



# MEMORANDUM

Agenda Item 15(D)1 Substitute

TO: Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez and  
Members, Board of County Commissioners

DATE: April 21, 2026

FROM: Honorable Juan Fernandez-Barquin  
Clerk of the Court and Comptroller

SUBJECT: Recommendations for Gubernatorial  
Appointment to The Children's Trust

Basia Pruna, Director  
Clerk of the Board

**This revised item updates the candidate list forwarded to the Board of County Commissioners (Board) for consideration.**

The Board is requested to recommend candidates to fill two (2) vacancies on the Children's Trust, resulting from expiration of the terms of Ms. Lourdes Gimenez and Mr. Norman Gerstein.

Section 2-1521 of the Miami-Dade County Code (Code) established The Children's Trust as a 33-member board responsible for funding initiatives that support the health, development, safety, parental responsibility, community responsibility, and other essential services for children in Miami-Dade County.

Pursuant to the code, seven (7) members of The Children's Trust are appointed by the Governor of the State of Florida from a list of candidates recommended by the Board. The Board is required to submit to the Governor the names of at least three (3) qualified individuals to fill each vacancy.

The Office of the Chair has received applications from the following individuals seeking to fill the two (2) vacant seats on The Children's Trust:

- Christian Bertot
- Sandy Ruiz Calle, M.D.
- Jalila Clarke
- Isabella Dell'Oca
- Dannelle Fleites Esquivel, Esq.
- Ross Gagliano
- Norman S. Gerstein, J.D. (*Incumbent*)
- Lourdes P. Gimenez (*Incumbent*)
- Chad C. Gutierrez
- Greg Hall
- Jessica Hudson, Ed.D.
- Brent Latham
- Josie Martinez
- Irisaida Mendez Iriarte
- Judith Oriental-Pierre, M.D.
- Favila Paulos Budyszewick
- Oleg Smirnov, Jr.

Attached is a ballot from which you are requested to select at least six (6) nominees. The highest-ranking candidates will be forwarded to the Governor. Attached for your information and review is a copy of the resume for each nominee.

# BALLOT

## NOMINEES FOR CONSIDERATION FOR APPOINTMENT TO THE CHILDREN'S TRUST BY GOVERNOR DESANTIS

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<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>1</b>	<b>Christian Bertot</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>2</b>	<b>Dr. Sandy Ruiz Calle</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>3</b>	<b>Jalila Clarke</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>4</b>	<b>Isabella Dell'Oca</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>5</b>	<b>Dannelle Fleites Esquivel</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>6</b>	<b>Ross Gagliano</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>7</b>	<b>Norman S. Gerstein</b> <i>(Incumbent)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>8</b>	<b>Lourdes P. Gimenez</b> <i>(Incumbent)</i>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>9</b>	<b>Chad C. Gutierrez</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>10</b>	<b>Greg Hall</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>11</b>	<b>Dr. Jessica Hudson</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>12</b>	<b>Brent Latham</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>13</b>	<b>Josie Martinez</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>14</b>	<b>Irisaida Mendez Iriarte</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>15</b>	<b>Dr. Judith Oriental-Pierre</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>16</b>	<b>Favila Paulos Budyszewick</b>
<input type="checkbox"/>	<b>17</b>	<b>Oleg Smirnov, Jr.</b>

The Office of the Chair has received applications from the following individuals seeking to fill two (2) vacancies. The Commission is requested to select at least six (6) nominees. The six (6) highest ranking candidates will be forwarded to the Governor to fill the vacant gubernatorial seats on The Children's Trust.

# Christian Bertot

Director of Retail Banking | SVP

+1-(305)431-6091 • Christianbertot@gmail.com • www.linkedin.com/in/christian-bertot-8b16ba20 • Miami

## COVER LETTER

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Dear Selection Committee,

I am writing to express my strong interest in serving on the Board of Directors of The Children's Trust. With over two decades of leadership experience in the financial services industry, combined with a long-standing commitment to community engagement, I would welcome the opportunity to contribute meaningfully to the Trust's mission and impact.

Throughout my career, I have held senior leadership roles requiring strategic oversight, fiduciary responsibility, governance discipline, and collaborative decision-making. My professional background has provided extensive experience in financial stewardship, risk management, stakeholder alignment, and organizational growth — all of which are directly relevant to effective board service.

Equally important, community involvement has remained a consistent priority for me. I have actively supported initiatives focused on improving outcomes, expanding access to resources, and strengthening the well-being of families and children. I am deeply aligned with the Trust's focus on investing in programs that create measurable, lasting benefits for the community.

I would be honored to bring my professional expertise, governance mindset, and passion for community advancement to the Board. Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to the opportunity to further discuss how I can support The Children's Trust's continued success.

Sincerely,

*Christian Bertot*  
Christian Bertot

CB

# CHRISTIAN BERTOT

## Professional Summary

Accomplished Bank Director with over 26 years of experience in the financial services industry, recognized for driving business growth and strengthening client relationships while leading high-performing retail and business banking teams. A strategic leader known for sales excellence and delivering exceptional financial performance, complemented by a strong commitment to community involvement that fosters local partnerships and supports economic development initiatives. Expertise in building and guiding sales teams to achieve substantial growth, laying the groundwork for strategies that ensure continuous revenue and market share expansion. Bilingual communicator in English and Spanish, adept at relationship management with clients, partners, and stakeholders, consistently demonstrating sound judgment and a proactive approach to overcoming challenges to meet business goals.

## Work History

### POPULAR - Senior Vice President – Retail Banking Director

Miami, FL

2023 - Current

- Lead Retail and Business Banking divisions along with Treasury Management, driving growth strategies and enhancing client relationships.
- Oversee financial performance, sales targets, and customer experience initiatives.
- Develop and implement strategic plans to attract and retain retail and commercial clients within the markets we serve.
- Foster partnerships with local businesses, municipalities, community organizations to expand the bank's footprint and relationships.
- Manage cross-functional teams, ensuring operational excellence and regulatory compliance.
- Spearhead innovative product offerings and client acquisition strategies tailored to both Retail and Business Banking clients.
- Analyze market trends, rate environment, and customer feedback to guide strategic decision-making.

✉ christianbertot@gmail.com

☎ 305.431.6091

📍 Coral Gables, Florida 33146

## Websites, Portfolios, Profiles

- [www.linkedin.com/in/Christian-bertot-8b16ba20/](http://www.linkedin.com/in/Christian-bertot-8b16ba20/)

## Select Areas of Expertise

- Consultative Sales Market & Revenue Expansion Developing & Managing Relationships
- People Management Training & Development HR Actions & Performance Assessments
- Budgets & Forecasting Market Trends & Analysis
- Business Synergy & Market Penetration Delivering Persuasive Presentations Policy & Procedural Improvements
- Effectively Utilizing Resources Sales Leadership Strategic Sales Operations
- Performance Management & Optimization Change Management Product Education Management & Ad-hoc Reports

## Education

**GROVE BANK AND TRUST - Regional Market Manager | Head of Retail Banking**

Miami, FL

2018 - 2023

- Recruited and hand-selected into this strategic leadership role to spearhead the development and roll-out of growth strategies in adherence with strict company policies.
- Accountable for leading high-impact sales training and development initiatives for entry-level business developers and existing leadership across multiple bank areas.
- Deployed extensive financial sales experience across key business areas, leading to organization-wide recognition as Top-Credit Producer amidst the provision of leadership oversight to a highly skilled team of seven direct reports, exceeding all established goals and targets YOY.
- Positioned the organization for sustained revenue growth, mounting strategies that helped surpass loan targets every year and net income targets for three consecutive years.
- Played an instrumental role in the increment of Non-Interest Income goals while steering a new initiative that drove total client portfolio growth by 37% and increased deposits by 100%.
- Worked closely with finance and goal-setting teams to better understand business goals and analyze results to enhance sales and service strategy development and execution.
- Led and directed sales and service activities of the retail bank; provided leadership, coaching, motivation, and support to branch managers while ensuring support resources were effectively utilized.
- Continuously successful in achieving cross-sell ratio targets across all markets served.
- Established ongoing processes to continually reduce costs and increase productivity.

**POPULAR COMMUNITY BANK - Vice President - Area Sales Manager**

Miami, FL

2005 - 2018

**COLONIAL BANK - Branch Sales Manager**

Miami, FL

2001 - 2011

**FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY**

Miami, Florida

Bachelor of Business Administration:

Concentration in Finance and Real Estate

**MIAMI DADE COLLEGE**

Miami, Florida

Associate of Arts: Concentration in Business

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***BOARDS & COMMITTEES***

- PENALVER CLINIC Finance Director, Board Member Miami, Florida
- FLORIDA BANKERS ASSOCIATION Government Relations Committee Member

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***Languages***

English

████████████████████

Native or Bilingual

Spanish

████████████████████

Native or Bilingual

**Sandy Ruiz Calle, M.D.**  
Mobile: (305) 467-9006  
Email: scallemd@gmail.com

February 23, 2026

**Board Selection Committee**  
The Children's Trust  
3150 SW 3rd Avenue  
Miami, FL 33129

Dear Members of the Board Selection Committee,

I am writing to express my interest in serving as an at-large board member for The Children's Trust. As a community health pediatrician with over 14 years of experience serving diverse and underserved populations in Miami-Dade County, I am deeply aligned with the Trust's mission to improve the lives of children and families through evidence-based programs, equity-focused advocacy, and cross-sector collaboration.

Throughout my career at Miami Beach Community Health Center—first as a practicing pediatrician and later as Medical Director of Pediatrics—I have witnessed firsthand the systemic challenges families face, including language barriers, lack of insurance, housing insecurity, and limited access to educational resources. My work has centered on addressing these obstacles holistically through culturally competent care, community partnerships, and innovative care delivery models.

Currently, I serve as Epic Physician Champion at Health Choice Network, where I support community health centers in optimizing health information technology to improve provider efficiency and patient outcomes.

My experience is further enhanced by my current pursuit of a Healthcare MBA at Florida International University, equipping me with additional tools in health policy, strategic planning, and nonprofit governance. I am passionate about contributing to The Children's Trust's vision and would be honored to lend my expertise in pediatrics, population health, and systems improvement to further its initiatives.

