial appointment to the Children's Trust to fill one (1) vacancy resulting from the term expiration of Benjamin F. Gilbert, Jr.

The Board of County Commissioners' adoption of Ordinance 02-247 provides for the creation of a thirty-three (33) member Children's Trust for the purpose of funding improvements for the children of Miami-Dade County in the areas of health, development, safety, parental responsibility, community responsibility and other necessary and important children's services.

Section 2-1522 of the Code establishes that seven (7) members of the Children's Trust be appointed by the Governor of the State of Florida from a list of candidates recommended by the Board of County Commissioners. The County Commission is to submit to the Governor the names of at least three (3) persons to fill each vacancy.

The Office of the Chair has received expressed interest from the following four (4) individuals seeking to serve as a member of the Children's Trust:

- Judy Brown
- Linda Carmon-Sanchez
- Barbara Kubilis
- Marissa Joy Leichter

Attached for your information and review are copies of the resumes and letters of recommendation for each nominee.

CA/sm
Attachments

TRISH & DAN BELL

457 LEUCADENDRA DRIVE
CORAL GABLES, FLORIDA 33156
PHONE: (305) 665-1520
FAX: (305) 666-9542

March 28, 2012

Miami-Dade County, Board of County Commissioners
Office of the Chairman, Joe A. Martinez
111 NW First Street, Suite 200
Miami, FL 33128

It is with a great deal of pleasure and confidence that we nominate Judy Brown for the Gubernatorial appointment to the Board of the Children's Trust. Judy's entire career and life-long passion has been dedicated to improving the lives of children, youth and families.

She has led the education program of the Miami Science Museum since 1988, and she brings extensive expertise in program development, research, evaluation and advocacy that would support the Trust's commitment to the funding of quality programs. Prior to joining the Museum, Judy directed a wide range of educational programs for Far West Laboratory for Educational Research and Development, serving diverse audiences such as the children of migrant workers, teachers at all levels and nonprofit agencies.

Her passion in reaching under-served children began early in her career as Education Director of the New York Head-Start program, and later as Executive Director of the San Francisco Head-Start Grantee. Judy has continued this work while at the museum initiating the first in the nation Upward Bound Math and Science Center to be led by a Museum. Her leadership in promoting children's education has been recognized with two prestigious White House awards for youth development, and in 2005 she received the Eleanor Roosevelt Fund Award from the American Association of University Women for outstanding contributions to equity and education for women and girls.

Judy has served on the Board of Directors of the San Francisco YWCA, the Healthy DC Foundation, as well as on many advisory boards. Currently she is on the advisory board of the Smithsonian's Early Childhood Initiative, the National Science Foundation's Committee of Visitors, and National Institute of Health's Office of Education's Strategic Planning Board. Her work has reflected her commitment to education and community, and we believe her contribution to the Board of the Children's trust would be substantial.

Dr. Judy Brown more than satisfies the criteria for membership on the Children's Trust Board in all areas -- including raising awareness of the needs of children and families and in directing initiatives for permanently improving their lives. She is also a delightful and highly reliable individual with an exceptional ability to work collaboratively with others. She has an impressive record of advocating for children, and she represents their needs and welfare by serving on numerous committees and boards that focus on these needs. We strongly recommend -- with no reservation -- Dr. Judy Brown for this Gubernatorial appointment to the Board of the Children's Trust. Both the Children's Trust and our community, but especially the children of this state, would be richly served by her presence on this Board.

Respectfully,



Trish and Dan Bell
Co-Chairs
Miami Science Museum

AWARDS AND HONORS

- 2005 Eleanor Roosevelt Fund Award from the American Association of University Women, for outstanding contributions to equity and education for women and girls.
- 2005 Presidential Award for Excellence in Science, Mathematics, and Engineering Mentoring
- 2001 National Award for Museum Service from the Institute for Museum and Library Service, awarded by the First Lady in a White House ceremony, for Excellence in Youth Programming.
- 2000 Digital Steppingstone Award from the Tomas Rivera Policy Institute for programming to close the digital divide
- 1995 NSTA Informal Science Educator of the Year Award
- 1995 Educator of the Year, Phi Delta Kappa Miami Chapter
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POSITIONS

MIAMI SCIENCE MUSEUM

Sr. Vice President Education & Executive Director, Center for Interactive Learning, July 2005-present

- Identify, develop and lead collaborative initiatives with the University of Miami and other partners aimed at strengthening ties between current research and informal science learning.

Sr. Vice President, Programs, 2002-June, 2005

- Provide overall leadership, planning and direction of educational programs.
- Responsible for securing financial support for innovative programming in the areas of teacher enhancement, early childhood, youth development, gender equity, instructional technology, exhibit development and environmental education.
- Oversee the museum's educational advocacy activities, on a local, state, and national level.
- Provide oversight of educational planning for the new Museum of Science

Vice President for Program Development and Research, 1999 - 2001

- Provide leadership and direction of the Museum's educational and research initiatives.
- Responsible for fiscal oversight of all federal education grants and contracts.
- Responsible for developing partnerships and collaborations with international museums in Latin America and the Caribbean.

Director of Education, 1988 - 1999

- Responsible for the direction and management of the Museum's educational programs.

