

## **2018 END OF YEAR REPORT – OFFICE OF COMMUNITY ADVOCACY**

### **Office Highlights (not attached to a specific board)**

- Getting 2 Zero Miami-Dade Campaign with our own branded condoms
- DMV to Go at the lobby
- MDX at the lobby
- Office of U.S. Senator Marco Rubio and Bill Nelson
- US Social Security Office
- GWA and OCA receive the ASPA 2018 Community Advocacy Award
- Shake-A-Leg Miami's Impossible Dream
- Mini Health Fair and information on the new Medicare card
- OCA participating in Chairman Bovo's Senior Expo
- World AIDS Day signature event " Commemorating 30 Years"
- Office receives Getting @ Zero Awareness Week Outstanding Collaboration Award
- Art Miami-Dade Exhibit

### **Office Communications**

- We created a press release index under the Office of Community Advocacy Website
- Participated in many TV and Radio interviews showcasing the work of the office
- Increased our activity and audience in Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube
- Increased our amount of media advisories and news releases resulting in publications
- Created an office email signature with the hyperlinks of our social media platforms
- We were published in the Miami Herald's Letter to the Editor section
- Joined forces with the Miami-Dade Public Library System in order to highlight our boards

### **Asian-American Advisory Board**

Participated and cohosted the 30th Annual Chinese New Year Festival held on February 18, 2018 at Miami Dade College Kendall Campus, in collaboration with the Chinese Cultural Foundation, drawing 6,000 guests and participants, with approximately 60 small businesses vendors. The economic impact on Miami-Dade County economy is estimated to be approximately \$300,000.00.

Participated and cohosted the 28<sup>th</sup> Asian Culture Festival, in collaboration with the Thai-American Association of South Florida held on March 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> at the Fruit and Spice Park, drawing 10,000 guests and participants, with approximately 110 vendors. The economic impact on Miami-Dade County economy is estimated to be approximately \$500,000.00.

Sponsored, co-sponsored, hosted and/or co-hosted following events to promote active participation of Asian Americans in civic, cultural, community and cultural affairs:

- Performance of Peking Opera by Hubei Provincial Peking Opera Theater at Julius Littman Performing Arts Center (2/27/18)
- MDC AAAB Asian American Heritage Night With Miami Heat (3/8/18)
- AAAB 20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Community Recognition Dinner at Miami Shores Country Club, 300 guests attended. (4/24/18)

- Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month Celebration at SPCC Lobby (5/1 – 5/31/18)
  - Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month Celebration – Arts and Craft Day at VA Healthcare (5/4/18)
  - Panel Session - \*It's AAA Time - Ask An Asian\* - Connect Miami/ 10 days of Connection with National Association of Asian American Professionals (5/3/18)
  - AAPI Heritage Month Kick-Off Ceremony at SPCC (5/15/18)
  - Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month Celebration with VA Healthcare (5/23/18)
  - AAPI Celebration Event with Diversity and Inclusion Committee for U.S. Customs & Border Protection at Miami International Airport (6/28/18)
  - AAPI Celebration Event with Diversity and Inclusion Committee for U.S. Customs & Border Protection at Main Field Office (7/10/18)
  - AAPI Cultural Event at VA Healthcare - William Bill Kling VA Clinic (7/12/18)
  - HistoryMiami Museum's CultureFest 305 at History Miami Museum (10/13/18)
  - Asian American Early Voting Day (10/27/18)
1. Partnered with the Confucius Institute at Miami Dade College to promote Asian culture and heritage:
    - Chinese New Year Festival at MDC North Campus (2/5/18)
    - Performance of Peking Opera by Hubei Provincial Peking Opera Theater at Julius Littman Performing Arts Center (2/27/18)
    - Performance of Beijing Inner Voice Art Troupe of Disabled People (4/6/18)
    - "Dreams & Memories: Changes in Contemporary People's Livelihood Over the Past 40 Years in China" Exhibition at MDC InterAmerican Campus (6/14/18)
    - AAPI Celebration Event with Diversity and Inclusion Committee for U.S. Customs & Border Protection at Miami International Airport (6/28/18)
    - "2018 Experience China - Cultural Exploration of West China" at Adrienne Arsht Center (7/2/18)
    - AAPI Celebration Event with Diversity and Inclusion Committee for U.S. Customs & Border Protection at Main Field Office (7/10/18)
    - AAPI Cultural Event at VA Healthcare - William Bill Kling VA Clinic (7/12/18)
    - 2018 Mid-Autumn Festival and 10th Year Anniversary of the Miami Chinese Chorus at MDC Kendall Campus (9/22/18)
    - HistoryMiami Museum's CultureFest 305 at History Miami Museum (10/13/18)
    - Shandong Province Tourism Roadshow (10/17/18)
    - Chinese Language Teachers Association - Florida Workshop (11/11/18)
    - 2018 Miami Book Fair showcasing 100 spectacular children's picture books from China created by the best Chinese artists and illustrators (11/16/18)
  2. Partnered with Florida Asian Services for Civic Engagement Opportunities and Events:
    - Leadership Education and Workshop presented by Asian Pacific Inc. (3/17/18)
    - Norman Y. Mineta Leadership Institute's AAPI Voter Engagement Workshop (4/21/18)
    - Citizenship Assistance and Application Assistance (6/7/18)
    - Father's Day Civic and Health Fair at Chinese Baptist Church of Miami (6/16/18)
    - New Americans Campaign Best Practices Training (6/29/18)

