

# Memorandum



**Date:** October 22, 2013

**To:** Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**From:** Carlos A. Gimenez  
Mayor 

**Subject:** Plan to Implement Family Literacy Month in Miami-Dade County

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At the September 17, 2013 Board of County Commissioners meeting, Board members approved Resolution No. R-760-13, sponsored by Commissioner Jean Monestime, recognizing the Month of October as **Miami-Dade County Family Literacy Month**. This resolution directed the Mayor or his designee to prepare a plan for a public information and educational campaign, including events and activities, during Family Literacy Month in Miami-Dade County.

**The Miami-Dade Public Library System** supports Family Literacy year round with a wide variety of services, and many special programs to engage the community. Special services include:

- **Reading Ready** – an early literacy service offering materials and interactive programs for children, parents, and caregivers to learn about the necessary skills for children to learn how to read.
- **Jump Start** – an early reading and literacy service that provides “storytime to go” kits for all licensed preschool and childcare centers. The kits contain all the tools needed to present fun, high-quality storytimes on a variety of themes.
- **Project LEAD** - a volunteer-based literacy program that offers one-on-one tutoring for adults 18 and older.

To celebrate the official start of Miami-Dade County Family Literacy Month in October 2013, and for each month of October thereafter, the Library System will create a special bookmark, to be known as the official bookmark for Miami-Dade County Family Literacy Month. The Library System will also create special displays of materials – books, DVDs, audiobooks – throughout its branches, and will host special activities to highlight the importance of Family Literacy and encourage community involvement.

**Special Programs for October 2013, are as follows:**

***Celebrate Literacy Read-a-Thon- Thursday, October 31, 12:30PM - Arcola Lakes Branch***

This event will celebrate the official launch of Family Literacy Month. Members of the Board of County Commissioners, other community leaders, celebrities, and local schools will be invited to participate in a read-a-thon from 12:30-4:30 PM.

***Family Literacy Night – Various branches***

Children and parents will be invited to participate in fun sessions of reading and hands on activities. Children will be encouraged to wear their pajamas and bring a stuffed toy.

***Storytelling with Nationally Acclaimed Teller Carrie Sue Ayvar– Various branches***

Telling stories is one way to have families share information about their experiences, backgrounds and cultures, but storytelling also helps students sharpen their skills of imagination and visualization; helps them practice and refine their speaking skills; provides an opportunity for them to interact with adults on a personal level, and helps them to enhance their writing skills. In these fun and interactive sessions Carrie Sue Ayvar, a bilingual storyteller and member of the National Storytelling Network, will share tips on using storytelling as a tool for education and entertainment.

***See! Read! Touch! –Bookmobile, October 29, Main Library October 30***

This informal presentation will feature a selection of artists' books, limited edition publications, one-of-a-kind books, and other experimental book-based projects. Visitors will be able to read, touch and feel a special collection usually made available in closed exhibition cases or by appointment only. Selections will include publications produced by visual artists who have been inspired by classical books, poems, celebrated fables, and other well-known legendary works.

If you need additional information, please contact, Raymond Santiago, Director, Miami-Dade Public Library Systems, at 305-375-5026.

- c: Honorable Jean Monestime, County Commissioner, District 2
- Lisa M. Martinez, Senior Advisor, Office of the Mayor
- Raymond Santiago, Director, Miami-Dade Public Library System

## MEMORANDUM

Amended  
Agenda Item No. 11(A)(9)

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**TO:** Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** September 17, 2013

**FROM:** R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Resolution recognizing the  
month of October, 2013 as  
Family Literacy Month in  
Miami-Dade County;  
recognizing the month of  
October each year thereafter as  
Family Literacy Month in  
Miami-Dade County  
Resolution No. R-760-13

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The accompanying resolution was prepared and placed on the agenda at the request of Prime Sponsor Commissioner Jean Monestime and Co-Sponsor Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa.

  
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R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

RAC/smm



# MEMORANDUM

(Revised)

**TO:** Honorable Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa  
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

**DATE:** September 17, 2013

**FROM:**   
R. A. Cuevas, Jr.  
County Attorney

**SUBJECT:** Amended  
Agenda Item No. 11(A)(9)

Please note any items checked.