CENTER FOR TRAINING & TECHNOLOGY SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

- Operational management of training and development activities, with emphasis on assisting schools to implement new technologies. Selected projects include:

- **Department of Educational Technology** California State Department of Education. (DOE) Statewide training on a DOE technology planning model.
- **Cupertino Union & Fremont School District.** Design of a Technology Model School program.
- **U.S. Department of Education,** Division of Educational Replication.
- Project Director of the *California Technology Lighthouse Project.*

FAR WEST LABORATORY FOR EDUCATIONAL RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT, SAN FRANCISCO, CA
Executive Director, San Francisco Head Start, 1981 - 1982

- On leave from FWL to start up operations for the City of San Francisco's Head Start Program (which had been eliminated due to mismanagement by the previous grantee).

Principal Investigator/Project Director, 1974 - 1980

- Responsible for the planning, negotiation, management and direction of a variety of federal and state funded research and development projects, including:
 - Urban Facilitation Projects, Los Angeles, Oakland, & San Francisco, California.
 - National Diffusion Network Technical Assistance, western region.
 - National Institute of Education, Early Childhood Flexible Learning System

AGENCY FOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT, NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Education Director, 1972 - 1974

- Responsible for management of Head Start and Child Development Centers throughout the five boroughs of New York City (\$13 million dollar budget).

NEW YORK UNIVERSITY, INSTITUTE FOR DEVELOPMENTAL STUDIES, NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Project Coordinator

- Supervised urban adoptions in Atlanta, Georgia, and New York City of the Interdependent Learning Follow-Through Learning Model (K-3).

UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS, CHAMPAIGN, ILLINOIS

Staff Development Specialist, 1970 - 1971

- Implementation assistance and staff development support to school sites throughout the U.S. utilizing the Direct Instruction Follow-Through Learning Model (K-3).

NEW YORK BOARD OF EDUCATION, NEW YORK, NEW YORK

Staff Development Specialist, 1967 - 1970

- K-2 Teacher- Pilot Extended Day Program

RECENT PUBLICATIONS AND POSTERS

Brown, J. & Hulleman, C.S. (2011, September 8). *Early Childhood Hands-On Science: The Development, Implementation and Evaluation of A Preschool Science Curriculum*. Society for Research on Educational Effectiveness, Fall 2011 Conference Proceedings.

Brown, J. & Juarez, C.L. (2011, June 7). *Girls RISEnet Project*. Poster session presented at National Science Foundation PIPD Joint Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.

Brown, J. & Myers, T. (2011, March 3-4). *Digital WAVE: Warming Winds and Water*. Poster session at NSF ITEST 8th Annual Summit, Washington, DC.

Brown, J. & Greenfield, D. B., et al. (2010, June 28-30). *ECHOS: Early Childhood Hands-On Science*. Poster session at Institute for Educational Sciences 5th Annual Research Conference, Nat'l Harbor, MD.

Brown, J. & Juarez, C.L. (2010, June 7-9). *Girls RISEnet Project*. Poster session presented at National Science Foundation PIPD Joint Annual Meeting, Washington, DC.

Brown, J. & Myers, T. (2010, March 2-3). Poster Session: *Youth EXPO: Youth Exploring the Potential of Virtual Worlds*. Poster session presented at NASA Competitive Program for Science Museums and Planetariums Grantee Meeting 2010, Washington, DC.

Brown, J. & Myers, T. (2010, February 25-26). *Digital WAVE: Warming Winds and Water*. Poster session presented at NSF ITEST 7th Annual Summit, Washington, DC.

Brown, J., Diaz, R., Greenfield, D.B., Kaiser, K. & Myers, T. (2009, June 7-9). *ECHOS: Early Childhood Hands-On Science*. Institute for Educational Sciences 4th Annual Research Conference, Washington, DC.

Brown, J. & Greenfield, D.B., et al. (2008, June 10-12). *ECHOS: Early Childhood Hands-On Science*. Poster session at Institute for Educational Sciences 3rd Annual Research Conference, Washington, DC

Saab, P. G., Duran, S., McCalla, J. R., Brown, J.A., & Williams, LE (2010, Fall). Heart smart, Museums & Social Issues: A Journal of Reflective Discourse, 5 (2) 258-263

Chipungu, K.E., Saab, P.G., Countryman, A.J., McCalla, J.R., Fitzpatrick, S.L., Etzel, E., Brown, J. & Juarez, C. (2011). The role of health knowledge, self-efficacy and literacy in predicting health behaviors in adolescents. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 41 (Suppl.), S217.

Etzel, E., Chipungu, K.E., Countryman, A.J., Fitzpatrick, S.L., McCalla, J.R., Brown, J.A., & Saab, P.G. (2011). Self-reported physical activity and sedentary behavior varies by stage of change in adolescents. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 41 (Suppl.), S228.

Saab, P.G., McCalla, J.R., Brown, J.A., Enriconi, L., Duran, S., Etzel, E., Countryman, A.J., Chipungu, K.E., & Fitzpatrick, S.L. (2011). Heart Smart: A strategy for assessing and promoting cardiovascular health in diverse groups. *Annals of Behavioral Medicine*, 41 (Suppl.), S89.