- State Voices partnership for Civic Engagement Projects (8/21/18)
  - HistoryMiami Museum's CultureFest 305 at History Miami Museum (10/13/18)
  - Asian American Exit Poll Training (10/20/18)
  - Asian American Early Voting Day / Exit Poll (10/27/18 & 11/3/18)
  - AARP Asian Caregiver Day Training and Educational Session (11/15/18)
3. Partnered with Asian religious organizations and student organizations to educate and create an understanding in an effort to eliminate ignorance and bigotry towards Asian Americans:
- Attended Coalition of South Florida Muslim Organizations – COSMOS - Community Recognition Dinner at Hilton Miami Airport (3/3/18)
  - Attended Hindu American Foundation – HAF - for chat, chai and book reading with best-selling author of Being Hindu, Hindol Sengupta (3/31/18)
  - Annual One Dish Iftar with MSA, PAKSA, and ASU of FIU (5/31/18)
  - Wat Buddharangsi 36th Anniversary Ceremony (6/24/18)
  - H.M. Queen Sirikit Birthday and Thai Mother Day Ceremony at Wat Buddharangsi (8/12/18)
  - Gandhi Peace Day in Miami at Hampton Inn (10/1/18)
  - Remembering Kristallnacht: Muslim and Jewish Reflections with COSMOS (11/11/18)
  - 1st Annual Middle Eastern Cultural Extravaganza at FIU (11/21/18)
  - Thai Food Festival at Wat Buddharangsi (11/22/18)
4. Participated at Ichimura Miami Japan Garden Festivals (1/14/18, 5/13/18, & 11/4/18), where over 500 residents and visitors of Miami-Dade County enjoyed authentic Japanese Tea Ceremony, martial arts demonstration, Ikebana (the Japanese art of flower arrangement) Cosplay fashion show and costume contest, Japanese Taiko Dojo Drummers, and authentic Japanese games, calligraphy, and origami.
5. Participated with various community groups and public officials to promote positive images and concepts of Asians and Asian Americans:
- Fred Korematsu Day of Civil Liberties and the Constitution at MDC InterAmerican Campus (1/30/18)
  - AAAB Reception at Consul General Ken Okaniwa of Japan in Miami (3/9/18)
  - Nowrouz Bazaar hosted by Iranian American Foundation (3/18/18)
  - South Florida Taiwanese Community Dinner in Recognition of Director General Philip Wang (3/24/18)
  - Consular Services and Visitation by Consulate General of Republic of Korea in Atlanta at Korean Senior Center of South Florida (3/29/18)
  - AAPI Heritage Month Program with the Asian Affinity Group at the Miami office of White & Case, the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of South Florida and the South Asian Bar Association of Florida (5/23/18)
  - 3rd Anniversary Celebration Dinner at Asian Community Resources Center with founder, Johnson Ng (6/3/18)
  - Trial Reenactment of Minoru Yasui with the Asian Pacific American Bar Association of South Florida (6/22/18)
  - National Association of Asian American Professionals - Miami presents LEADERSHIP ON THE HORIZON seminar (6/23/18)

