

Memorandum



Date: April 13, 2007

To: Honorable Chairman Bruno A. Barreiro
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: George M. Burgess
County Manager 

Subject: 2007 Ambassador for Cities Award for MDHA's Housing Central

I am pleased to announce that Miami-Dade County has been selected as a **2007 Ambassador for Cities** designee, an award sponsored by the National Association of Realtors and the United States Conference of Mayors. This is the first national award for Housing Central, Miami-Dade Housing Agency's virtual housing information center, which is a nexus with the capacity to link information with other affordable housing information sites such as the local Realtor Association of Greater Miami and the Beaches (RAMB). Housing Central is an important part of the Miami-Dade Housing Agency's mission to expand affordable housing options for all residents of Miami-Dade County.

This award represents the recognition of the Realtor community that affordable housing solutions need ideas, vision and support from the entire community.

Miami-Dade County is only one of six municipalities selected for this award, which includes a \$5,000 grant for marketing costs to inform residents about Housing Central and provide information about affordable housing options. As part of the campaign, information will be posted on Metrorail, and bus shelters. Information is already available through more than 30 County agencies and on the County web portal.

RAMB is committed to matching the grant and to solicit other matching funds so that we can expand further market Housing Central through its partnerships with local publications.

Please join me in congratulating staff from the Miami-Dade Housing Agency, Homeless Trust, Housing Finance Authority, and the Government Information Center, among others, who have been instrumental in this and other efforts to raise awareness for affordable housing in Miami-Dade County.

If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to contact Senior Advisor Cynthia W. Curry at 305-375-4126.

c: Honorable Carlos Alvarez, Mayor
Denis Morales, Chief of Staff, Office of the Mayor
Assistant County Managers
Assistants to the County Manager
Department Directors