McCalla, J. R., Chipungu, K., Saab, P. G., Countryman, A. J., Fitzpatrick, S., Etzel, E., & Brown, J. (2011, April). *Stage of change for dietary fat reduction, healthy eating self-efficacy, and reported food consumption in adolescents*. Poster presented at the annual meeting of the Society of Behavioral Medicine, Washington, DC.

PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION

Ed.D., Education Leadership, Nova University/ Sacramento CA cluster, 1978

M.S., Curriculum & Teaching, Fordham University, 1970

B.A., Liberal Arts, Sociology/Anthropology, State University of New York, 1967

SEARCHED
SERIALIZED
INDEXED
FILED



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2011 - 2012 Board of Directors

April 10, 2012

Chair
Octavio A. Verdeja Jr.
Vice Chair
The Hon. Cindy S. Lederman, J.D.
Treasurer
Daniel Armstrong, Ph.D.

The Honorable Joe A. Martinez
Miami Dade County, Board of County Commissioners
Office of the Chairman
111 NW First Street, Suite 220
Miami, FL 33128

Ref: The Children's Trust

Secretary
Gerald K. Schwartz, Esq.

Dear Chairman Martinez;

Directors
Magaly Abrahante, Ed.D.

Please accept this letter as my recommendation of Ms. Linda Carmona-Sánchez to The Children's Trust Board of Directors. Ms. Carmona-Sánchez has been a resident of Miami-Dade County for more than 30 years during which time she has been a determined advocate for the children and families of our community.

Modesto E. Abety-Gutierrez

Theresa Axford

As the parent of a severely disabled young woman, Ms. Carmona-Sánchez was thrust into the role of champion for persons with cognitive and physical challenges. It was through her effort that Miami-Dade County Public Schools launched a Birth-2 Year Old Early Intervention program in 1984. Her daughter, Carmen, was its first student and the program became the model for similar services across the country. In the following years, Ms. Carmona-Sánchez' has held leadership positions in our local nonprofit community, as well as state government agencies.

Roderick E. Beasley

Yolanda Borroto

Gina Cortes-Suarez, Ed.D.

Alan Eckstein, Esq.

Shaleen Fagundo

Esther Jacobo

In 2007, Ms. Carmona-Sánchez founded the Alliance for Early Care & Education, Inc. (AECE), a nonprofit organization dedicated to high-quality early childhood education for all children. The organization was initially established with financial support from The Children's Trust Starter Grant Initiative. Since then, the AECE has worked toward achieving financial stability through membership dues, grants and service contracts. Launched in collaboration with a small core group of local childcare providers, the AECE has become a leading advocate for the early learning industry in our community, our state and across the country.

Commissioner Barbara J. Jordan

Yvonne T. Johnson, M.D.

David Lawrence Jr.

Lisa Martinez

Jane W. McQueen

Harve A. Mogul

Yesenia Perkins

Lucy C. Piñero, Esq.

Attached please find Ms. Carmona-Sánchez' résumé for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me if I may provide you with any further information or details.

Ann-Karen Weller, R.N., B.S.N.

David Williams Jr.

Sincerely,

President & CEO
Evelio C. Torres, M.P.A.

Evelio C. Torres, M.P.A.
President and CEO

LINDA CARMONA-SANCHEZ
15422 SW 137 Place, Miami FL 33177
C 786-210-1673
E mail: linda@myaece.org

OBJECTIVE To strengthen family self-sufficiency and resiliency.

EMPLOYMENT

President/CEO 6/2007 – present
Alliance for Early Care and Education, Inc.
Established a nonprofit organization to improve early care and education by improving working conditions for practitioners. Administered the organization as a non-traditional union structure and acted as staff to the Board of Directors. Developed policies and procedures. Set agency budget and managed finances. Achieved stability with membership dues, grants and low-cost services for members. Collaborated with national experts on industry data collection and analysis. Conducted professional development and capacity-building workshops. Represented industry before national/state/local legislators. Led annual community mobilization campaigns to influence public policies. Developed print and electronic communication materials.

Owner/Executive Director 5/2000 – 6/2011
A+ Early Learning Center, Inc.
Owned and operated an accredited (APPLE) private preschool. Ensured regulatory compliance and implemented a high-quality early learning program using High/Scope curriculum. Set policies and procedures. Supervised staff and facilitated professional development. Participated in Quality Counts.

Consultant 5/1998-5/2000
Facilitated organizational development and outcome-driven strategic planning for family serving community agencies. Developed policies and procedures aligned with strategic planning and established performance measures/accountability benchmarks together with cost-centered budgets.

Senior Management Analyst II 6/1995-5/1998
Florida Department of Children and Families
Lead administrator for Annie E. Casey Foundation Mental Health Initiative. Served as state liaison between East Little Havana community, Miami Dade County Youth & Family Development and state agencies. Responsible for budget development and contract management.

SKILLS Exemplary interpersonal skills, computer applications including MS Office (Word, Excel, Access, Powerpoint), GAAP financial and contract management, strategic planning, staff supervision, fluent English/Spanish/French.