- Korean War Veterans Appreciation Dinner hosted by Korean American Association of South Florida (7/31/18)
  - The World Kwong Tung Community Association Annual Reception (8/19/18)
  - Way of the Ninja, Presented by Consulate General of Japan in Miami (9/5/18)
  - The Federation of Florida Chinese Association Mid-Autumn Festival (9/16/18)
  - Chinese Moon Festival with Confucius Institute 2018 Mid-Autumn Festival Concert (9/22/18)
  - Senior Celebration Day at NANAY Community Center (9/26/18)
  - FIU Welcome to Asia Event hosted by Asian Studies Graduate Student Organization (9/27/18)
  - Celebration of the National Day of the Republic of China (Taiwan) with Taipei Economic and Cultural Office in Miami (10/4/18)
  - Asian Pacific American Bar Association Installation Dinner and Ceremony (10/23/18)
  - 95th Anniversary of the Proclamation of the Republic of Turkey with the Consulate General of the Republic of Turkey in Miami (10/29/18)
  - Korean American Association of South Florida Installation Ceremony (11/5/18)
  - FIU Korean Culture Festival and Contest (11/9/18)
  - MAIACA (Miami Association of Indian Americans for Culture and Art) Miami Art Conversation with Sunitha Kumar Emmart at MDC Wolfson Campus (12/3/18)
9. Participated to Asian businesses and associations to encourage and attract business to Miami-Dade County:
- 2018 South Florida Chinese Business Association Annual Meeting & the One Belt One Road Seminar (2/24/18)
  - Guangdong-Miami Investment Seminar (4/6/18)
  - International Trade Forum and Introduction of the Inaugural China International Import Expo (4/25/18)
  - 2018 Synergy Summit for Cultural & Heritage Tourism (The Summit) (5/17/18)
  - South Florida Chinese Business Association Meeting with Dr. Elle Zhang (6/27/18)
  - "Doing Business With Asia" Private Lunch with H.E. The Honorable Mohammad Ziauddin Ambassador of Bangladesh (8/4/18)
  - Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau's Lunch & Learn (8/16/18)
  - America China Enterprise Chamber of Commerce Florida Meet and Greet Event (9/5/18)
  - Shandong Province Tourism Roadshow (10/17/18)
  - India US Chamber of Commerce Festival of Lights Annual Gala (10/20/18)
  - Taiwanese Chamber of Commerce Gala (12/2/18)

### **Black Affairs Advisory Board**

Over the past few years, the Black Affairs Advisory Board (BAAB) has revamped its emphasis and moved toward advocating on behalf of a more diverse community as Miami-Dade County has evolved. The subcommittee structure was revamped and adjusted according to those needs identified by its current members.

These various subcommittees are charged with the responsibility of dealing with their respective subject areas and include: ***The Black Heritage Planning Committee; Education; Health Care; Housing; Economic Development; Budget and Finance; and Crisis Intervention/Respect Life.***

Activities of these subcommittees include planning for Black History Month, the Annual Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. observance; sponsorship of Village Dialogues, which deal with each of the respective committee's areas such as education health, elderly and domestic violence; health and preservation of financial resources and protection of assets. These dialogues have been held countywide and will continue to provide helpful information and access to services.

These **Village Dialogues** have been extremely effective in engaging the community and to address issues which impact the quality of life for all residents. Plans call for a minimum of four dialogues each fiscal year. The BAAB is currently exploring partnering with each Commissioner in order to become more effective and to further collaborative efforts to better serve the community in a fiscally responsible manner.

**The Black Heritage Planning Committee** annually recognizes community "Pillars" and through the "Young Pillars Scholarship" awards scholarships to postsecondary students to supplement their educationally-connected finances. Since its 2005 inception, the Young Pillars Scholarship has awarded over \$45,000 to students attending various academic institutions throughout Miami-Dade County and the United States. These scholarships are given directly to either the student or the institution—thanks to the generosity of corporate and private donors and fundraising efforts of the committee.

As part of the "**Respect Life! Initiative**," the BAAB's Crisis **Intervention/Respect Life** subcommittee has partnered with various local institutions including Miami-Dade Public Schools and the State Attorney's Office. One of its most successful partnerships was with the Schools Police and the implementation of the **Civil Citation Program**. This process aims to issue "civil citations" to non-violent offender students instead of placing them directly into the criminal justice system—thereby giving them an opportunity to avoid arrest records.

**The Respect Life! Initiative** has also focused on the proliferation of guns and instituted a campaign to discourage parents from purchasing toy guns along with the State Attorney's Office. Further action is centered on addressing the lapse of the assault weapons ban by sending correspondence to President Barack Obama urging the President to renew the assault weapon ban. .