Thank you for considering my application. I have attached my resume for your review and welcome the opportunity to discuss how I can serve and support the Trust's mission.

Sincerely,

**Sandy Ruiz Calle, M.D.**

# Sandy Ruiz Calle, M.D.

Mobile (305) 467-9006  
scallem@gmail.com

## Employment Experience

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2023 - Present	Epic Physician Champion	<b>Health Choice Network</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Serve as a crucial liaison between clinicians, leadership, executive sponsors, and the ecosystem team throughout implementation and ongoing operations.</li><li>● Demonstrates and maintains expert knowledge of system functionality, ensuring optimal utilization for enhanced outcomes.</li><li>● Drive clinical engagement and adoption of optimal system workflows, effectively achieving desired outcomes and performance metrics.</li><li>● Support and promote the implementation of Epic electronic health record ecosystem to clinicians and administrators in various healthcare centers.</li><li>● Represent specialized expertise by advising during pre-work and configuration phases, actively participating in advisory council discussions, and contributing to decision-making processes.</li></ul>	
2015 - 2022	Medical Director of Pediatrics	<b>Miami Beach Community Health Center</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Develop and oversee implementation of medical practice guidelines and standards ensuring that all Federal and State policies, regulations, and guidelines are met within pediatrics.</li><li>● Oversee pediatric providers<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Coordinate activities to ensure adequate clinical coverage.</li><li>○ Assist with performance evaluations of pediatric medical staff.</li><li>○ Assist in the recruitment of pediatric providers.</li></ul></li><li>● Oversees and coordinates the resolution of patient grievances and other patient issues as they arise.</li><li>● Assist the C.M.O. in all institutional matters as deemed appropriate by him/her.</li><li>● Attend and chair appropriate committees as requested by the C.M.O.</li><li>● Clinical Associate Professor in Pediatrics<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Teaching and supervising of 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> year medical students during their clinical pediatric clerkship rotation</li><li>○ Teaching and supervising for 3<sup>rd</sup> year Family Practice residents during their pediatric continuity clinic</li></ul></li></ul>	
2011 - Present	Physician	<b>Miami Beach Community Health Center</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Provide care to pediatric patients during both acute illness and well-child care visits</li><li>● Provide clinical supervision and teaching to medical students</li><li>● Collected, recorded, and maintained details of the patient's information like clinical history, report tests and tests outcomes</li></ul>	
2018 - 2020	Medical Director	<b>Spark Pediatrics</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Provide overall medical leadership for PPEC's operations</li><li>● Medical direction for the nursing, and treatment staff, including participation in the MR and QA committee meetings as appropriate</li><li>● Assists in the resolution of medical care problems between PPEC staff and physicians</li><li>● Serve as a member of the Professional Advisory Board PPEC</li><li>● Consultations regarding such things as health services for PPEC staff, Universal Precautions and Infection Control.</li></ul>	
2011 - 2019	Pediatric Clinical Preceptor	<b>Nova Southeastern University College of Osteopathic Medicine</b>
2017 - 2022	Pediatric Clinical Preceptor	<b>Larkin Community Hospital Family Residency Program</b>
2010 - 2011	Physician	<b>Cordero &amp; Perez-Silva, MD, PA</b>
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Responsible for treating infants, children, and adolescents for childhood diseases and ailments pertinent to specific age groups.</li><li>● Collected, recorded, and maintained details of the patient's information like clinical history, reports, and test outcomes.</li></ul>	

# Sandy Ruiz Calle, M.D.

Mobile (305) 467-9006

scallemd@gmail.com

- Analyzed patients on a regular basis to evaluate their physical and mental growth and development.
- Some of duties performed included blood draws, vaccine administration, airway inhalation treatments and wound care.

## Education

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- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| 2025-present | <b>Florida International University Healthcare MBA. Miami, FL (In Progress)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Expected Graduation April 2026</li></ul>   |
| 2007-2010    | <b>University of Miami-Jackson Health System-Holtz Children's Hospital, Miami, FL</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Post-Graduate Residency Training in Pediatrics</li><li>• Board Certified</li></ul> |
| 2002-2007    | <b>Florida State University College of Medicine, Tallahassee, FL</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Doctor of Medicine</li></ul>  |
| 2001-2002    | <b>Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Post-baccalaureate Program</li></ul>  |
| 1997-2001    | <b>Florida State University, Tallahassee, FL</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Bachelor of Science in Nutrition, Fitness, Exercise Physiology emphasis</li></ul>                                       |

## Certifications

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- |      |  |
|------|--|
| 2013 | <b>American Academy of Pediatrics Board Certification</b>      |
| 2023 | <b>Epic Basic and Advanced Physician Builder Certification</b> |
| 2023 | <b>Epic Notecraft Certification</b>                            |
| 2023 | <b>Epic Power User Certification</b>                           |
| 2025 | <b>Lean Six Sigma Yellow Belt</b>                              |
| 2025 | <b>Lean Six Sigma Green Belt</b>                               |
| 2025 | <b>Epic Physician Builder Analytics</b>                        |

## Advisory Boards

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- Chair of Unique Abilities Board for the City of South Miami
- Florida State University College of Medicine Alumni Board Member

## Language Skills

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- Fluent in Spanish

Dear Chairman Rodriguez and Members of the Board,

I am writing to express my interest in serving on the Board of Directors for The Children's Trust. As a Miami-Dade native who was raised in this community from the age of eight, I have a deep personal understanding of the environments, challenges, and opportunities that shape the lives of children and families across our county. After spending several years living abroad in both Panama and China, I recently returned to Miami with a strong commitment to contributing to the community that helped shape me.

My professional and academic path has been grounded in public service, education, and healthcare. I hold a Bachelor's degree in Psychology and Criminology from the University of South Florida and am currently pursuing a career in nursing. Through my experience as a police officer, I gained firsthand exposure to the realities many families face, including crisis situations, gaps in access to resources, and the importance of early intervention and community support. This experience strengthened my ability to approach complex situations with empathy, awareness, and a focus on long-term outcomes.

In addition, my experience teaching English in China allowed me to work directly with students from diverse backgrounds, supporting their development in a structured learning environment. This role strengthened my communication skills, adaptability, and ability to connect with young people across cultures. Earlier in my life, I also volunteered at Jackson Memorial Hospital, where I was introduced to healthcare environments and the needs of diverse patient populations at a young age.

As a bilingual English and Spanish speaker and a caregiver to a young child, I bring both professional and personal insight into the needs of Miami-Dade's diverse communities. I understand how critical it is for families to have access to quality programs, healthcare, and support systems that allow children to grow, learn, and thrive.

Although I recently returned to Miami-Dade County in July 2025, my roots in this community are longstanding. I am committed to contributing my perspective, experience, and dedication to support the mission of The Children's Trust and to help ensure that investments in our community reflect the real needs of children and families.

I would be honored to serve and to work collaboratively with fellow board members to advance thoughtful, equitable, and impactful initiatives across Miami-Dade County.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Sincerely,  
Jalila Clarke

**Jalila Clarke**

Miami-Dade County, FL

[jalila.clarke@gmail.com](mailto:jalila.clarke@gmail.com)

813-373-9539

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**PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY**

Miami-Dade native with a background in public service, education, and healthcare, currently pursuing a career in nursing. Brings experience supporting diverse populations through law enforcement, international teaching, and hospital environments. Bilingual in English and Spanish, with a strong commitment to improving outcomes for children and families in Miami-Dade County.

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**CORE COMPETENCIES**

- Child & Family Advocacy
  - Public Safety & Community Awareness
  - Healthcare Systems Exposure
  - Crisis Response & De-escalation
  - Cross-Cultural Communication (English/Spanish)
  - Systems Navigation & Problem Resolution
- 

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE****English Teacher**

China (Beijing and Shanghai)

- Taught English to students in a classroom setting, supporting language development and communication skills
  - Worked with children from diverse cultural backgrounds, adapting teaching methods to meet varying needs
  - Fostered a structured and supportive learning environment
  - Developed cross-cultural communication and classroom management skills
- 

Hillsborough County Sheriff's Office; Office of Inspector General, Department of Corrections

- Responded to a wide range of community calls, including incidents involving families, youth, and vulnerable populations

- Applied de-escalation techniques in high-stress situations to ensure safety and resolution
  - Engaged directly with community members, building trust and addressing concerns related to safety and well-being
  - Gained firsthand exposure to the systemic challenges impacting children and families, including access to resources and crisis intervention
- 

### **Customer Support / Operations / Investigations Roles**

Capital One; Upserve; Edgewater Library

- Assisted individuals in navigating complex systems and resolving issues efficiently
  - Investigated concerns and ensured fair, timely outcomes
  - Communicated effectively with diverse populations, including Spanish-speaking clients
  - Managed high-volume interactions while maintaining empathy and professionalism
- 

### **Mercy Hospital**

EMT; Registration representative

- Supported hospital operations in a fast-paced healthcare environment
  - Assisted patients and families with information, coordination, and service needs
  - Observed and contributed to patient-centered care practices
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### **EDUCATION**

#### **Bachelor of Arts in Psychology and Criminology**

University of South Florida

#### **Nursing Program (Anticipated Date of Completion 12/2027)**

Herzing University - MSN Direct Entry Online program

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### **COMMUNITY & VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE**

#### **Volunteer, Jackson Memorial Hospital (Teen Program)**

Miami, FL

- Assisted hospital staff in supporting patient care environments
- Interacted with patients and families, contributing to a compassionate care setting
- Gained early exposure to healthcare systems and the needs of diverse patient populations

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## **COMMUNITY CONNECTION**

- Miami-Dade native (raised in the community from age 8 through early adulthood)
  - Recently returned after living in China and then Panama, bringing a global perspective on community and family systems
  - Caregiver to a young child, providing firsthand understanding of family needs and challenges
- 

## **LANGUAGES**

English (Fluent)  
Spanish (Fluent)



February 25, 2026

Miami-Dade County, Board of County Commissioners  
Office of Commission Chairman Anthony Rodriguez  
Email: applicants@miamidade.gov

Dear Chairman Rodriguez:

I am writing to request consideration for a Governor's appointment to the Governing Board of The Children's Trust. Attached you will find my resume, along our most recent annual report brochure.