EDUCATION

Director Credential (Advanced), Miami Dade College 2003, 2008
Director Credential (Foundational), Miami Dade College 2002
Child Development Associate, Miami Dade College, 2001
Marketing, St. Thomas University, 1988
Special Education/Multiple Handicaps, Florida State University, 1985-86
Special Education/Visual Handicaps, Florida State University, 1984-85

CERTIFICATION

State of Florida, Notary Public #DD649640
AED/CPR/Basic First Aid, Instructor #FL165
National Registry of Food Safety Professionals, Administrator #12469/12469
National Family Child Care Home, Certified Observer
Transitioning to Kindergarten, Certified Trainer
Abriendo Puertas Parent Education, Certified Trainer
Developing Your (Family) Child Care Business, Certified Trainer
Florida Early Learning & Developmental Standards, Birth to Four, Certified Trainer
Seizure Training for Child Care Personnel, Certified Trainer
Oral Language Development, Certified Trainer
IRS/Volunteer Income Tax Assistant, Intermediate Tax Preparer

COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

Miami Dade Professional Development Collaborative 2011 – present
Brown-Mackie College, ECE Program Advisory, 2009 to present
Jesse Trice Community Health Center, 2009 - 2010
Child Care Executive Partnership, 2008 – present
Early Learning Coalition Assessment Task Force, 2007 - present
Early Learning Coalition Inclusion Task Force, 2007- present
Early Learning Coalition Curriculum Task Force, 2007 – present
Miami Dade County Public Schools, Career & Technical Education Advisory 2007- present

MEMBERSHIPS

National Women’s Law Center Progressive Leadership Action Network, 2011
Florida League of Women’s Voters, 2011
National Association of Family Child Care Homes, 2011
National Association for the Education of Young Children, 2000
Florida Association for Child Care Management, 2000-2005
National Council of La Raza, 1995-present

REFERENCES

Daniella Levine, President
HSC/Catalyst Miami
1900 Biscayne Blvd.,
Miami FL 33132
Tel. (305) 576-5001

Maria Elena Delgado, President
Victoria’s Playhouse I & II
11316 SW 88 Terrace
Miami FL 33176
Tel. (305) 310-9099

Charles Auslander, JD
The Children’s Trust
3150 SW Third Ave., 8th Floor
Miami FL 33129
Tel. (305) 571-5700

Evelio C. Torres, MPA
Early Learning Coalition of Miami-Dade
2555 Ponce de Leon Blvd., 5th Floor
Coral Gables FL 33134
Tel. (305) 646-7220

Robert E. Linder
Chief Executive Officer
Borinquen Health Care Center, Inc.
3601 Federal Highway
Miami, FL 33137
Cell: 305-609-14231

April 15, 2012

Miami Dade County, Board of County Commissioners
Office of the Chairman, Joe A. Martinez
111 NW 1st Street, Suite 220
Miami, FL 33128

RE: Board Member recommendation for The Children's Trust

Honorable Chairman Joe A. Martinez

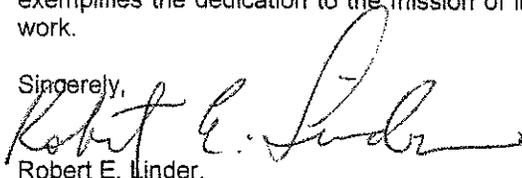
It is my honor to recommend Ms. Barbara M. Kubilus as the Gubernatorial Appointment for the Children's Trust. Ms. Kubilus is Borinquen Health Care Center's Chief Special Programs Officer. Her primary functions are to oversee many of our programs and services targeting children and their families such as Healthy Start, Healthy Smiles at Head Start, Health Connect in Our Schools and Target Outreach for Pregnant Women (TOPWA). Another of her areas is the development of collaborations and community-wide initiatives serving children in Miami-Dade County. These partnerships have helped leverage resources ensuring that the well-being of the children of our community is adequately and appropriately addressed.

Ms. Kubilus is well-known for her innovative efforts to deliver oral health care to the underserved and uninsured in our community especially to children. Additionally, her efforts to deliver healthcare to the children served by childcare and Head Start centers has facilitated closing the gap between healthcare needs and healthcare services.

Ms. Kubilus was further exposed to the myriad of issues faced by the children in our community while working for the Juvenile Justice Court conducting Judicial reviews of foster care cases. The challenges experienced while attempting to find solutions to the multitude of complexities faced by these individuals encouraged her to advocate for these children at every feasible area.

I strongly recommend Barbara for this appointment and know that she will be an asset to any Board. Her knowledge of community resources and understanding of children's needs are comprehensive. She exemplifies the dedication to the mission of improving the lives of children and their families in her daily work.

Sincerely,


Robert E. Linder.

BARBARA M. KUBILUS, M.P.A.

