

# Memorandum



**Date:** October 7, 2014

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

**From:** Carlos A. Gimenez  
Mayor 

**Subject:** Report on Capacity Building Program

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On September 4, 2013, the Board approved Resolution No. R-707-13, which instructs the Administration to develop a capacity-building program for small non-profit providers of social services and community and economic development projects.

## **Background**

Since 2004, the Office of Management and Budget's Grants Coordination Unit (GC) has provided grant-related training and technical assistance to a wide audience including Community and Faith-Based Organizations, resident councils of Miami-Dade's Public Housing and Community Development Department, service providers for the Florida Department of Children and Families, cultural arts organizations seeking funding through the Cultural Affairs Department, and not-for-profit organizations.

The GC Unit seeks revenue and maximizes funding opportunities from federal, state and local sources. They also manage approximately \$45 million in federal and County supported sub-awards to local agencies and organizations annually that provide primarily health, social service, and criminal justice programming. GC manages County general fund contracts with over 230 local non-profits, providing an investment in nearly 400 distinct programs including elder needs, workforce development, basic needs, health-related services, environmental education, criminal justice, and services for children, youth, & families.

In 2007, the Grants Coordination Unit served as a key collaborative partner in the Miami NICE (Network for Integration, Compassion & Empowerment) Project, a Compassion Capital Fund (CCF) Demonstration Program funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. The Miami NICE Project helped grass-roots, faith-based, and community organizations in Miami-Dade County maximize their social impact through training, one-on-one technical assistance, organizational assessment, and sub-awards. It provided free training and technical assistance and sub-grant awards ranging from \$5,000 to \$20,000 to eligible faith-based and community organizations that provided services in one or more of the seven priority CCF areas: children and youth; ex-offender re-entry; homelessness; rehabilitation services to addicts and/or prisoners; elderly in need; families transitioning from welfare to work; and healthy marriage initiatives. The Program Model was designed to position organizations to build capacity to successfully apply for and receive federal grants. During the three-year period of the Miami NICE Program (2007-2010), GC conducted 22 trainings with over 600 attendees, resulting in an overall evaluation satisfaction rating of 93%. All of the aforementioned services continue through the *Engage305* initiative.

## **Engage305**

On June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2013, I launched an initiative called *Engage305* at the first annual Mayor's Faith-Based Symposium. *Engage305* is an initiative that regularly engages the community in the areas of youth services & development, public safety, homeless & hunger services, and children & elderly care. The goal of this initiative is to make residents aware of the wide range of programs and critical services that the County currently provides through the Community Action Human Services Department; Miami-Dade Correction and Rehabilitation; the Homeless

Trust; the Juvenile Services Department; Miami-Dade Fire Rescue; and the Miami-Dade Police Department. These departments frequently collaborate with faith-based organizations, community-based organizations and other community groups in order to create an awareness of County resources and provide capacity building opportunities for these organizations.

There are regularly scheduled sessions for the community-based and faith-based organizations to attend throughout the county. At these community sessions, the public can openly engage with County staff in order to gain more knowledge regarding a particular service area of need, learn how to become more involved within the community, become a partner with Miami-Dade County, and learn how to improve and grow their organization. Under this program, opportunities for information sharing and partnerships will continue to strengthen, as well as further develop and enhance our local community ties. A list of all the County services that are provided under the *Engage305* initiative is available at <http://www.miamidade.gov/engage305/county-services.asp>.

**Fiscal Impact**

When determining the fiscal impact for the expansion of capacity building activities similar to that of Miami NICE Project, the goal is to enhance the capacity and performance of County-funded CBOs. It is recommended that such a program would engage Capacity building consultants to provide 65 CBOs with 80 hours of capacity-building technical assistance involving consultation, training, and development over a twelve month period. The consultants costs are projected at \$520,000 with eight Capacity Building Consultants at a rate of \$100 hr. (80 hrs. x \$100 hr. = \$8,000 x 65 CBOs = \$520,000). Also, two full-time staff positions would be required at \$150,890 (including benefits). These positions will manage the project, serve as the liaison between the consultants, the County and CBOs, conduct meetings and conferences, receive consultants' engagement reports, and process payment requests. The total projected cost for this extended program is estimated at \$670,890.

If you have any questions, please contact Russell Benford, Deputy Mayor at (305)-375-5141.

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