Ever since I was a child myself, I knew I wanted to do something meaningful with my life. This aspiration led me to work with children in impoverished countries throughout the world. I soon became aware of the extent of the need in my community and country. Learning about the challenges so many face so close to my home, I began to get involved on a local level. It is a privilege to work for our women and children daily. I am so fortunate to witness firsthand how someone can transform their lives once they are given access to resources and are given the chance to heal. There is still so much work to be done and together we can continue to make meaningful change and save lives.

I have served as the Executive Director of Lotus House Women's Shelter since January of 2023 and in this capacity oversee daily operations of the Lotus Village facility, the largest women's homeless shelter in the country. Every day, 525+ women, youth and children experiencing homelessness are assisted at Lotus House – and over 1,450 annually.

My responsibilities as Executive Director include:

- Overseeing and management of the daily operations of both the Lotus Village, and our new project The Children's Village at Lotus Village
- development and implementation the organization's strategic plan, including budget oversight, resource allocation, and fundraising strategies
- building and maintaining relationships with key stakeholders, including board members, donors, and collaborators.
- providing direct supervision to Director and Deputy Directors, leadership to the team of 130
- ensuring compliance with all legal and regulatory requirements, including funding contracts
- overseeing the development and implementation of programs and services that meet the needs of those we serve
- managing the organization's budget: forecasting, tracking expenses, and identifying areas for cost savings.

Prior to this, I served as Director of Lotus House for over two years and as Community Outreach Coordinator and Programming Deputy Director for almost 6 years.

During my tenure as Executive Director of Lotus House much has been accomplished, with the following highlights:

- \* 89% of our guests successfully exited outside of the shelter system in 2025

- \* Lotus House expanded our services to reach the community in ***The Children's Village at Lotus Village***. The Children's Village at Lotus Village, a new, model, neighborhood children's resource center, brings together 14+ non-profits collectively serving an estimated 2,000-2,500 children from Lotus House and the Overtown community annually to provide deep educational and therapeutic support, enriched programming in the arts and science, a barrier free access point for health care and legal services, social services, and a child-centered platform for shared community. This collective impact model serves as a model for neighborhood programs for children living with housing instability and those at high risk for homelessness. Located right across the street from Lotus House, we opened the facility in October 2025. For a look at the state-of-the-art, hi-tech, 75,000+ square foot, 5-story building, campus, and beautiful children's playground, please see: <https://www.lotusendowment.org/childrensvillage/>

I currently serve on the Board of the Miami-Dade Homeless Trust (since May 2023), the National Women's Shelter Network (since Dec. 2023), the Miami-Dade's Homeless Trust Continuum of Care (CoC) Sub-Committee and Child Welfare and Juvenile Services Committee.

As Executive Director of Lotus House I continually work to develop and strengthen community collaborations that benefit the women, youth and children at Lotus House, including but not limited to: Miami Dade Public Schools System Project Upstart, Urgent Inc., Career Source of South Florida, Miami Dade College, Miami Dade Public Libraries, United Way of Miami Head Start – and the agencies that will be co-located in the Children's Village (Arts for Learning/Miami, Inc., Care4U, Easter Seals South Florida, Children's Bereavement Center, Inc., Alliance for LGBTQ Youth, Girl Power Rocks, Inc., Legal Services of Greater Miami, Mindful Kids Miami, Inc., Nana's Restart, Overtown Children and Youth Coalition, Overtown Optimist Club, Inc., Urgent, Inc.)

To advocate for women and children experiencing homelessness I frequently speak at local government Commission meetings, plan and direct Lotus House videos to increase public awareness of the surrounding issues and appear on Univision, Telemundo, Miami Herald, and MegaTV, and other media.

Having worked with Lotus House for more than 10 years, I believe I have much to offer as a member of the Governing Board of The Children's Trust. I bring a unique perspective and understanding of the most disenfranchised and trauma-affected in our community: women, youth and children who experience poverty, violence and homelessness – and their path to healing and transformation. My dedication to caring for this most disadvantaged group of children in our community has led me to seek service on the Board, to ensure their needs and interests are represented.

Thank you so much for your consideration.

Sincerely,



Isabella Dell'Oca, B.A.  
Executive Director  
305-510-5690  
[isabella@lotushouse.org](mailto:isabella@lotushouse.org)

**Isabella Dell'Oca**

Miami, FL 33145 • (305) 510-5690 • [isabella@lotushouse.org](mailto:isabella@lotushouse.org)

**PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE**

**Sundari Foundation Inc, dba Lotus House Women’s Shelter, Executive Director** *January 2023-current*

- Oversee daily operations of the Lotus Village facility, the largest women's homeless shelter in the country and The Children’s Village at Lotus House, a new, state of the art facility bringing resources and access to services the Lotus House guests and Overtown community, through a collective impact model, in collaboration with 14 other non profits.
- Develop and implement the organization's strategic plan, including budget oversight, resource allocation, and fundraising strategies.
- Build and maintain relationships with key stakeholders, including board members, donors, and collaborators.
- Provide direct supervision to Director and Deputy Directors, leadership to the team of 130.
- Ensure compliance with all legal and regulatory requirements, including funding contracts.
- Oversee the development and implementation of programs and services that meet the needs of the guests.
- Manage the organization's budget: forecasting, tracking expenses, and identifying areas for cost savings.

**Sundari Foundation Inc, dba Lotus House Women’s Shelter, Director** *August 2020 - December 2022*

- Oversee daily operations of the Lotus Village facility, now serving over 500 guests.
- Supervise all department Deputy Directors and Directors and keep track of staff performance.
- Continue to improve operations of the facility and its programs on all levels.
- Monitor grants, spending, MOUs, contracts, and other funding sources.

**Sundari Foundation Inc, dba Lotus House Women’s Shelter, Community Outreach Coordinator, promoted to Programming Deputy Director** *Nov 2014 – Aug 2020*

- Coordinates over 2,500 volunteers annually, bringing in corporate and community partners, sponsors, and other individual volunteers to help maintain the facility and improve operations.
- Organizes a wide range of programming activities to improve the basic life skills of the guests like financial literacy, budgeting workshops, after school programing, yoga and meditation, physical exercise, salon services, arts and crafts, tutoring, administrative assistance and other alternative pathways to healing.
- Collaborates with the Miami Dade County Public School System (MDCPS) to host an on-site after-school program for the school-aged children who live at Lotus House, to provide tutoring services, school uniforms, and transportation and a GED program for adults who are looking to advance their education.
- Event planning and execution both for fundraising such as our annual Lotus House Gala and for sheltered guests such as the Lotus Village Job Fairs, Annual Back to School Block Parties and others.
- Manages the foundations website and Social Media channels to advocate, raise awareness, request donations of goods and raise funds for the shelters urgent needs.

**BOARD AFFILIATIONS AND ADVOCACY**

Miami Dade County Homeless Trust	May 2023- present
Miami Dade County Child Welfare and Juvenile Services Committee	September 2023- present
National Women’s Shelter Network	December 2023- present
Style Saves	July 2014- present

**EDUCATION**

<b>Loyola University Chicago</b>	Class of 2014
Bachelor’s Degree: Major in International Studies and Major in Social Work	
<b>Immaculata La Salle High School</b>	Class of 2010

DANNELLE FLEITES ESQUIVEL, ESQ.

Palmetto Bay, Florida

dannelle.esquivel@gmail.com | (305) 494-1512

March 16, 2026

The Honorable Anthony Rodriguez

Chairman

Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners

Office of the Commission Chairman

111 NW 1<sup>st</sup> Street, Suite 320

Miami, Florida 33128

**Re. Application for Gubernatorial Appointment to The Children's Trust**

Dear Mr. Rodriguez:

I am writing to respectfully request your consideration for a Gubernatorial appointment to the Board of Directors of The Children's Trust. As a lifelong Miamian, an attorney dedicated to improving access to quality human services, and the mother of an eight-year-old with autism spectrum disorder, I am deeply committed to advancing equitable, high-quality services for the children and families of Miami-Dade County.

Over the past two decades, I have witnessed our community's extraordinary growth alongside persistent disparities in access to essential supports. Families should never have to choose between meeting basic needs and obtaining therapeutic, educational, and respite supports for their children. Ensuring access to individualized, community-based care, particularly for children with special needs, must remain a priority.

Professionally, I serve as Associate General Counsel at Sevita Health, a national leader in human services. In this role, I provide legal and regulatory support to the Pediatrics operating group, which delivers foster care services, behavioral therapy, juvenile justice programs, transition services for youth aging out of care, early intervention, and autism services. My role includes advising executive leadership on compliance, risk management, policy development, and incident response involving vulnerable youth. This experience has strengthened my ability to evaluate programs through a governance, accountability, and fiduciary lens.

Previously, I served as an Attorney Advisor with the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, where I supported Administrative Law Judges in Medicare appeals and contributed to national program-integrity efforts. Earlier in my career I was a Partner at Lydecker, LLP, where I represented non-profit organizations, schools, and child welfare contractors in complex litigation involving supervision, placement, and abuse-related claims. Collectively, these roles have provided me with a deep appreciation for strong governance, transparency, and oversight.

On a personal level, advocating for my son has given me firsthand insight into the challenges families face when navigating service systems. I have experienced the impact that effective, well-administered community programs can have on a child's development and a family's stability. This combination of professional and personal experience positions me to contribute meaningfully to board-level oversight and strategic direction in support of The Children's Trust's mission.

It would be a privilege to support the continued advancement of programs that strengthen children and families throughout our community. I appreciate your consideration of my application and the opportunity to be considered for this appointment.

Respectfully,

Dannelle Fleites Esquivel, Esq.