3021 NW 1 Street
Miami, FL 33125
bkubilus@hcnetwork.org
305.761.7389

SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS

Over a decade of progressive leadership and administrative experience in human/social service organizations serving children and their families. Experience in program design, development, and implementation; including grant development and leveraging of funds, outcome accountability management, strategic planning, contract negotiation and execution, budget development and oversight, organizational capacity building, and board development. Energetic, analytical, creative and team-oriented leader. Excellent relationship-building, problem-solving, writing, and communication skills. Ability to plan, organize, and motivate for timely execution of tasks.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

2008 – Present **Borinquen Health Care Center**
Miami, Florida
Chief Special Programs Officer

- Provide leadership and administrative oversight of twelve (12) special programs (*HIV/AIDS care and support services; Behavioral Health; Maternal and Child health and education; School-based health care including oral health care; Community Outreach, health education and screenings; and benefits eligibility assistance*) of the organization.
- Member of senior management team.
- Oversight of six directors; responsible for a team of forty seven (47) individuals.
- Prepare, monitor and work closely with finance team on various budgets (special programs account for approximately 15% of overall budget).
- Identify and implement cost-containment measures.
- Review data and analyze trends for future projection and proposed programs.
- Facilitate partnerships, collaborations and community initiatives.
- Build and maintain positive community relationships and promote a positive image of the organization, initiate community alliances; serve on local committees.
- Identify and develop request for proposals (Federal, State, and local).
- Provide assistance in the development and execution of organizational as well as program specific strategic planning.
- Create new programs and program services.
- Strengthen current programs and facilitate its development.
- Service Champion for “Journey to Excellence” – Studer Group leadership development

Accomplishments:

- Increased County Ryan White Program Funding by approximately \$500,000.00 per year.
- Awarded \$1,700,000.00 via the Federal Ryan White Program for the next three years.
- Acquired 55 foot mobile medical unit for community education and health services.
- Awarded a three year contract with the Miami-Dade Head Start Program whereas BHCC is one of two primary care providers and the sole dental provider (under this contract).
- Brokered a partnership between the Miami-Dade Head Start Program and Community Health of South Dade for oral health care in South Dade.
- Obtained funding for the expansion and modernization of the dental department.
- Created and implemented Miami-Dade County's first oral health program in our *Health Connect in Our Schools'* sites.
- Created and implemented a pilot project whereas comprehensive oral health care is delivered to Miami-Dade County Head Start Programs via the utilization of portable dental equipment.
- New Department of Health (DOH) funding awarded under my leadership: Targeted Outreach for Pregnant Women Act (TOPWA), Enhanced Testing Initiative (ETI), and the Enhanced Comprehensive HIV/AIDS Prevention Program (ECHPP).
- Co-authored Low Income Pool proposal (State DOH) for emergency diversion program resulting in a \$1,500,000.00 award.
- Development of a Project AIDS Case Management Waiver Program.
- Acquired funding for three transportation vehicles, initiating BHCC's transportation services for clients.
- Certified "Dental Expert" under the auspices of DentaQuest (consultant for safety Net Solutions to implement dental programs in FQHC settings)
- Acquired Community Mental Health Center status for behavioral health program.
- Under my leadership, the behavioral health program was awarded two national awards: ***Hitachi Foundation Pacesetter Award for Workplace Best Practices***; the outpatient substance-abuse program was awarded the ***National Science and Service Award*** from SAMHSA (substance abuse and mental health administration).

Special assignments:

- Service Champion for our "Journey to Excellence"; Studer process.
- Rounding super user.
- Former chairperson of the Reward and Recognition committee.
- Lead, implement and facilitate Journey to Excellence tactics, meetings, and trainings for all leaders.

2004 – 2008
Miami, Florida
Executive Director

Dade County Dental Research Clinic dba Community Smiles

- Provide leadership, direction, administration and management of the agency.
- Oversight of a team of 20 support staff and 140 volunteer dentists.
- Provide leadership to the Board of Director's and assist in identifying organizational goals.
- Development of policies and procedures needed to establish a start-up nonprofit organization.
- Provide leadership for the development and implementation of strategic plan for the organization.
- Lobbying with Local, State, and Executive Branches to secure and increase organizational funding and clinic's visibility.
- Collaborate with local leaders and government in advocating for oral health care public policy changes.
- Negotiate and manage contracts.
- Re-establishment of defunct A.E.G.D. Residency dental training program.
- Created three-year business plan in the nine operational areas for the organization's growth.
- Resource development including cultivating funding sources, securing grant awards, and supporting special events.
- Strategic efforts that include planning, leading, organizing and measuring performance.
- Data analysis, presentation/organization and reporting.
- Ensure fiscal accountability, including budget preparation and planning processes, and contract compliance.
- Development of short and long-term fiscal plan.
- Make presentations and proposals to funding sources, legislators and other community groups.

Accomplishments:

- Secured three year ear-marked discretionary funding from The State of Florida Legislature (\$150,000.00 per year) – sponsored by Representative Marco Rubio.
- Acquired Advanced Education in General Dentistry Accreditation from the American Dental Association.
- Increased revenue from \$150,000 per year to \$1,200,000.00 in less than twelve months.
- Obtained a business agreement with Miami-Dade County Public Schools to lease existing 40,000 square foot dental center for one dollar per year.
- Solidified a partnership with the University of Florida – College of Dentistry whereas their foreign-trained dental program students would practice at Community Smiles two times per week.
- Grew a cadre of volunteer dentists from 87 to 140 members in eighteen months.
- Initiated negotiations with Atlantic Dental Insurance (ADI – today known as DentaQuest)- Miami-Dade County Medicaid children’s dental insurance to enhance access and services to underserved children.
- Provided free oral health care to over 500 children from Head Start childcare centers.
- Developed patient self-pay fee schedule – projected income \$250,000.00 per year.
- Established Residency Program – bringing in \$50,000.00 per year, per student.
- Strengthened partnership with the Public Health Trust and Jackson Health Systems.
- Created a partnership with Jackson Memorial Hospital’s Oral Surgery Residency program.
- Obtained support and discretionary funding from various Miami-Dade Commissioners (approximately \$40,000.00-\$60,000.00 between 2004 and 2008).