In order to properly advocate on behalf of the many immigrants who call Miami-Dade County home, the BAAB has initiated a partnership with a newly formed group—the **Haitian American Emergency Relief Committee (HAERC)**. This group has surged to the forefront in providing not just emergency relief, but ongoing communication and assistance to Haitian government officials and NGOs with an eye toward helping Haiti and its people to become self-sufficient while rebuilding its infrastructure.

On the local level, the Board has been collaborating with community members on the proposed redevelopment of the **Hampton House** and advocating for the hiring of local residents on the construction phase of the project. We have also been advocating on behalf of the former residents of the **Scott-Carver/Hope VI** Project as well as working with a new group, "U-Count" which is aimed at developing proactive responses and programs geared toward reducing violence and supporting youth.

On February 19, 2010, the Black Affairs Advisory Board presented the first of its four "Village Dialogues" this one titled: "**Unifying the African Diaspora in Miami-Dade County**," which explored the notion of "linked fate" among the peoples of African ancestry living and working in Miami-Dade County. The conference invitees included representatives from several Caribbean consulates with offices in Miami as

well as those who represent the various indigenous people and peoples of African ancestry living in South Florida. The event was televised on Miami-Dade TV, and a “Findings Report” will be generated as a result.

From April 15-19, 2010, the Board focused on providing assistance to homeowners either facing foreclosure or needing loan modifications due to excessive interest rates or predatory lending by partnering with the Neighborhood Assistance Corporation of America (NACA-[www.naca.org](http://www.naca.org)) in a five-day “**Save the Dream**” tour held at the Miami Beach Convention Center. As a result of the Black Affairs Advisory Board’s invitation to extend its services to Miami-Dade County, over 50,000 people attended the event and in 2011, NACA officials opened a South Florida office as part of their national initiative and has continued to extend services to residents.

During many “Village Dialogues”, the Board examined ways in which violence had impacted the Miami-Dade County community. Positing that the root causes of violence has had a deleterious impact on the Black World Community, a way was sought to address this issue. A proposal was set forth to encourage collaboration between the many public, private, faith-based and other organizations to address the causes and effects of violence. The result was the development of the ‘**MIAMI-DADE COUNTY COORDINATED RESPONSE TEAM (MD-CRT)**. MDC-CRT’s goal is to help residents to either avoid or recover from community trauma by referring residents to a network of partners and provide a holistic approach to address these needs while focusing on crisis intervention. Resolution number R-746-12, formally establishing the MD-CRT was passed on **September 18, 2012**.

In October 2012, the BAAB’s Heritage Planning Committee again demonstrated its commitment to providing educational opportunities by presenting “Young Pillars” scholarships to six (6) students who will pursue their education following graduation from high school in June 2013.

Also during 2013, the BAAB has worked to make the MDC-CRT a reality by introducing the concept to several law enforcement entities and initiating a “**First Responders brochure**” aimed at providing essential services to victims of violence/crime and disasters which have an impact on residents. This brochure contains useful information that those affected by violence can utilize to access services that will help in the recovery process. A website is in the process of being developed and the inclusion of Miami-Dade County’s 311 information referral services is anticipated. Several Police Departments within Miami-Dade are expected to participate in the initial phase of the program.

In October 2013, the BAAB held a symposium at Florida Memorial University entitled: “Miami-Dade County’s Black World Community: Our Presence and Our Future.” A group of respected panelists addressed three issues relevant to the growth and development of our constituents—Education; Legal Issues and Economics. As a result, a position paper is being generated that will serve as a blueprint for ensuring the inclusion of our constituents in the economic, educational and legal aspects of our community.

In December 2013, the BAAB in collaboration with the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) produced the “**Black World Guide**” a directory of Black organizations in Miami Dade County along with a special section of Targeted Urban Area Businesses and Attractions.

And on May 7, 2014, the Board along with the Miami-Dade County Hispanic Affairs Advisory Board presented a Village Dialogue: “A Civil Discourse on Cultural Diversity, Race and Inclusion” to address intergroup tensions caused by the cultural, ethnic and racial differences in Miami-Dade County.

In September 2014, the Black Affairs Advisory Board partnered with Sabadell Bank for a groundbreaking “BAAB Homeownership Initiative” aimed at first time homebuyers. Funded by a \$2 million commitment from Sabadell Bank, the initiative’s purpose is to provide economic stability to those in the African American community through homeownership.