- "3-Day Rule" for committees applicable if raised
- 6 weeks required between first reading and public hearing
- 4 weeks notification to municipal officials required prior to public hearing
- Decreases revenues or increases expenditures without balancing budget
- Budget required
- Statement of fiscal impact required
- Ordinance creating a new board requires detailed County Mayor's report for public hearing
- No committee review
- Applicable legislation requires more than a majority vote (i.e., 2/3's \_\_\_\_, 3/5's \_\_\_\_, unanimous \_\_\_\_ ) to approve
- Current information regarding funding source, index code and available balance, and available capacity (if debt is contemplated) required

Approved \_\_\_\_\_ Mayor  
Veto \_\_\_\_\_  
Override \_\_\_\_\_

Amended  
Agenda Item No. 11(A)(9)  
9-17-13

RESOLUTION NO. R-760-13

RESOLUTION RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER, 2013 AS FAMILY LITERACY MONTH IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; RECOGNIZING THE MONTH OF OCTOBER EACH YEAR THEREAFTER AS FAMILY LITERACY MONTH IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY; DIRECTING THE MAYOR OR DESIGNEE TO PREPARE A PLAN FOR A PUBLIC INFORMATION AND EDUCATIONAL CAMPAIGN, INCLUDING EVENTS AND ACTIVITIES, DURING FAMILY LITERACY MONTH IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

**WHEREAS**, the National Assessment of Adult Literacy reports that 90 million adults in the United States do not have the literacy skills necessary to succeed in the workplace and in society; and

**WHEREAS**, literacy is essential to the economic and societal well-being of our community, and is necessary for individuals to fully benefit from the opportunities available to them; and

**WHEREAS**, the unemployment rate is highest among those people without a high school diploma or an equivalent credential, demonstrating that education is important to economic recovery; and

**WHEREAS**, many older people in the United States lack the reading or math skills necessary to read a prescription and follow medical instructions, presenting risks to their lives and the lives of their loved ones; and

**WHEREAS**, studies have shown that the educational skills of a child's parents and the practice of reading to a child have a direct impact on the educational success of the child; and

**WHEREAS**, parental involvement in a child's education is a key predictor of a child's success, and the level of parental involvement in a child's education increases as the educational level of the parent increases; and

**WHEREAS**, parents who participate in family literacy programs become more involved in their children's education and gain the tools necessary to obtain a job or find better employment; and

**WHEREAS**, Miami-Dade libraries, public schools, volunteer and community-based literacy organizations, colleges and universities are significant resources for family literacy; and

**WHEREAS**, this Board would like to encourage Miami-Dade County residents to learn more about the importance of family literacy as well as ways to promote, support and encourage family literacy in our community; and

**WHEREAS**, Family Literacy Month would highlight the need to ensure each and every citizen has the literacy skills necessary to succeed at home, at work and in society; and

**WHEREAS**, to encourage and promote family literacy in Miami-Dade County, to increase awareness of family literacy and to applaud the efforts of those entities in Miami-Dade County that help promote adult and family literacy services, this Board would like to recognize the month of October, 2013 as Family Literacy Month in Miami-Dade County and further recognize the month of October each year thereafter as Family Literacy Month in Miami-Dade County,

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA**, that this Board:

**Section 1.** Recognizes the month of October, 2013 as Family Literacy Month in Miami-Dade County and further recognizes the month of October each year thereafter as Family Literacy Month in Miami-Dade County.

**Section 2.** Directs the Mayor or designee to conduct in conjunction with community partners a public information and educational campaign, including events and activities, for Family Literacy Month in Miami-Dade County the month of October, 2013, as well as the month of October each year thereafter.

**Section 3.** Directs the Mayor or designee to provide a report to the Board by December 1, 2013 on (i) the public information and educational campaign, including events and activities, that was conducted for Family Literacy Month in October, 2013 as well as (ii) a plan for a public information and educational campaign, including events and activities, for Family Literacy Month each October thereafter.

The Prime Sponsor of the foregoing resolution is Commissioner Jean Monestime and the Co-Sponsor is Chairwoman Rebeca Sosa. It was offered by Commissioner **Jean Monestime** who moved its adoption. The motion was seconded by Commissioner **Dennis C. Moss** and upon being put to a vote, the vote was as follows:

	Rebeca Sosa, Chairwoman	<b>aye</b>
	Lynda Bell, Vice Chair	<b>absent</b>
Bruno A. Barreiro	<b>aye</b>	Esteban L. Bovo, Jr. <b>aye</b>
Jose "Pepe" Diaz	<b>absent</b>	Audrey M. Edmonson <b>aye</b>
Sally A. Heyman	<b>aye</b>	Barbara J. Jordan <b>aye</b>
Jean Monestime	<b>aye</b>	Dennis C. Moss <b>aye</b>
Sen. Javier D. Souto	<b>aye</b>	Xavier L. Suarez <b>aye</b>
Juan C. Zapata	<b>absent</b>	

The Chairperson thereupon declared the resolution duly passed and adopted this 17<sup>th</sup> day of September, 2013. This resolution shall become effective ten (10) days after the date of its adoption unless vetoed by the Mayor, and if vetoed, shall become effective only upon an override by this Board.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA  
BY ITS BOARD OF  
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

HARVEY RUVIN, CLERK



By: **Christopher Agrippa**  
Deputy Clerk

Approved by County Attorney as  
to form and legal sufficiency.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "JMM", is written over a horizontal line.

Jess M. McCarty