MDC017

# DANNELLE FLEITES ESQUIVEL

Palmetto Bay, Florida

dannelle.esquivel@gmail.com | (305) 494-1512 | linkedin.com/in/dfesquivel

## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

Senior attorney with 18+ years of experience in healthcare law, high-stakes litigation, and federal administrative adjudication. Executive advisor on enterprise risk, regulatory compliance, and governance strategy for national human services providers. Experienced in complex investigations, Medicaid-regulated service environments, and public-sector accountability frameworks.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### SEVITA HEALTH

Boston, MA (Remote)

**Associate General Counsel, Litigation & Risk** | April 2023 – Present

- Advise executive leadership on enterprise litigation exposure, regulatory compliance, and risk mitigation strategy across multi-state human services operations.
- Direct national litigation strategy for Medicaid-funded programs serving foster youth and individuals with developmental disabilities, autism, and traumatic brain injuries.
- Develop and implement internal policies to enhance quality of care, strengthen compliance controls, and reduce organizational liability.
- Conduct high-level internal investigations and oversee response to critical incidents involving vulnerable populations.
- Support operational leadership in contract negotiation, employment matters, privacy compliance, and regulatory interpretation.

### UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of Medicare Hearings and Appeals (OMHA) - Miami, FL

**Attorney Advisor** | October 2018 – April 2023

- Drafted legal decisions for Administrative Law Judges in Medicare coverage appeals under Parts A, B, C, and D.
- Conducted complex statutory and regulatory analysis, interpreting CMS guidance and applying federal healthcare standards to adjudicatory proceedings.
- Liaised with Medicare Advantage Organizations, federal contractors, and state agencies to resolve beneficiary and provider disputes.
- Contributed to national program integrity initiatives by promoting consistency and procedural fairness in administrative rulings.

### LYDECKER LLP

Miami, FL

**Partner & Shareholder** | October 2007 – September 2018

- Represented public entities, healthcare providers, insurers, and contractors in complex civil litigation from pre-suit through trial.
- Negotiated high-value settlements, indemnification agreements, and risk-transfer provisions for institutional clients.
- Led litigation teams and directed case strategy in matters involving supervision, placement, and abuse-related claims.
- Advised clients on professional liability exposure and claims mitigation strategies.

## **LAW OFFICES OF RICHARD E. ZALDIVAR, P.A.**

Miami, FL

**Associate Attorney** | September 2006 – October 2007

- Managed employment and workers' compensation caseload, including depositions, mediations, and administrative proceedings.
- Drafted pleadings, dispositive motions, and settlement agreements.

## **NATIONAL AERONAUTICS AND SPACE ADMINISTRATION**

Washington, D.C.

**Law Clerk** | May – August 2004

- Drafted memoranda on employment law, whistleblower protections, and federal administrative procedures.
- Prepared responses to Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests submitted to the Office of the Inspector General.

## **EDUCATION**

### **AMERICAN UNIVERSITY**

Washington College of Law, Washington, DC

Juris Doctor | 2006

- Senior Editor & Vice President, Business Law Brief
- Student Attorney, Federal Tax Clinic

### **UNIVERSITY OF MIAMI, Coral Gables, FL**

Bachelor of Business Administration, Cum Laude | 2002

- Provost's Honor Roll | Dean's List | Florida Bright Futures Scholar

## **BAR ADMISSION**

Florida Bar, Active (2006–Present)

## **PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

Republican National Lawyers Association

Federalist Society

## McBride, Daysha (COC)

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**From:** Ross Gagliano <rfgagliano@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, February 24, 2026 1:33 PM  
**To:** Applicants (Office of the Chair)  
**Subject:** Children's Trust Board Application  
**Attachments:** Ross Gagliano CV.pdf

You don't often get email from rfgagliano@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**Miami-Dade County, Board of County Commissioners**  
**Office of Commission Chairman Anthony Rodriguez**

Dear Mr. Rodriguez

I am 60 years old and my current employer is selling the company, and my division is not being acquired by the new owners, so my division is being closed down.

I have been employed by Global Risk Solutions for the last 24 years. I am at a crossroads in my life and looking for a new chapter. I heard an advertisement on NPR this morning on my way to work and thought I would look into applying for this job and see if it is a good fit for me. I live in the Roads Neighborhood on 29th Road and I am within walking distance to offices.

Attached is my Professional Resume.

I am currently an Officer and BOD member at Coral Reef Yacht club. Below is my club Bio.

**Ross Gagliano** has been a member of Coral Reef Yacht Club since 2012. He first became involved as a youth sailing parent, towing boats to regattas and supporting the Orange Bowl International Youth Regatta. Ross is currently serving as Director and Fleet Captain, and over the past four years has served on the House, Membership, and Audit Committees.

Originally from New York, Ross moved to Miami in grade school and grew up on Key Biscayne, spending much of his teenage years boating on Biscayne Bay with family and friends. He keeps a powerboat at the Club. Ross attended Florida State University and today works as SVP with Global Risk Solutions, leading the Environmental Risk Management division.

Ross has long been active in the high school sailing community—he helped launch the Westminster Christian School Sailing Program and served as Parent President for two years. He is also deeply involved in the St. Stephen's Episcopal Church community, serving on the Vestry, as a Youth Group Leader, Mission Trip Leader, and for more than 20 years on the Board of the St. Stephen's Art Show. Additionally, Ross served on the Spanish International Parent Association Board for five years, three of them as President. He is also a founding board member of the Jay BonSalle Foundation, created in memory of a close friend, which supports heart-disease initiatives and provides financial assistance to families of patients battling heart disease.



## Ross Gagliano

SVP of ERMS Project Operations · [rgagliano@globalrisksolutions.com](mailto:rgagliano@globalrisksolutions.com)

### Professional Experience

- Global Risk Solutions, Inc., 2002 to Present
- 1995 - 2001 Field Data Manager/Accountant, Crawford & Company
- 1992 - 1995 Finance Manager, Estimator, Cuyahoga Wrecking Corp.
- 1989 - 1992 Financial Analyst, Miami Herald/ Knight- Ridder

### Core Competencies

- Assisting industrial and insurance clients to manage & mitigate complex multi- million-dollar pollution liability claims matters more effectively.
- Services including costs accumulation & reporting, claims adjusting, payables management and database administration.

### Summary of Qualifications

- Provided Logistical support to set up six offices that consisted of over 80 adjusters and accountants dealing with Third Party Liability Claims, First Party Property Losses, Class Action Issues and Business Interruption Claims resulting from hurricane damage as well as an ensuing oil spill.
- Set up and managed a liability field monitoring operation that involved documenting and providing litigation support to the cleanup operation of an oil spill into a residential neighborhood.
- Investigation, evaluation, and negotiation/settlement of over 70 large property damage claims totaling more than 500 million dollars.
- The claims involved environmental impairment at locations throughout the USA resulting from manufacturing activities. Tasks included obtaining pertinent site documents via FOIA requests. Review of site documents to present an overview of the facts uncovered regarding the claim.
- Review financial documents to establish a breakdown of cost liability in relation to the Claim. Manage document filing system and entry of information in Computer Document Management System.
- Conducted site inspections around the country of Honduras to investigate the impact of the catastrophic event on a multinational company's diversified operations regarding Business Interruption and Trade Disruption Insurance Coverage Policies. Document the site inspections with company representatives and collect data for review to draw a clear picture of the potential exposure from related claims.
- Set up and oversee Call Center, Project Database and Cost Containment when incidents arise and assist with set up of Claims Process and Reporting for ERMS Projects.

### Experience Focal Points

- Environmental Claims (Oil & Gas, Chemical)
- Utility, (All modes of transportation and distribution)
- Crisis / Incident Management
- Manage Call Center, Cost Containment Operations



March 10, 2026

The Honorable Anthony Rodriguez  
Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners  
111 NW 1st Street  
Miami, Florida 33128

Dear Chairman Rodriguez:

I respectfully submit this letter to request your support for my reappointment to the Board of Directors of **The Children's Trust of Miami-Dade County**. It has been a great honor to serve on the Trust, and I would welcome the opportunity to continue contributing to its important mission on behalf of the children and families of our community.

I previously served as a member of The Children's Trust from **2004 through 2009**, and it has been a privilege to serve again during the past four years. During my tenure, I have witnessed firsthand the profound impact that the Trust has had throughout Miami-Dade County.

The Children's Trust has played a critical role in strengthening our community by funding and expanding programs that support **early childhood development, after-school and summer enrichment, parenting support initiatives, literacy programs, health services, and youth development opportunities**. These initiatives ensure that children and families across our County have access to the resources and support necessary to succeed.

I firmly believe that the mission of The Children's Trust has never been more important than it is today. I would be deeply honored to continue serving the residents of Miami-Dade County and working with my fellow board members to advance the Trust's vital work.

As requested, I have attached my resume. Should you require any additional information, please feel free to contact me by email at **[nsglaw@icloud.com](mailto:nsglaw@icloud.com)** or by telephone at **786-363-5615** or **305-877-6999**. Thank you for your time and consideration.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "NSG", written over a horizontal line.

**Norman S. Gerstein**

**Law Offices of Norman S. Gerstein P.A.**  
5966 South Dixie Highway Ste 300  
Miami, Florida 33143  
Email: [nsglaw@icloud.com](mailto:nsglaw@icloud.com)  
Telephone: 786-363-5615 | 305-877-6999  
Website: [www.normangerstein.com](http://www.normangerstein.com)

MDC022



**NORMAN S. GERSTEIN**

Mediator | Arbitrator | Special Master | Insurance Appraisal Umpire

Former Circuit Court Judge

Florida | 786-363-5615 | [nsglaw@icloud.com](mailto:nsglaw@icloud.com) | [www.normangerstein.com](http://www.normangerstein.com)

**PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY**

Former Miami-Dade Circuit Court Judge with more than 40 years of service in the justice system, including 29 years on the bench. Since 2010, he has served as a full-time neutral resolving complex civil, commercial, probate, and insurance disputes. Recognized for judicial temperament, efficiency, and fairness, with consistently high peer evaluations.

**NEUTRAL EXPERIENCE**

Mediator, Arbitrator, Special Master, Insurance Umpire | 2010–Present

Conducted more than 2,700 mediations and 230 arbitrations. Serves as Neutral Umpire in binding insurance appraisal matters. Resolves commercial and business litigation, insurance coverage and valuation disputes, trusts and probate matters, personal injury and medical malpractice claims, negligent security and premises liability, foreclosure and real property disputes, and land use and zoning matters. Known for thorough preparation, firm case management, and clear, well-reasoned rulings.