2001 – 2004 Foster Care Review, Inc.
Miami, Florida
Review Specialist

- Facilitate Judicial Reviews of foster care cases for the Juvenile Justice Court.
- Monitor compliance of DCF units and private agencies.
- Well-versed in family, foster care, and adoption State of Florida Laws and Statutes
- Develop recommendation reports of foster care cases for the Dependency Court judges.
- Mediator for conflict resolution between Department of Children and Families and provider agencies.
- Represent Citizen Review Panel Concerns via Post Judicial Review hearings.
- Co-write grant proposals for organization funding.
- Develop policies and procedures for Review Specialist position.
- Write monthly reports for organization and Juvenile Justice Court.
- Provide ongoing training to FCR Citizen Review Panels.
- Develop outcome measures for FCR organizational functions.

2000 – 2001 YWCA of Greater Miami
Miami, Florida
Director – Health and Fitness Program

- Health and Fitness program development.
- Provide leadership, direction, and supervision of program.
- Coordinated a service provider network to develop seamless collaboration in service provision for the program.
- Manage the public relations and marketing strategic plan for the program.
- Developed Requests for proposals and monitored subcontracts with providers.
- Develop and negotiate contracts.
- Establish and maintain community-based partnerships.
- Fiscal development and oversight.
- Recruit, hire and train staff.
- Identify and reduce barriers faced by uninsured women.
- Ensure client satisfaction by providing support services and the delivery of quality services.
- Coordinate and conduct health education workshops.
- Produce monthly, quarterly and year-end reports to grantors and agency.
- Create program policy and procedures.
- Organized community health fair for the Overtown community.

1999 – 2000 YWCA OF Greater Miami
Miami, Florida
Program Coordinator – Health and Fitness Program

- Refer and facilitate cancer screenings for uninsured women.
- Schedule and conduct breast health education workshops.
- Develop partnerships and relationships with community-based organizations to enhance availability and information about community resources to the public.
- Implement and coordinate fitness program.
- Create and maintain client database.
- Write quarterly reports to grantors.

1996 – 1999 Women’s Health and Counseling Center
Somerville, New Jersey
Volunteer Supervisor/Outreach Worker/Health Educator

- Coordinate cancer screenings, STD and HIV services for uninsured women.
- Community outreach, networking and marketing services for WHCC.
- Supervision, orientation, and training of interns.
- Interviewing and counseling for family planning and health services.
- Co-facilitated children’s well clinic.

- Provide health education to young women in the middle and high schools.

**1996 – 1998 Somerset County Ryan White HIV Consortium
Somerville, New Jersey
Outreach worker and Educator**

- Researched and Compiled HIV/AIDs service directory for the State of New Jersey.
- Established, edited and published newsletter.
- HIV prevention counselor.
- Created buddy program for women infected with HIV in the Community.
- Organized HIV/AIDS walkathon.
- Facilitated World AIDS day community event.
- Preparation of statistical reports.
- Developed, implemented, and managed the HIV/AIDS resource center and all its components and functions.

EDUCATION

Florida International University	Miami, Florida	Master in Public Administration
Kean University	Union, New Jersey	Bachelor's in Social Work
United Way	Miami, Florida	Non-Profit Board Leadership Certificate
Safety Net Solutions	Boston, MA	Dental Expert Certificate

PRESENT COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE/VOLUNTEER SERVICE AFFILIATIONS

Member	Miami-Dade HIV/AIDS Partnership
Chairperson	Care and Treatment subcommittee (HIV/AIDS Partnership)
Member	State of Florida Patient Care Planning Group
Chairperson	Miami-Dade County Head Start Program Health Advisory Committee
Volunteer	Habitat for Humanity – Unity on the Bay

Volunteer

Administrative tasks – Unity on the Bay

PAST COMMUNITY EXPERIENCE/VOLUNTEER SERVICE AFFILIATIONS

Registered Local and State Lobbyist

Advocate for Best Practice Models to improve children's access to oral health care

Co-chairperson

Miami-Dade County Oral Health Consortium

Co-Chairperson – Education Committee

Susan G. Komen Foundation

Member

Miami Children's Advocacy Network

Speaker

President's Cancer Panel – National Cancer Program, National Institute of Health

Member – Crisis Intervention Team

Branchburg Police Department

Chairperson – Volunteer/Education Committee

Somerset County AIDS walkathon

Volunteer

Greater Miami Humane Society

Volunteer – Behavior Modification Facilitator

Mountainview Correctional Facility

Volunteer – Kickboxing Instructor

YWCA – After school program

Volunteer – Yoga instructor

YWCA – success by six program

Intern

Middle Earth Adolescent program

MARISSA JOY LEICHTER

1562 West Avenue, Apt. 6, Miami Beach, FL 33139 | (305) 878-1781 | mleichter@gmail.com

April 13, 2012

Miami-Dade County, Board of County Commissioners
Office of the Chairman, Joe A. Martinez
111 NW 1st Street, Suite 220
Miami, Florida 33128

Dear Commissioners,

I am writing to express my interest in serving on The Children's Trust Board of Directors. I am currently a Senior Program Attorney with the Florida Guardian ad Litem Program advocating for the best interests of abused, neglected, and abandoned children in Miami-Dade County. I appear on behalf of the Program in Juvenile Court, Unified Family Court, mediations, multidisciplinary staffings with community based care agencies, public speaking engagements and volunteer recruitment. While serving Florida's children for over seven years, I have established strong professional relationships with community based care agencies, the judiciary, attorneys, local politicians, government agencies, the school board, legal services organizations, healthcare professionals, faith-based groups, and other community networks. In addition, my recent selection by The Miami Foundation as a Miami Fellow has introduced me to many active and influential members of Miami's diverse community.