On January 31, 2015, the Board sponsored another “Village Dialogue,” centered on exploring the relationship between African Americans and Afro-Cubans. In view of President Obama’s call for the resumption of diplomatic relations between the United States and Cuba, the Board felt that a debate on the issue would spike dialogue between the two communities and explore their similarities as well as their differences.

During 2015, the Black Affairs Advisory Board pursued an agenda headed by Economic Development and Legal Issues. In December 2015, a Village Dialogue on Police Body Cameras was centered on the issue of incorporating body worn cameras by law enforcement officers in Miami-Dade County.

During Black History Month 2016, the Board’s Black Heritage Planning Committee partnered with the Commission for Women to host a groundbreaking exhibit featuring approximately 50 plus African American women—“***Women of a New Tribe: Miami***” which was housed in the lobby of the Stephen P. Clark Government Center and covered extensively by local and national media.

In March 2016, during Women’s History Month, a subsequent Village Dialogue was held to examine the status and plight of women who reside in Miami-Dade County’s urban core. This dialogue covered housing, the physical and mental health as well as the effects of violence in the urban core. A subsequent “White Paper” was developed as part of this discussion.

In the summer of 2016, the Board embraced as part of its Economic Development process, the

“**I Support B.O.B.**” or “**I support Black Owned Businesses**” campaign to encourage and stimulate businesses owned and operated by Miami-Dade’s diverse African diaspora residents. Working in conjunction with Miami-Dade County’s Small Business Development Department, the BAAB will be holding an event in recognition of “Black Business Month” during August of each year.

Again in 2017, the BAAB produced a photographic exhibit honoring African American men entitled “***Triumphant Spirits***” which was exhibited in the Government Center. This was followed in March 2017 by a collaboration with the Commission for Women with an exhibit featuring prominent women leaders entitled “***Vessels: Women of Substance.***”

During the month of April 2017, the BAAB was included in the second “**State of Black Miami**” symposium held on the campus of South Florida’s Historically Black University-Florida Memorial University-sponsored by Commissioner Jean Monestime. This symposium seeks to examine the social, economic and civil status of Miami Dade County’s multi-ethnically diverse citizens of African descent and developing strategies to improve their quality of life.

In May of 2017, once again in partnership with the Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust (MDEAT) and the addition of the Miami-Dade Chamber of Commerce, the “**Black World Guide for 2017**” was introduced and a PDF file was made available on the Black Affairs Advisory Board’s website.

In June of 2017, the Black Heritage Planning Committee awarded its first ***“Dual Legacy Pillars Award”*** to City of Miami Commissioner Keon Hardemon, who then provided additional scholarship funds to this year’s group of “Young Pillar Scholarship” recipients.

The Stephen P. Clark Government Center in downtown Miami served again as the backdrop for the celebration of Black History Month with another installation of the ***“Triumphant Spirits”*** and ***“Vessels: Women of Substance”*** exhibit for Black History Month 2018.

April 15, 2018 marked the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the assassination of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Community leaders and the BAAB commemorated the occasion with an exhibit as well as a program highlighting Dr. King’s accomplishments and celebrating his legacy.

As of June 2018, the Black Affairs Advisory Board is working with several Board of County Commission members on a resolution aimed at reducing the impact of code enforcement liens which negatively impact housing in minority communities. We are also involved in the “Getting to Zero” campaign aimed at finding ways to educate and stop the spread of the HIV virus in the Black community.

We are also working in conjunction with MDEAT (Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust) on updating the “Black World Guide,” which lists African American businesses, civic, social, cultural entities as well as elected officials.

In October 2018, the Black Affairs Advisory Board held a “Village Dialogue: Continuing the Dialogue on the State of Black Miami-The Wakanda Effect,” which was aimed at furthering the discussion began by Commissioner Jean Monestime. The event was held in the Board of Commissioners’ Chambers and televised. A synopsis and plan of action will be developed as a result and presented to the Board of Commissioners in early 2019.

With an eye toward continuing to advocate on behalf of our constituency while keeping our Board of Commissioners abreast of the issues impacting the Black World Community, the Black Affairs Advisory Board is focused on making Miami-Dade County one of the most successful examples of positively impacting the quality of life for its residents and visitors.

For more information on the Black Affairs Advisory Board, visit our website at [www.miamidade.gov/baab](http://www.miamidade.gov/baab) or call our office at (305) 375-4606.