**JUDICIAL EXPERIENCE**

Circuit Court Judge, Miami-Dade County | Appointed by Governor Bob Graham | 1986–2010.

Served in Civil, Complex Civil, Criminal, Probate, Juvenile, and DUI divisions. Presided over high-stakes trials and complex litigation. Consistently received top ratings in the Dade County Bar Association Judicial Poll.

County Court Judge, Miami-Dade County | Appointed by Governor Bob Graham | 1981–1986.

## **EARLY LEGAL EXPERIENCE**

Assistant Public Defender and Special Assistant State Attorney | 1973–1981

## **EDUCATION**

Bachelor of Arts | 1970

Juris Doctor | 1973

## **COMMUNITY LEADERSHIP & PUBLIC SERVICE**

The Children's Trust – Miami-Dade County | Board Member | 2023–Present

Fiduciary Trust Company | Advisory Board Member | 2022–Present

The Children's Trust – Miami-Dade County | Board Member | 2004-2009

Summer Fun for Kids, Inc. | Founder & President | 2002–2019

Melissa Institute for Violence Prevention and Treatment | Board of Directors | 1996–2018

Hands On Miami | Board of Directors | 2000–2005

Florida Bar Commission on the Legal Needs of Children | Commission Member | 2000–2002

Addiction Services Board – Miami-Dade County | Board Member | 1998–2008

Florida Supreme Court Committee on court related needs of children 1995

## **HONORS AND AWARDS**

Justice Harry Lee Anstead Professionalism Award

Justice Kogan Award, Florida Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers

Lifetime Achievement Award, Greater Miami Jewish Federation

Community Service Award, Greater Miami Jewish Federation

Guardian Angel Award, NFL YET Center

Heart Award, Boys and Girls Club

Community Service Award, City of South Miami

Community Service Award, City of Miami

February 26, 2026

Honorable Chairman Anthony Rodriguez  
Miami-Dade County, Board of County Commissioners  
111 NW First Street, Suite 320  
Miami, FL 33128

Dear Chairman:

I am respectfully requesting to be reconsidered for a position as a Board Member with The Children's Trust. As a lifelong resident of Miami-Dade County and a longtime educator and advocate committed to the education and well-being of children and youth, I welcome the opportunity to continue working with the Board and share my advisory skills. I am very aware and proud of the immense impact The Children's Trust makes for our children, youth and families, specially the neediest, in Miami Dade County.

In my tenure of 40 years in Miami-Dade County Public Schools and Private Schools, I worked with children and families from all walks of life and am very sensitive to their individual and collective needs. During my professional and adult life, I have been privileged to have the opportunity to make a difference in the lives of the children and families I serve, not only as their advocate and their voice, but also in ensuring each child reaches his/her full potential.

Attached is my resume, which speaks to my professional knowledge and experience, including areas of expertise, which I hope will convey my passion and ability to continued serving on this Board in a variety of capacities, including on the Executive, Human Resources (Vice Chair) and Program Services Committees and as dedicated adviser and Board Member. In addition to meeting the requirements to serve on this Board, I can bring many other valuable attributes to this position. I am a team player, consensus builder, decision maker, leader, and community participant who will always maintain our children and youth as our ultimate focus.

Thank you for your consideration and I look forward to your decision about this exciting opportunity to continue serving our children, youth and community.

Sincerely,



Lourdes P. Gimenez

**Lourdes P. Gimenez**  
**4061 S. Le Jeune Road Miami, Florida 33146**  
**305-666-2794 (H) 786-443-5480 (C) Email [gimenezlp@gmail.com](mailto:gimenezlp@gmail.com)**

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**SUMMARY OF QUALIFICATIONS:** Retired Professional Educator with over 40 years of experience in Miami Dade County Public Schools and Private Schools. Certified in Early Childhood, Elementary Education and Educational Leadership (K-12). Held positions in the capacity of Region Administrative Director, University Adjunct professor, Principal, Assistant Principal, Curriculum Supervisor, Teacher and Substitute Teacher.

### **EDUCATION**

2005	Harvard's Graduate School of Education Principal's Center Program Completed
1992	Nova Southeastern University Educational Leadership Certification
1980	Nova Southeastern University Masters Elementary Education
1976	Florida International University Bachelors Early Childhood Education

### **PROFESSIONAL WORK EXPERIENCE**

2006 – 2016	Administrative Director, Regional Center II, North Region Office, Access Center 5, Center Region Office
1999 – 2006	Founding Principal, Dr. Carlos J. Finlay Elementary School
2000	Adjunct Professor, Florida International University
1995 – 1999	Principal, George Washington Carver Elementary School
1992 – 1995	Assistant Principal, Coral Gables Elementary School
1991 – 1992	Supervisor, Human Resources and Development
1990 – 1991	Curriculum Supervisor, Region Center VI
1985 – 1990	Teacher, Sweetwater Elementary School
1982 – 1985	Teacher, Flagami Elementary
1981 – 1982	Teacher, Henry M. Flagler Elementary School
1977 – 1981	Substitute Teacher, Miami Dade County Public Schools

### **SPECIAL AWARDS AND HONORS**

2016	Proclamation-School Board of Miami-Dade County
2007	Florida International University Golden Medallion for Outstanding Alumni
2006	Miami Dade College Alumni Hall of Fame
2000 – 2006	Florida Department of Education A Rated School (Dr. Carlos J. Finlay Elementary School)
2002 – 2003	Recipient of Washington Mutual Education Funds

2001 – 2002	IBM Grant Recipient (\$ 36,000.00)
2001 – 2002	Florida Recognition Award (Dr. Carlos J. Finlay Elementary School)
2000 – 2001	Alumni of the Year Award – Our Lady of Lourdes Academy
2000 – 2005	Barbara Bush Literacy Grant Recipient
1995 – 2000	Golden School Award (George Washington Carver and Dr. Carlos J. Finlay Elementary Schools)
1996 – 1997	Five Star School Award Designation
1996 – 1997	Florida Department of Education A Rated School (George Washington Carver Elementary School)
1991 – 1992	Superintendent’s Merit Award Access Center VI

**PROFESSIONAL BOARDS, COMMITTEES, AND TASK FORCE AND PRESENTATIONS**

Jan., 2024	Keynote Speaker at the National Child Development Associate (CDA) Credential Seminar
2021 – Present	Congress International Club 1(IC1) Member
2018 – Present	The Children’s Trust, Board Member Executive, Human Resources (Vice Chair) Program Services Committees
2018 – Present	Agape Network Foundation, Board Member
2017 – 2020	Piano Slam Community Committee
2006 - 2016	Grade 3 Portfolio Review Committee
2006 – 2016	Principal of the Year/Region Committee
2011 – 2014	The State Advisory Board for the Florida Department of Juvenile Justice
2003 – 2006	Florida International University – College of Education’s Development Board
2001 – 2005	Florida International University – Professional Development Council
2002 – 2003	District Research Review Committee
2001 – 2002	Charter Schools Committee
2001 – 2002	District Instructional Leadership Advisory Council (ILAC)
2001 – 2002	Florida International University – Preparing Tomorrow’s Teacher to use Technology (PT3)
2000 – 2001	Miami Dade County Public Schools – National Teacher Recruiting Team
1999 – 2001	Governor’s Equity in Educational Opportunities Task Force
1997 – 1999	District Schools of Choice Advisory Council
1994 – 1995	Region Center IV Project Excellence Review Team

Chad C. Gutierrez

No Resume Submitted

# GREG HALL

## Board of Directors Candidate – The Children's Trust

☎ (305) 793-4507   @ gregory.hall7@gmail.com   🔗 <https://www.linkedin.com/in/gregoryrhall/>  
📍 Miami, FL



## MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

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March 5, 2026

### MEMBERS OF THE SELECTION COMMITTEE:

I am writing to express my strong interest in serving on the Board of Directors of The Children's Trust. As a Miami-Dade resident since 1999, a parent of three children born and raised in this community, and an executive leader with more than two decades of experience driving growth and operational excellence across global organizations, I believe I can make a meaningful and lasting contribution to the Trust's mission of improving the lives of children and families throughout our county.

My commitment to this community is deeply personal. My wife, Dr. Sandra L. Brand, DDS, has operated her dental practice in Coral Gables for 25 years, serving families across South Florida. Together, we have raised three children here in Miami — and when our eldest was diagnosed with Type 1 diabetes at the age of nine, we gained a firsthand, profound understanding of the challenges families face when navigating complex medical situations. That experience sharpened our empathy, strengthened our resolve, and gave us a personal lens into the kinds of health, safety, and development services that The Children's Trust champions every day.

Professionally, I offer the executive leadership, strategic governance, and fiscal oversight experience that effective board stewardship demands. I currently serve with MasTec, one of Miami-Dade's most prominent and influential companies — a Fortune 500 infrastructure leader headquartered in Coral Gables with deep roots in our community. Prior to MasTec, I held senior leadership roles at ADS-TEC Energy, ACAMS, Kaseya, and Cisco Systems, where I consistently delivered results: building high-performing teams, driving double-digit revenue growth, aligning cross-functional stakeholders around strategic priorities, and stewarding multimillion-dollar budgets. These experiences have equipped me with the analytical rigor, collaborative mindset, and results orientation essential to fulfilling the board's fiscal planning, operational oversight, and strategic governance responsibilities.

Beyond my professional qualifications, I offer additional qualities I believe are important for success in this role: a team-first ethos, uncompromising integrity, and a genuine dedication to advocacy for children. I understand how to work collaboratively with diverse stakeholders, ask constructive questions, and contribute to policy decisions with both discipline and heart. I am also bilingual in English and Spanish — an asset in a county as culturally rich and diverse as Miami-Dade — and I am committed to enhancing the Trust's public standing and mission across our community.

Looking forward, I am fully prepared to meet the expectations of board service, including attending the monthly board meetings, actively participating on at least one committee, filing financial disclosure statements, and upholding the Florida Code of Ethics for Public Officers. This is not an obligation I take lightly — it is a privilege I would embrace wholeheartedly.