The majority of children I advocate for enter the dependency system with a host of issues, such as untreated mental illnesses, physical health ailments, educational neglect, histories of physical and sexual abuse, immigration problems, and delinquencies. My tenure at the Program has educated me on the social services and legal avenues available to address these issues and has provided me with a deep understanding of the complexities surrounding the process.

While practicing law at the Guardian Program, I attended graduate school part-time earning my Master of Public Administration. This endeavor diversified and expanded my skill-set to include knowledge of the administrative, executive, and programmatic aspects of the non-profit sector. Serving on the Board presents an opportunity of significant responsibility that would allow me to utilize my multidisciplinary legal, public administration, and social services backgrounds and an experience that I will equally enjoy. I have performed crucial roles at government agencies, non-profit institutions, and public interest law organizations. I am a seasoned public interest attorney, a zealous child advocate, and an involved member of my community.

I have a genuine passion for civic engagement and have cultivated strong bonds with the children and families of Miami-Dade County. My true desire is to continue serving the public and to implement meaningful programs that effectuate positive change in our city. I possess many qualities and skills that I have only begun to describe here.

I have attached my resume and a letter of recommendation for your review. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,



Marissa Leichter

Marissa Joy Leichter

1562 West Avenue, Apt.6, Miami Beach, FL 33139 • (305) 878-1781 • mleichter@gmail.com

Professional Credentials

- Member, Florida State Bar

Experience

GUARDIAN AD LITEM PROGRAM, (National CASA for Children), Miami, FL 2004-present
Senior Program Attorney, State of Florida

- Appear in Juvenile Dependency Court, Unified Family Court, Dependency Drug Court, and Dependency/Delinquency Crossover Pilot Project representing the best interests of dependent children
- Manage 100 cases and appear in court daily to litigate an average of 20 cases
- Write and argue motions, attend depositions and mediations, and litigate termination of parental rights trials
- Supervise legal clerical staff
- Collaborate with the Guardian Ad Litem volunteers to prepare them for trial testimony and various court hearings
- Liaise with community based care agencies, Department of Children and Families, mental health therapists, educational supports, drug treatment facilities, medical professionals, and the family members to promote the best interest of the child
- Assist Lawyers for Children America (LFCA) by referring cases and assisting pro bono attorneys
- Organize and participate in Voices for Children Foundation, Inc. events and activities to benefit Program
- Annual Regional Child Welfare Conference, Our Kids, Miami, FL, 2008, 2009, 2010, 2011
- Summit on Human Trafficking In Florida, "Recognizing the Problem, Collaborating on a Response," Florida Department of Children and Families and Florida Department of Law Enforcement, Miami, FL, Oct. 2009
- The First Family Law Inns of Court, Miami Chapter, Guest Speaker, March 2008
- Annual Statewide Dependency Summit for Florida's Child Protection Communities, Orlando, FL, Sept. 2007
- National Council of Juvenile and Family Court Judges "A Promise for Permanency Training," Miami, FL, July 2007
- Justice Teaching Training, The Florida Bar, Chief Justice Fred Lewis, Miami, FL, Jan. 2007
- National Institute for Trial Advocacy (NITA) "Training the Lawyer to Represent the Whole Child," Hofstra University School of Law, NY, June 2005

THE MIAMI FOUNDATION, Miami, FL 2011-present
Miami Fellow, Class VI, 2011-2012

- Miami Foundation Fellows 15-month fellowship engages a new generation of leaders to build a Greater Miami
- Highly competitive selection process consisting of lengthy written application and interviews with community leaders
- Foundation selected people who are inspired by Miami's potential, have demonstrated leadership and have the dedication to do more
- Fellows develop a deeper understanding of personal leadership styles while learning about the important issues facing Miami
- Fellows connect with the heads of Miami's most influential organizations and create lasting relationships
- Fellows pursue civic, public service or elected positions; work for better policies or practices to solve community problems; or speak out on issues and mobilize others
- Funded with assistance from the W.K. Kellogg Foundation and John S. and James L. Knight Foundation

THEMIS BAR REVIEW, Chicago, IL 2011-present
Florida Adviser

- Advise Florida bar candidates as they study for the bar
- Grade practice essays and answer substantive legal questions

DEPARTMENT OF FAIR EMPLOYMENT AND HOUSING, Oakland, CA 2003-2004
Consultant, State of California

- Wrote and investigated housing discrimination complaints under California's Fair Employment and Housing Act
- Analyzed issues, designed strategies for investigation, and interviewed witnesses
- Facilitated and authored conciliation agreements between complainant and respondent
- Recommended case for closure or issued allegation