### **Commission for Women**

- Held ten monthly meetings, including one “on the road” meeting at the South Miami Branch Library in June 2018. Also held several meetings of the various committees of the Commission for Women.
- Maintained and updated the “Fans of Miami-Dade Commission for Women” Facebook page and the Commission for Women website at [Miamidade.gov](http://Miamidade.gov).
- Organized Women’s History Month display in the SPCC lobby in March 2018.
- Co-sponsored the 2018 “In the Company of Women” awards reception on 03/08/18. This included receiving the nominations forms and sorting them out, putting together the selection committee, organizing and supervising the nominations process, and a \$1000 contribution by the Commission for Women.
- Participation by members and staff as panelists/speakers at Women’s History Month events and other forums and workshops throughout the year.



- Researched pending legislation in the Florida legislature and advocated for several bills via letters, phone calls, meetings with legislators, etc.
- Worked on paid parental leave campaign begun in 2016 to get local municipalities to enact paid parental leave for their employees; met with local officials and shared information and sample ordinances.
- Presented the annual “Young Woman Achiever” scholarships to three seniors from the Young Women’s Preparatory Academy in June 2018.
- Co-hosted and co-organized, along with the League of Women Voters of Miami-Dade and The Women’s Park, the Women’s Equality Day event held on 08/25/18 at The Women’s Park. Event featured retiring Congresswoman Ileana Ros-Lehtinen.
- In association with Dr. Lynette Long and the “Equal Visibility Everywhere” organization, participated in an initiative to increase the number of Florida Historical Markers that recognize women and women’s accomplishments; includes researching the history of women to be recognized and meeting with local municipal officials and property owners to discuss the placement of the markers on their property. Held unveiling ceremony for the historical marker for Dr. Eleanor Galt Simmons on 12/05/18 at The Kampong in Coconut Grove.
- Met with several individual County Commissioners to discuss the CEDAW recommendations made in late 2016 and urge implementation of those recommendations. Also spoke at BCC meetings in support of legislation that would implement some of the recommendations.
- Formulated new recommendations to the Board of County Commissioners, pursuant to the mandate in the CEDAW ordinance, based upon data in the 2018 Status of Women report by the FIU Metropolitan Center. The recommendations were presented at a Board of County Commissioners meeting on 12/18/18 and addressed gender equity issues in the areas of work and economic development.
- Advocated for the creation of a new County website that would list comprehensive services for women and began working on development of website once the resolution passed.
- Co-sponsored various community and educational events with other women’s/girls’ organizations such as workshops and forums. Support included financial co-sponsorship or outreach.
- Donated gifts and items for various toy/gift drives and homeless shelters throughout the year at the request of several local charities. Visited the EMBRACE Home for survivors of human trafficking on 12/16/18 to put up Christmas tree, bring gifts, etc.
- Provided information and referral on various issues (domestic violence, homelessness, job discrimination, etc.) to inquiries received via email and phone.

### **Community Relations Board**

#### **2018 Major Accomplishments:**

- ACLU Presentation about Sexual Predators Encampment
- Presentation by Miami-Dade Public Defender-Carlos Martinez about ACLU Report on Unequal Treatment: Racial & Ethnic Disparities in Miami-Dade Criminal Justice System
- Co-Convened Disparities & Bias in Criminal Justice System Training
- DACA/TPS Forum in partnership with Catalyst Miami, Hispanic Affairs, and Catholic Legal Services
- Gun Violence Community Forum in Liberty City in Partnership with City of Miami PD & Circle of Brotherhood
- District 8 Parent Forum & Resource Fair (Stop the Violence Forum) with Commissioners Levine-Cava and Moss

- Miami-Dade Police Department & CRB Community Advocacy Response Unit (CARU) Memorandum of Understanding
- Current Biscayne Park Police Department Chief and Village Manager Presentation
- Tour of Opioid and Crack encampments
- Hate Speech Forum in partnership with Commissioner Higgins