The Children's Trust has accomplished extraordinary things for the families of Miami-Dade County. I would be honored to contribute my leadership, experience, and passion to ensure that legacy continues and grows.

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Greg Hall

# GREG HALL

Team First Ethos | High-Performance Leadership | Operational Excellence

📞 305.793.4507 (Mobile)   @ gregory.hall7@gmail.com   🌐 <https://www.linkedin.com/in/gregoryrhall/>   📍 Miami, FL

## EXPERIENCE

### Director Channel Sales & Operations

**ADS-TEC Energy, Inc.** 📅 08/2022 - Present 📍 Miami, FL

A global provider of lithium-ion battery based platforms, from multi-MW storage to ultra-fast charging systems for electric vehicles. ADS-TEC's mission is to help drive a net-zero energy transition and shape the energy industry of the future.

- Secured 3 key accounts that helped the company deliver its first EBITDA positive quarter, Q4 2023

### Head of Enterprise Key Accounts

**ACAMS** 📅 04/2018 - 08/2022 📍 Miami, FL

The world's largest provider of AFC compliance training, certification, and software tools helping FSI, regulators, and governments across the globe end financial crime. Lead, manage, and drive growth, retention, communication, and client success.

- Achieved 26% growth in new accounts, 36% growth in expansion licenses, 39% increase in product utilization, and a 98% blended renewal rate.

### Director New Client Acquisition, Americas

**Kaseya** 📅 03/2016 - 08/2017 📍 Miami, FL

A leading unified IT services SaaS provider focused on MSPs and enterprise IT teams. Directed mid-market sales, strategy, and operations accountable for new client acquisition, revenue, and growth across the Americas.

- Drove 38% Y/Y growth and 50% product add-on growth.
- Increased Y/Y average ACV per rep by 51% and lead-to-close by 63%.
- Improved E:B 34% Y/Y.

### Regional Sales Manager, Global Enterprise

**Cisco Systems** 📅 07/2004 - 10/2015 📍 Miami, FL

Multiple sales roles from business development to channel sales to global accounts across the US, Canada, and LATAM.

- Delivered 15%+ CAGR over 5 years; 126% against a \$116M target FY14.
- Led a security license renewal initiative targeting the bottom 80% deal size opportunities. Converted and closed 32%.
- Created team culture, identity and pride. Created a unique Challenge Coin used to recognize and thank key internal & external stakeholders.

## ADDITIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Energy Project Development

**PRISMECS** 📅 03/2024 - Present 📍 US

Global EPC and O&M provider of turnkey energy services for industrial and commercial power. Key focus on data centers.

- 400MW multiphase ground-up IPP for an HPC data center in the US
- 15MW linear generator project for a data center in Switzerland

## PUBLICATIONS

### Communication Skills Survival Guide for Inside Sales Professionals

**Cisco Virtual Sales**

*Communication Initiative Team / Greg Hall*

📅 2007

A foundational guide to improve the sales organizations' executive communication skills.

## PROFILE

Accomplished sales executive with a proven track record of developing and leading high-performing teams that accelerate growth. Proven ability to collaborate with global and regional stakeholders to align priorities, scale new business, drive operational execution, and lead multidisciplinary teams across SaaS, ICT and energy tech infrastructure. Trusted by global clients and startups alike to drive transformation, unlock revenue, and shape go-to-market strategy in dynamic, fast-paced industries.

## FUNCTIONAL STRENGTHS

- 💰 **Direct, Inside & Partner GTM**  
Hardware, software, and service sales through direct, inside and channel models, across verticals, and global geographies.
- 👥 **People Management & Coaching**  
Recruiting, onboarding, developing team culture & brand; coach/player mentality; leading transformation; operating with a shared vision for success.
- 📈 **Sales Analytics & Strategy**  
Pipeline & forecast management; lead qualification and opportunity generation process and best practice; KPI alignment; deal structure & closing.
- ⚙️ **Building/Optimizing Teams**  
Optimizing and accelerating execution, CRM utilization, sales training and sales enablement, collaboration tools, product & service attach rates.
- 🌐 **Bilingual - English / Spanish**  
Native English; fully proficient Spanish

## MY SUCCESS PHILOSOPHY

**Embrace challenge and change. Operate with uncompromising personal and professional integrity.**

## EDUCATION

**B.A. Journalism; Minors: Business Administration & Spanish**

**Radford University**

📍 Radford, VA

## INTERESTS

- 🎾 Competitive tennis player
- ❤️ Global travel
- 👤 Sandra L. Brand, D.D.S.  
Director, Advisor

## McBride, Daysha (COC)

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**From:** Dr. Jay Hudson <jessicahudson70344@gmail.com>  
**Sent:** Tuesday, March 17, 2026 6:05 PM  
**To:** Applicants (Office of the Chair)  
**Subject:** Board Recruitment  
**Attachments:** Children%E2%80%99s%20trust.pdf.pdf

You don't often get email from jessicahudson70344@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

Dear Selection Committee,

My name is Dr. Jessica Hudson, and I am honored to submit my application for appointment to the Board of Directors of The Children's Trust. As a dedicated community leader, entrepreneur, and advocate for children and families in Miami-Dade County, I am deeply aligned with The Trust's mission to improve the health, safety, and development of children while strengthening families and communities.

With over a decade of experience in community-based services, I currently serve as the founder and operator of Hands on Development Home and Divine Educational Learning Academy. Through these organizations, I have worked directly with underserved populations, including youth, families, and individuals with disabilities, providing essential services such as healthcare support, education, mentorship, and workforce development.

My professional background includes extensive experience in grant writing and government contracting, where I have successfully secured funding through programs such as the Minority Business grants, public safety initiatives, and community development funding opportunities. This experience has strengthened my ability to contribute to fiscal planning, funding strategy, and program sustainability key responsibilities of board governance.

I bring a strong understanding of strategic planning, compliance, and community engagement. I am committed to enhancing public trust, advocating for equitable access to resources, and ensuring that programs funded by The Trust deliver measurable outcomes for children and families. My hands-on leadership style and community presence allow me to effectively connect policy decisions with real-world impact.

In addition, I understand the importance of fiduciary responsibility, organizational oversight, and supporting executive leadership. I am prepared to actively participate in board and committee meetings, provide thoughtful and constructive input, and uphold the highest standards of governance and accountability.

I am passionate about continuing to serve and uplift the community that has shaped me. I would be honored to bring my experience, voice, and dedication to The Children's Trust Board of Directors.

My work has consistently focused on securing resources, building programs, and advocating for policies that directly improve outcomes for children and families in Miami-Dade County. I am prepared to bring that same level of leadership and accountability to The Children's Trust Board.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to the opportunity to contribute to this important work.

Sincerely,  
Dr. Jessica Hudson

**Dr. Jessica Hudson, Ed.D.**  
Miami-Dade County, Florida  
(321) 430-8887 [Jessicahudson70344@gmail.com](mailto:Jessicahudson70344@gmail.com)

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**Application for Appointment to the Board of Directors  
The Children's Trust – Miami-Dade County**

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Accomplished nonprofit executive, educator, and community leader with over a decade of experience serving children, youth, and families throughout Miami-Dade County. Recognized as a **2025 South Florida Most Influential Black Business Leader**, I bring a proven track record in **grant acquisition, program development, fiscal oversight, and community engagement**.

My leadership spans education, healthcare, and nonprofit sectors, where she has successfully secured and managed multiple funding streams, including federally funded programs, while ensuring compliance and delivering measurable outcomes for underserved populations.

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### **Core Qualifications**

- Strategic Governance & Board Leadership
  - Government Grant Writing & Funding Acquisition
  - Budget Oversight & Fiscal Accountability
  - Youth Development & Family Advocacy
  - Public-Private Partnerships
  - Community Engagement & Outreach
  - Regulatory Compliance & Program Evaluation
- 

### **Key Highlights**

- Founder of multiple organizations serving **children, families, and vulnerable populations**
- Oversees programs impacting **100+ individuals annually**
- Manages **federally funded youth programs (USDA SFSP)** since 2020
- Recipient of multiple grants, including **Lowe's LISC, CARES Act, MDEAT, Mom and Pops Grant, BSO Grant, Safe Grant, Miami Hydration Grant, Broward Cares and Southern Black Girls & Women's Consortium funding and many micro grants**

- Active contributor to civic engagement initiatives, including work with Black Voters Matter, Trayvon Martin Foundation and youth advocacy organizations
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### **Awards**

2025 South Florida's Most Influential Black Business Leaders  
40 under 40 Florida Memorial University Alumni 2023  
40 under 40 Miami Legacy 2022  
WOSB Minority SBE/CBE Certified  
Secures funding, establishes biz and personal credit, helps w/ grants  
National Small Business Association Leadership Council Member  
City of Miami Gardens "Woman of Excellence" Recipient 2020  
City of Miami Gardens "COMMENDATION" Recipient 2020  
2018 BurgerFI Star Teacher Award  
Nonprofit Assistance Program 2020

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My professional and civic work directly aligns with the mission of The Children's Trust to improve the **health, safety, and development of children** while strengthening families and communities.

My commitment to equity, access, and opportunity ensures that all children, regardless of background, have the resources needed to thrive.

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**Dedicated to advancing policies, programs, and partnerships that create lasting impact for children and families in Miami-Dade County.**

## **Dr. Jessica Hudson, Ed.D.,**

1415 NW 206 Terrace, Miami, FL, 33169 (321) 430-8887 Jessicahudson70344@gmail.com

### **EXECUTIVE PROFILE**

Accomplished nonprofit executive, educator, and community leader with 10+ years of experience advancing youth development, family stability, and economic empowerment initiatives across Miami-Dade County. Recognized as one of South Florida's Most Influential Black Business Leaders (2025), with a proven track record of securing grant funding, managing federally funded programs, and leading community-based organizations that serve underserved children and families. Experienced in aligning public funding, policy, and community impact, with leadership roles spanning nonprofit governance, education, healthcare, and civic engagement.