THE BAR ASSOCIATION OF SAN FRANCISCO, San Francisco, CA 2001
Law Clerk, Homeless Advocacy Project (HAP)

- Managed 20 cases across disability, immigration, landlord-tenant and tax law
- Conducted in-depth client intake and made recommendation regarding representation

HASTINGS CIVIL JUSTICE CLINIC, Hastings College of the Law, San Francisco, CA 2001
Certified Law Student

- Represented client in his administrative hearing for SSI benefits

CHILD CARE LAW CENTER, San Francisco, CA 2000
Law Clerk

- Published pamphlets on the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act and the CalWORKs appeals process
- Prepared legal memos for the Inclusion Project, a project to educate parents of children with disabilities
- Gained experience in landlord-tenant, contract, family, employment, administrative and tax law

- SAN FRANCISCO PUBLIC DEFENDERS' OFFICE, San Francisco, CA** 1998
 Intern
- Shadowed a Deputy Public Defender assigned to misdemeanor cases
- UNITED STATES HOLOCAUST MEMORIAL MUSEUM, Washington, D.C.** 1997
 Assistant to the Director of Education
- Coordinated conferences for teachers on integrating Holocaust studies into English and Social Studies curricula
 - Compiled a national resource guide detailing each state's Holocaust educational programs
 - Developed a webography for teacher reference
- CENTER FOR COMMUNITY SERVICE LEARNING, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, MI** 1997
 Teaching Assistant
- Served as the liaison among University of Michigan Sociology faculty, students enrolled in the Practicum of Sociology and community service site
 - Taught seminars focused on educational inequities such as gender, segregation, tracking, funding & socioeconomic factors
 - Planned after-school care activities for students at Bryant Elementary School, Ann Arbor, MI

Education

- UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN, Ann Arbor, MI** May 1999
 B.A., American Culture and Afroamerican/African Studies (CAAS)
- Member: Order of Omega Honor Society
 - Delegate: Proctor-Gamble Leadership Conference
 - Ambassador: Undergraduate Office of Admissions
 - Study Abroad, Spring 1998: University of the Western Cape, Bellville, South Africa
- UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA, HASTINGS COLLEGE OF THE LAW, San Francisco, CA** May 2002
 J.D.
- Public Interest Law Scholar
 - Eugene D. Bennett Memorial Scholarship Recipient, Spring 2001
 - Equal Justice Works AmeriCorps Summer Corps Fellow, Summer 2000
 - Hastings Public Interest Law Foundation (HPILF), President, 2000-2001
 - Public Law Institute, Researcher, 2001
 - Study Abroad, May/June 2000: The Aegean Institute of the Law and the Sea and Maritime Law; Rhodes, Greece
 - Tulane Law School
- FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY, Miami, FL** April 2009
 School of International and Public Affairs
 M.P.A., (Master of Public Administration)



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April 13, 2012

Miami-Dade County, Board of County Commissioners
Office of the Chairman, Joe A. Martinez
111 NW 1st Street, Suite 220
Miami, FL 33128

Dear Chairman Martinez:

I am pleased to recommend Marissa Leichter, Esq. to serve on the Board of The Children's Trust of Miami-Dade County. Having served on the Trust myself for three terms from 2003 to 2009, including chairing the Program Services Committee, I understand not only what is required in the Board member role, but also the passion, knowledge and commitment needed from individuals who fill these important seats.

Ms. Leichter is an advocate for children who has the abilities to fulfill the Board role and also has the characteristics needed to be a true champion for children. She would be an invaluable asset to the Board, the Trust as an organization and all the children in our community.

I have had the privilege of engaging with Ms. Leichter because she is one of the 17 select members currently in Class VI of our Foundation's esteemed Miami Fellows leadership program, founded in 1999. Our Foundation – in addition to helping hundreds of Fundholders be philanthropists and awarding grants to support nonprofits - is working to create a pipeline of the next generation of leaders in Greater Miami. Through our Miami Fellows program, we identify and develop the leadership potential of people such as Ms. Leichter who - like a current Trust gubernatorial appointee and Fellows alumni Dr. Josee Gregoire - are inspired by our community's potential, have demonstrated leadership and have the dedication to do more.

Through her position as a senior program attorney at the Guardian ad Litem Program in Miami-Dade County, she plays a leading role in representing the interests of abused, neglected and abandoned children and helps them navigate the child welfare system. While she is an attorney by title, she sees herself as more of a child advocate. Her role serving our community's children has allowed her to establish strong professional relationships with the Department of Children and Families, juvenile and family court judges, community services providers and professionals. Ms. Leichter demonstrates a deep understanding of the issues related to helping our community's most vulnerable children, the avenues for addressing their needs and the complexities surrounding the process. While her work may be rooted in serving children with particular needs, what makes her unique and so valuable is her commitment to channeling what she has learned toward broadly improving the lives of all Greater Miami's children.

I have been inspired by her genuine passion for child advocacy, community service and civic engagement and dedication to improving the welfare of children in Miami-Dade County. Our community would be truly fortunate to have her as part of the leadership of The Children's Trust.

Sincerely,

Charisse Grant
Senior Vice President for Programs

