

# A Community Thank You...

To the District 4 cities and Unincorporated Miami-Dade areas I represent, a heartfelt thank you for your resilience and great character throughout the ordeal of Hurricane Irma.

Northeast Miami-Dade experienced several **pre-storm** tornadoes, squall bands and storm surges; the devastation of Irma passing through the county and mass evacuation order; unprecedented county-wide **post storm** efforts for debris clean up, utility pole repairs and mitigating coastal and shoreline damages which still continue. Many people put community safety, and the health and welfare of our vulnerable ahead of their own needs and inconveniences to assure we had no loss of life and minimized damages.

Our Strategic Hurricane Stakeholders who annually prepare and ready their resources and services were incredible partners providing exceptional leadership to deliver the assistance needed for an emergency storm situation never before experienced in our state. Irma was defined nationally as a “monster,” “nuclear,” and “catastrophic” storm and together we did the best with what we could control to being prepared and ready; aware FEMA and Red Cross resources were still in Texas post Hurricane Harvey.

As a lifetime resident of South Florida, I am mindful of our annual 6 month hurricane season. As your County Commissioner, I remain committed to hosting our annual District 4 Strategic Hurricane Emergency Operations Meeting to update and identify areas for improvement, especially with a focus on stronger, longer storms and larger populations with greater needs.

From the initial storm alerts when our community began experiencing the loss of electricity, landscaping, outdoor fixtures, etc., empowered individuals were prepared and we pulled together as a community- **AND AS A COMMUNITY WE NEVER LOST OUR POWER.**

**Miami-Dade County Commissioner Sally A. Heyman**  
(representing: Aventura, Bal Harbour, Bay Harbor Islands, Biscayne Park, Golden Beach, Indian Creek, North Bay Village, Sunny Isles Beach, Surfside; partial Miami Beach, Miami Shores, North Miami, North Miami Beach, and UMSA)