### **EDUCATION**

#### **Doctorate of Education** in Higher Educational Leadership (2018)

- Nova Southeastern University, Davie, FL
- Minor: Human Administration
- Dissertation Topic: *Preparing High School Minority Students to Become College/ Career Ready: Within the Urban Community.*

#### **Masters in Science** in Exceptional Student Education (2011)

- Florida Memorial University, Miami, FL

#### **Bachelors of Art** in Sociology (2009)

- Florida Atlantic University, Boca Raton, FL

### **WORK EXPERIENCE**

Financial Contact, Summer Food Program

June 2019- Present

#### **Connections Divine INC.**, Miami, Florida

- Conduct moderately complex to complex consultative services and technical assistance work community and economic development programs administered by the Florida Department of Agriculture (FDA).
- Identify potential funding sources for the program, such as government grants, private donations, or fundraising activities.

- Responsible for tracking all program-related expenses and revenues and keeping accurate financial records.
- Prepare regular financial reports, which will include information such as revenue and expenses, budget vs. actual comparisons, and cash flow projections.
- Ensure that the program complies with all federal, state, and local financial regulations, including those related to accounting, taxation, and procurement.

Owner- Home healthcare Specialist, Caregiver, Companion Care, March 2018- Present

#### **Hands on Development, Broward and Miami- Dade County**

- Management experience and supervised 40 employees
- Facilitate the scheduling of finding the right companion for patients, and serve as the point of contact for payroll
- Worked on grants with other levels of management.
- Hire drivers to transport patients in Miami- Dade County.
- Planned fun excursions to enhance physical abilities and expose children to stimulating, educational activities
- Monitored playtime to prevent overuse of technology, television or other detrimental influences
- Tutored and assisted with homework, monitored for completion and guided with cognitive problem-solving.

Owner, December 2019- 2024

#### **Midnight Cookies and Cream- 2 Locations**

- Spearheaded the establishment and expansion of Midnight Cookies and Cream, overseeing all aspects of business development, including location scouting, lease negotiations, and market analysis.
- Directed daily operations at both locations, ensuring optimal efficiency and customer satisfaction. Managed inventory, staffing, scheduling, and vendor relations to uphold high standards of service.
- Implemented strategic financial planning and budgeting processes, monitored expenses, and optimized revenue streams to achieve profitability targets. Conducted regular financial analysis to identify opportunities for cost savings and revenue growth.
- Developed and executed marketing initiatives to enhance brand visibility and attract new customers. Utilized social media, email marketing, and promotional events to engage with the community and drive sales.
- Fostered strong relationships with customers, addressing inquiries, resolving issues, and soliciting feedback to continuously improve offerings and service quality.

- Recruited, trained, and motivated a dedicated team of employees, fostering a positive work environment and promoting professional development. Implemented performance evaluation systems and provided ongoing coaching to optimize team performance.
- Ensured compliance with health and safety regulations, food industry standards, and licensing requirements. Implemented policies and procedures to maintain cleanliness, sanitation, and food safety protocols.

Owner- Primary, Secondary and Adult Education

July 2017- Present

**Divine Educational Learning Academy**, Hillsborough, Broward and South Florida Counties

- Management experience and supervised 30 employees. Hire knowledgeable tutors in the Hillsborough and Miami- Dade County areas.
- Facilitate the scheduling of tutoring sessions, and serve as the point of contact for payroll.
- Worked on grants with other levels of management.
- Oversees the Tutors and monitors student progress.

History Instructor, Secondary Education

August 2014-June 2019

**Coconut Creek High School**, Broward County Schools District, Coconut Creek, Florida

- Develop and implement individual education plans for students with learning disabilities.
- Collaborate with parents, teachers, and community stakeholder in efforts to increase student success in educational placement.
- Create and facilitate lesson plans and maintain a consistent volume of high quality instruction with accuracy and professionalism.

Social Science Instructor, Secondary Education

April 2010-July 2014

**Miami Dade County Public School**, Miami, FL

- Designed scientific-based reading research strategies to enable students to develop the competencies and skills
- Administered formal and informal assessments to monitor student progress.
- Created and implemented lessons on various topics that promoted student participation and independent thinking.
- Differentiated instruction to meet the diverse needs of all student populations.
- Employed a host of techniques to help students retain and understand Information.
- Collaborated with parents, teachers, and community stakeholders in efforts to increase student success in educational placement.

Instructor, Secondary Education

September 2008- April 2010

**Broward County School Board, Fort Lauderdale, FL**

- Created and Implemented comprehensive life skills classes and behavioral modification classes.
- Monitored and supervised juvenile gang members and at-risk youth in order to refocus their paths.
- Mentored and trained at youth risk youth in various settings.
- Developed strategic service planning initiatives and utilize diversionary tactics for supervised youth.

**CIVIC ENGAGEMENT**

Administrative Assistant

March 2014- Ongoing

**Trayvon Martin Foundation, Miami Gardens, FL**

- Created workflow design for organization.
- Assisted with generating funds and budget.
- Oversaw locating local sponsors for charities and events.
- Helped with elderly and families of homicide.
- Administered surveys.

**MEDIA & PUBLICATIONS**

- Featured in Voyage Magazine (Entrepreneur & Community Leader Spotlight)
- Hudson, J. (2018). *Preparing High School Minority Students to Become College/ Career Ready: Within the Urban Community*. Fort Lauderdale, FL: Divine Connections Publishing.

**PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATIONS**

- Foster Parent
- Passion Rescue Mission Haiti
- Kappa Delta Pi
- National Council for the Social Studies
- Big Brother/Big Sister
- National Small Business Association – Leadership Council Member
- National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP)

**CORE BOARD COMPETENCIES**

- Governance & Strategic Leadership
- Government Funding & Grant Acquisition
- Fiscal Oversight & Budget Management

- Youth & Family Advocacy
- Public-Private Partnerships
- Compliance & Regulatory Oversight
- Community Engagement & Public Trust
- Program Development & Evaluation

#### **BOARD & PUBLIC LEADERSHIP EXPERIENCE**

- Community Advocate & Partner – Black Voters Matter (2016–Present)
- Former Administrative Support – Trayvon Martin Foundation (2012–2015; ongoing support)
- Volunteer & Supporter – Big Brothers Big Sisters of America
- U.S. Census Community Engagement Contributor (Outreach & Participation Support)
- Youth Cheerleading Coach & Mentor (Community-Based Programs)

#### **CERTIFICATIONS & PROFESSIONAL DESIGNATIONS**

- Minority/Women-Owned Business (MWBE/WOSB) Certified
- Small Business Enterprise (SBE) Certified
- Certified CPR Instructor (American Red Cross)

**March 10, 2026**

**Miami-Dade County Commission  
Stephen P. Clark Center**

111 NW 1st Street,  
Suite 250  
Miami, FL 33128

**Honorable Commissioners,**

As a former public servant in Miami-Dade County, also raised in Miami-Dade in the 80s and 90s and a product of our education system, I am applying to join the Children's Trust Board.

During my career in non-profits and public service, I have always sought to support children, and particularly public education and youth sports. In aligning with the Children's Trust mission, I feel I could now continue to contribute to these efforts by lending this experience to the Board, and more indirectly the youth of our community.

I had the honor of working with many of you during my time as Mayor of North Bay Village, which ran from 2018-2024. During that time, I worked closely with the Miami-Dade Public School System to support and improve our local school in North Bay Village.

Concretely, we worked in conjunction with the School Board and other elected officials, to champion what is considered by many at MDCPS to be an important and trail blazing initiative to revitalize Treasure Island Elementary School by bringing in investment in the school's green spaces and recreational infrastructure – a project that resulted in a third-party investment of nearly \$25 million to build playing fields, a park and a community center on the school grounds and an adjacent parcel of city-owned land.

Long before that project, I supported public education in international roles -- working first in Peru and then in Senegal, on projects focused on supporting the education journeys of children in extreme poverty.

Additionally, I currently have two children in public schools in Miami-Dade.

I'm sure you have many fine candidates for this important work. In case you decide that my experience and eagerness to further serve would be useful on the Board, it would be my pleasure to serve the County and its students and other constituents in this way.

Thank you for consideration,

Brent Walter Latham  
North Bay Village Mayor Emeritus  
7521 Beachview Drive  
North Bay Village, FL 33141  
305-951-4287

**MDC040**

## EXECUTION OF STRATEGIC GOVERNMENT RELATIONS PROJECTS, PR AND COMMUNICATIONS

- Strategic management for non-profit, government and enterprise in the areas of sports and entertainment, with specific focus on international soccer/football;
- Regional exposure worldwide, on-the-ground experience in the Americas & Caribbean, Europe, and Africa;
- Pride in building and managing teams, developing talent, and incorporating wide ranges of stakeholders to maximize outcomes;
- Skilled at balancing deliverables to produce results across a range of bottom line metrics including economic, social, environmental, and internal bottom lines;
- Highly specialized experience and network in media relations and broadcast related to international football and events;
- Bilingual in Spanish and English; conversational French and Portuguese.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPRIENCE

### Mayor, North Bay Village, Florida (November 2018 – November 2024)

- Termed out in 2024, served three terms as a publicly elected official and head of city government, representing a diverse village of nearly ten thousand citizens, including leadership of strategic projects, infrastructure matters, intergovernmental relations and administration.
- Led turnaround of a municipality historically ranked among the most corrupt in the region, instilling a top-down culture of ethics and transparency to facilitate economic and cultural growth.
- Acted as an ambassador for the city towards the business community, working on development, donor support and investment, towards a multi-billion-dollar revitalization of the city center and waterfront, and construction of multiple capital projects.
- Results driven and oriented including:
  - o Played a central role in attracting nearly \$4 billion of forward looking investment in the village,
  - o completed a master plan for projects including a waterfront walk and downtown streetscape revitalization,
  - o led a rebranding of the village to the “Heart of the Bay,”
  - o created a parks and recreation department that attends to hundreds of families from the city and surrounding municipalities, including a youth soccer program and travel team,
  - o initiated and led a complex, three-party agreement with the Argentine Football Association and Miami-Dade Public Schools to revitalize the local elementary school and adjacent city land with \$15 million investment in buildings, facilities and programming, including a community center,
  - o founded and chaired the Coastal Mayors Coalition, a regional effort to promote shared municipal efforts on preserving water quality in Biscayne Bay.