**Issues monitored or addressed:**

- Return of “Jump Out Boys”
- Sexual Predators Encampment
- DACA/TPS and their impact on Miami-Dade County Residents
- Mass Shooting in Schools
- #Neveragain Movement (Response to Marjory Stoneman Douglas Shooting)
- Different Responses to Gun Violence Based on Community demographics
- Increased Gun violence in Liberty City-“Operation Blue & Brown”
- #Livingwhileblack in America- Law Enforcement being utilized to racially profile minority communities
- Increased Gun Violence in Miami Gardens (11 shootings in 9 days)
- End of School Year Initiatives (Together for Children-Update, Youth Summer Employment)
- Police Departments’ lack of follow-up with victim families
- Biscayne Park Police Department falsely pinning crimes on Black people
- ACLU Report on Report on Unequal Treatment: Racial & Ethnic Disparities in Miami-Dade Criminal Justice System
- Civil Citation versus Arrests for less than 20 grams of pot for different communities
- Improving Community tensions, trusting Law Enforcement
- Opioid Epidemic in Miami-Dade
- Increase in Hate Speech/Crime

**Trainings, Conferences, and Forums:**

- State Attorney’s Office Human Trafficking Presentation
- Jewish Community Relations Council-Human Trafficking Seder
- Public Defender’s Office Disparities in Justice Training
- Beyond the March: Youth Led Town Hall on Violence
- Parents Taking Action Community Conversation on Peer Pressure & Gang Violence
- Overtown Youth Center-8th Annual Save Our Sons Youth Forum
- 2018 Violence & Bottom-line Conference
- 2018 Peace Day Celebrations
- PACT Gun Violence Intervention (GVI) Forum
- National Crime Victim’s Rights Week Luncheon
- Faces of Domestic & Teen Violence Rally

**2018 Partners:**

- Congresswoman Frederica Wilson’s Office
- Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners
- Miami-Dade Police Department
- Miami-Dade Parks and Recreation
- The Children’s Trust
- Miami-Dade Juvenile Services Department
- State Attorney’s Office

- Public Defender's Office
- Miami Beach Police Department
- Biscayne Park Police Department
- Catalyst Miami
- Catholic Legal Services
- Vanta Black
- Miami Gardens Police Department
- Melissa Institute for Violence Prevention
- Mom's Demand Action
- MUJER
- Hispanic Affairs Advisory Board
- Black Affairs Advisory Board
- Miami-Dade Department of Health
- Trauma Resolution Center
- Superhero Leadership Academy
- CHI
- Trinity Empowerment Consortium
- Greater Miami Jewish Federation

### **Goodwill Ambassadors Program**

During 2018, there were 10 orientations for new GWA.

GWA participated in seven CERT trainings and there were 2 GWAs that became CERT Instructors.

Overall, there were 18 GWA events with 616 participants.

- MLK Parade in January with 25 participants
- ArtSea Festival in February with 27 participants
- Calle Ocho in March with 15 participants
- Jazz in the Gardens in March with 58 participants
- Health Fair 2018 in April with 15 participants
- 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Horse and Cattle Show in April with 48 participants
- Liberty Square Resource Fair in April with 15 participants
- SMDCA AKI in May with 29 participants
- Memorial Weekend in May with 215 participants
- JCIC in June with 18 participants
- CRB's Parents Forum with in June with 5 participants
- International Conference of Mayors in June with 12 participants
- OMAF in July with 17 participants
- Juneteenth People Matters in July with 7 participants
- Annual Fun Day District 3 – in August with 22 participants
- Village Dialogue BAAB October 3 participants
- Miami Broward Carnival in October with 27 participants
- Wings Over Homestead in November with 44 participants
- Miami Riverwalk in November with 17 participants

## Hispanic Affairs Advisory Board

HAAB's membership was increased through County resolution, from 13 to 26 members in 2014; 13 members are commissioner appointees and the other 13 members are at-large appointees. The increase has allowed the HAAB to become more inclusive of the diverse community of Miami-Dade County and has also increase the efficiency and exposure of the Board.

HAAB has 5 working sub-committees in order to address the increasing and evolving issues facing our community. The existing sub-committees are as follows:

