

Project P.E.A.C.E. Early Action Event

MIAMI-DADE
COUNTY, FLORIDA

*People Engaged and
Advocating for
Community
Empowerment*

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On Tuesday, August 6, 2019, from 4 P.M. to 8 P.M. **Project PEACE** attended the National Night Out hosted by Miami-Dade Police Department South District at Goulds Park. Despite a forecast of thunderstorms and the high level of humidity, **about 400 residents** enjoyed the event, including resources, fellowship with other residents and law enforcement professionals, and other activities available such as music, dancing, face painting, balloon figures, giveaways and raffles. During this activity, **Project PEACE** engaged with several residents and other services providers. Stakeholders, including residents, chose to enjoy the outdoor activity and most stayed for the duration. **Project PEACE** engaged with children, young adults, teachers, caregivers, and parents starting conversations about crime reduction and empowerment with a short questionnaire with a rating scale.

Engagement Activities

MDPD South District invited several local organizations that donated their time and resources to participate in the National Night Out. As a partner, **Project PEACE** joined the team to engage the community and to bring awareness and information on positive



changes and enhancements that will commence in 2020. During the activity, **Project PEACE** handed out a resource directory with contact information of local organizations, 2020 Census information, chachkies or promotional items donated by Miami-Dade County and the Health Department.

Considering that the crowd was very young and few parents were present compared to the number of children, **Project PEACE** engaged with all the sponsors and exhibitors, as well as with all adults that were interested in learning more about



innovative programs and possible strategies. **Project PEACE** conducted a total of **26 community engagement surveys** with local residents, of which **14 adults** provided their contact information and expressed their interest in learning more about the Community-Based Crime Reduction Grant (CBCR).

Children Oriented Activities

This National Night Out Event was mainly youth-oriented. On-site, there were numerous activities for children such as face painting, balloon figures,



mobile video game trucks, bounce houses, including officers playing ball with them. The Office of State Representative Kionne McGhee donated **250 bookbags with school supplies** for children.

The school supplies were distributed on a first-come, first-served basis. The Dade County Federal Credit Union dedicated face-painting booth and balloon figures. The participating children were happy to be present and took the initiative to talk to the providers and ask questions.



Gallery

Children having fun and playing video games with the officers in the Gamers-To-Go Truck



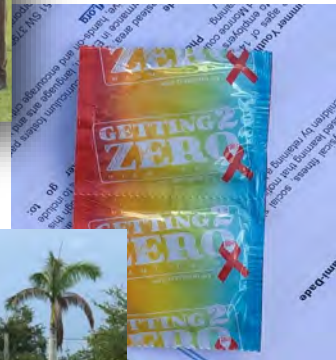
BOUNCE HOUSES & PICNIC AREAS



Major Charles raffling \$20 Wal-Mart Gift Cards



Giveaways - the conversation starter, MDC CONDOMS!



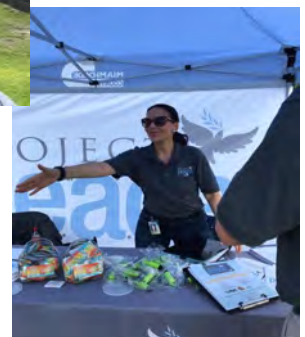
Fire Truck



Kids playing ball with police



Our Project PEACE Booth



FUN
FUN
FUN



Community Engagement Survey Results

The results from this exercise revealed 76% of the assessed residents during the National Night Out at Goulds Park strongly agree or agree that the quality of services that are currently available in the community are good. They feel safe and happy in their neighborhoods. For the most part, residents believe their neighbors are trustworthy and amicable. Moreover, residents are content with the services provided by their local government, including their law enforcement district. Lastly, residents expressed their interest in making community engagement activities more popular, gun violence reduction awareness, and the desire to have more access to human services involving youth programs and senior services. Overall, residents value the police presence in their community and would like to increase the current number of officers in their neighborhoods.

List of Participating Organizations and Volunteers

103.5 The Beat, Radio Station	Miami-Dade Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces
ASPCA	
Bikers Against Child Abuse	Miami-Dade County Office of Management and Budget
Career Source	
Community Health of South Florida (C.H.I.)	Miami-Dade County Public Library
Councilman Wilbur Bell	Miami-Dade County Regulatory & Economic Resources
Customs and Border Patrol	
Dade County Employees Federal Credit Union	Miami-Dade County Water and Sewer Office of State Representative Kionne McGhee
Gamers-To-Go	Police Explorers
Goulds Park Bounce Houses	Publix
Homestead-Miami Speedway	Simply Healthcare
Homestead Police Explorers	T-Mobile
Hope for Miami, Compass Youth	UF IFAS Extension
Loan Depot	Wal-Mart
Miami-Dade County Fire Rescue	

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