- **Special Events and Fundraising Committee** – Meets throughout the year to plan and strategize with regards to the events and activities that the board will participate in and host. This committee budgets for event costs and plans which events would most adequately and effectively reach the community.
  - **Immigration Committee** - The Immigration committee monitors immigration policies at the federal, state and local level, advising HAAB on any changes that impact or will potentially impact the Miami-Dade County community. This committee also formulates any action that HAAB should take with regards to immigration changes that affect the local community.
  - **Nominating committee (Ad Hoc)** - reviews application of a new proposed candidate, interviews nominee and makes recommendations for appointment (this is followed by background checks by OIG & OCA and finally voted by BCC)
  - **LGBTQI, Domestic Violence and Elder Affairs Advisory Committee** – Monitors incidents and events involving minority groups in our community and formulates potential policy and/or community outreach opportunities to benefit the well-being of the community groups.
  - **Government Relations Committee** – Monitors federal, state and local governments and reviews proposed legislation that affect the Hispanic community, Miami-Dade County, and any of HAAB's focus areas. Furthermore, this committee formulates any position that HAAB may take on potential legislation or policy changes.
  - **Communications Committee** – Plans media outreach on HAAB's activities and maintains the social media pages updated.
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- HAAB Members have been active advocates for fair immigration practices; they are active in the community attending community meetings on important issues that affect the Hispanic constituents of Miami-Dade County.
  - During the Month of October HAAB joined the celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month where the board concentrates its efforts on showcasing the Hispanic culture and the many contributions Latinos have made to this great nation.
  - In 2018 HAAB collaborated with various commission offices to host the Hispanic Art Expressions exhibits and events in their respective districts.

- HAAB collaborated with the Cuban Museum of the American Diaspora to bring together an exhibit celebrating Cuban Independence Day 2018.
- Every year between September and October HAAB designs and organizes the Hispanic Art Expressions exhibit at the Stephen P. Clark Center Lobby, along with any organization or entity who requests assistance in putting together a Hispanic Heritage Month display, presentation or performance.
- The Hispanic Art Expressions Exhibit aims to raise awareness of visual arts as a form of the Hispanic culture and help the Miami-Dade County citizens foster a better understanding of each other's roots and cultures. It provides an excellent forum for the constituents and members of the community organizations to interact and expose their issues and concerns.
- Since 2016 HAAB has participated with the Commission for Women in the Annual Women's Equality Day celebrations.
- In 2017 HAAB launched their scholarship program benefitting minority college students.
- HAAB participated in a DACA/TPS Forum in partnership with the Community Relations Board, Catalyst Miami, and Catholic Legal Services, in February 2018.
- HAAB hosted a series of pop-up art exhibits, called "Falling into Art" which ran from February – June 2018 and featured local Hispanic high school students at the Falls Mall.
- HAAB provided representation and participated at the *League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) Florida State Convention 2018 Organization Roundtable*.
- HAAB held its second Judicial Candidate Forum in June 2018 at Miami Dade College.
- In August 2018 HAAB co-sponsored a Seal and Expungement Workshop together with the Office of the Public Defender.
- HAAB held the first ever Hispanic Heritage Book Fair, an event featuring hundreds of Hispanic artists and spanning over a week at the Miami-Dade County Main Library branch in October 2018.
- During Hispanic heritage month 2018 HAAB hosted two Small Business Development Workshops, offering community small businesses free seminars with regards to how to do business with the County, attaining Small Business Enterprise certification, as well as applying for small business grants.
- HAAB launched Art Fridays in Downtown, Miami, a series of events consisting of pop-up art exhibits, and cultural showcases, featuring local artists, live music, entertainment, cultural presentations, and art workshops. The events were done in collaborating with local artist groups and the consulates in Miami-Dade County to bring together a cultural display, highlighting the diverse population of our community. The series was held every second Friday of the months through December.

- In October 2018 HAAB hosted the second annual Hispanic Advocate of the Year reception, recognizing advocates who work tirelessly for the Hispanic community in Miami-Dade County. Proceeds from the event go towards a scholarship fund, which was established by the board to provide funding to Hispanic college students.

#### **Military Affairs Board**

- Participated in the 3 Kings Parade
- The first full calendar year of the Miami-Dade Veterans Treatment Court
- Participated in various Memorial Day events throughout the community
- Celebrated 4th of July with the US Air Force Association at Port Miami
- Sponsored the Miami Beach Air & Sea Show
- Sponsored and participated in the City of Doral's and City of Miami Beach's Veterans Day Parades and Festivities
- Attended multiple Chain of Command ceremonies, including United States Southern Command
- Participated in the commissioning of ROTC cadets to 2nd Lieutenants at Florida International University
- Welcomed foreign military vessels and the United States Coast Guard Eagle to Port Miami
- Legislated for the expansion of the Veterans Treatment Court at the State level
- Participated in the Miami VA 2018 Mental Health Summit
- Sponsored and Participated in the 2018 Homestead Air & Space Show
- Hosted and sponsored a toy drive benefitting Toys For Tots