**CONCACAF, Miami, FL, USA. Head of Media. March 2013 – May 2018**

- Served as Confederation spokesperson and media point person on football matters.
- Provided media service support to Rights Partners and media members throughout the Confederation, in all of CONCACAF's 41 Member Associations.
- Developed, planned, budgeted and administered a communications outreach program designed to enhance results of press operations and media coverage in developing member nations across the Caribbean and Central America.
- Responsible for building broadcast services in the Confederation to better accommodate our Rights Holders (MRLs) in a manner that fully recognized their vital role as partners with the Confederation.
- Established communication strategies for maximum media exposure of confederation's events.
- Responsible for overseeing quality and execution all media operations of CONCACAF's events, including media set up, media credentialing, media backdrops, press kits, media gifts, media logistics, etc.
- Developed and drafted bilingual media documents, including press releases, media advisories, media guides, press kits, as well as manuals and guidelines for the Confederation's events (Congresses, Tournaments, Draws and Press Conference Announcements).
- On a tournament- specific basis, worked with LOC/Host MA personnel in developing and executing a PR plan to increase exposure for the tournament, including developing story lines for production, managing PR assets and leveraging opportunities with media and rights partners.
- Executive assistance and corporate communications duties for President and General Secretary as required.

**FIFA/HBS (External Contractor) World Cup Qatar 2022, World Cup Russia 2018, World Cup Brazil 2014**

- Assigned as a FIFA Media Officer for 2014 & 2018 World Cups, with responsibilities including managing team media opportunities, conducting press conferences, managing multi-lingual media access and areas, and facilitating media access and interaction.
- As a Broadcast Liaison Officer for the 2022 World Cup for Host Broadcast Systems, managed in stadium access for FIFA's Media Rights Licensees, match day and match day minus one media opportunities and access, and post-match opportunities with teams and officials.

**ESPN, Africa and Latin America Regional Reporter. January 2009 – January 2013**

- Based in Africa and later Central America, reported on football and football related activities throughout the region.
- Travelled to dozens of countries across Africa and Latin America and focusing coverage on the social impact of the game.
- Filed stories and Internet/video reports in English and Spanish.

**United Nations Office for West Africa**, Dakar, Senegal. Public Information Officer. April 2008 – December 2008

- Assisted the Coordinator of the Mixed Commission in public information issues related to the withdrawal and transfer of authority in the Bakassi peninsula.
- Provided information to the media on the understanding of technical matters related to the border dispute between two UN member states.
- Assisted the Coordinator of the Mixed Commission in the preparation of background material, drafted speeches and press releases, updated the website, coordinated with the Office of the Spokesperson of the Secretary- General.

**Supporting Kids in Peru (SKIP)**, Trujillo, La Libertad, Peru. Director. August 2005-January 2007.

- Serving as Director, managed a British NGO that provides educational support services to hundreds of Peruvian children and families in the Northern part of Peru, supervising a team of over 100 people.

**Emisoras Unidas**, Tegucigalpa D.F., Honduras, C.A. Broadcast Host. April 2002-August 2003.

- Hosted youth-oriented television programs, including a call-in show and an MTV style forum show.

### **/// SELECTED NON-PROFIT AND GOVERNMENT CONTRIBUTIONS ///**

**Peace Corps Honduras**, San Juan, Intibucá, Honduras, C.A. Micro Enterprise Development Volunteer. January 2000-March 2002.

- Supervised and consulted management at a regional savings and loan cooperative.
- Worked with subsistence and commodity crop farmers on increasing yields, improving profitability, and stabilizing cash flows.

**Hispanic Alliance for Free Trade**, Washington, DC. Communications Director. April 2005-August 2005.

- Managed relations with national and international press for a major free trade lobby, comprised of over 150 Hispanic business and social organizations.
- Coordinated major events, including a Presidential address with the White House and a press conference with the Office of the Speaker of the House.
- Served as group spokesperson dealing with media in English and Spanish

### **/// EDUCATION ///**

**Instituto de Empresa**, Madrid, Spain

- **International Master of Business Administration**, December 2007 *Concentration: CSR, NGO Management, and Social Entrepreneurship* **Fulbright Scholar**  
*President, Net Impact Social Responsibility Chapter Co-Chair, CSR Forum*

**Georgetown University**, Washington, DC, USA

- **Master of Foreign Service**, May 2005 *Concentration: Foreign Policy and Development*
  - *Karl F. Landlegger Honors Program in International Business-Government Relations*
  - *2004 Milton Wolf Seminar on Media and Diplomacy Fellow; Diplomatic Academy, Vienna, Austria*

# Mr. Josie (Coach J) Martinez

Email : Coachjmart03@gmail.com | Phone : 305-492-0903

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## ***Professional Summary***

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Visionary leader with 20+ years' executive experience in program management and organizational development. Skilled in strategic growth, collaboration, nonprofit management, fundraising, community engagement, compliance, and stakeholder relations. Proven ability to manage multimillion-dollar budgets and lead high-performing teams to achieve organizational goals.

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## ***Core Competencies***

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Strategic Leadership & Vision  
Program Development & Management  
Fundraising & Development  
Board Governance & Stakeholder Engagement  
Financial Management & Budget Oversight  
Team Building & Staff Development  
Compliance & Accreditation  
Community Outreach & Partnership Development

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## ***Professional Experience***

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### **Founder & Chief Executive Officer**

**M5 Connect, LLC. | Miami, FL**

**Oct 2025 – Present**

- Lead CPR, First Aid, AED, wellness education, and community programs.
- Direct business growth from concept through operational launch, including market research and branding.
- Develop and execute marketing strategies using digital and traditional channels to boost enrollment.
- Produce clear communications for web, social media, email, and outreach to support the mission.
- Design and deliver health and safety training for diverse groups.
- Build partnerships with local organizations, schools, and businesses to expand wellness initiatives.
- Manage projects end-to-end, ensuring service quality and customer satisfaction.

**Chief Executive Officer**  
**Hope for Miami | Miami, FL**  
**Jan 2022 – 2025**

- Led alignment of organizational goals with the mission for long-term success.
- Managed daily operations, optimized resources, and ensured financial stability.
- Oversaw strategic planning, program execution, and accreditation compliance.
- Built support from individuals, foundations, and corporations to boost fundraising.
- Supervised and developed internal teams to maximize impact and collaboration.
- Promoted the organization at public events and meetings.
- Collaborated with the Board to establish policies and operational plans.

**Vice President/Chief Operating Officer**  
**Hope for Miami | Miami, FL**  
**July 2020 – Jan 2022**

- Oversaw agency programs and public funding contracts, ensuring compliance and sustainability.
- Directed grant writing, proposals, and accreditation.
- Managed program staff for quality delivery and development.
- Served as Health & Safety and Data Security Officer, maintaining compliance.
- Created policies and procedures to drive expansion and operational excellence.

**Director – Out-of-School & Disability Services**  
**Hope for Miami | Miami, FL**  
**Oct 2018 – July 2020**

- Supervised 4 Program Managers and 65 part-time staff, supporting over 1,000 children and youth annually.
- Managed a \$2M budget and negotiated contracts with funders.
- Built new partnerships through community engagement.
- Monitored outcomes to ensure programs exceeded goals.

**Program Manager – Project U-Turn**  
**Hope for Miami | Miami, FL**  
**Sep 2015 – Oct 2018**

- Directed a sexual risk avoidance program for 5,000+ youth in Miami-Dade County.
- Managed budgets and maintained funder compliance.
- Presented at assemblies, parent events, and community forums.

**Health Educator – Project U-Turn**  
**Hope for Miami | Miami, FL**  
**Feb 2015 – Sep 2015**

- Collaborated with educational institutions and youth centers to implement a curriculum focused on sexual risk avoidance for adolescents.
- Facilitated workshops for parents and adult mentors to support the advancement of program goals.

**Mentor/Coach**

**Up2Us (Coaches Across America) | Miami, FL**

**2014 – 2015**

- Mentored K-12 youth in Overtown through sports-based development.
- Received training in Sports-based Youth Development and assisted with Up2Us Veterans Initiative.

**Aerospace Medical Tech/Recruiter/Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge**

**United States Air Force | Various Locations, United States**

**1998 – 2013**

- Oversaw career advancement for enlisted members and spearheaded recruitment by implementing targeted promotional strategies.
- Provided instruction in medical procedures, disaster readiness, and life support to both military and civilian staff.
- Administered patient care, diagnostic evaluations, and medical treatments with accuracy and professionalism.

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***Education***

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Bachelor of Science in Physical Education: Sports and Fitness Studies  
Florida International University, Miami, FL (2013)

Associate in Applied Science: Human Resource Management  
Community College of the Air Force, Maxwell Gunter AFB, AL (2011)

Associate of Arts  
Broward College, Pembroke Pines, FL (2010)



March 10, 2026

Chairman Anthony Rodriguez  
Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners  
111 NW 1st Street  
Miami, FL 33128

Dear Chairman Rodriguez,

The Children's Trust plays a vital role in ensuring that Miami-Dade's children have access to programs that support healthy development, safety, and opportunity. I recognize the importance of stewarding public resources with transparency, responsibility, and a focus on measurable outcomes for the children and families of our county. I would welcome the opportunity to contribute my experience in partnership building, community engagement, and mission-driven leadership to support the Board's oversight and strategic direction. This is why, by means of this letter, I respectfully submit my candidacy for appointment to the Board of Directors of The Children's Trust. As a Miami-Dade resident and social impact executive whose career has focused on strengthening systems that support children and families, I would be honored to contribute my experience to the Trust's mission.

In my current role as Executive Director of the Univision Foundation, I lead initiatives that connect media, community organizations, and public and private partners to address critical needs affecting children and families. Our work focuses on expanding opportunity through education and economic mobility, improving health and well-being, and strengthening civic participation and community voice. By building partnerships with nonprofits, academic institutions, and local leaders, we translate community priorities into programs that connect families with trusted resources and support.

Earlier in my career, I served as Executive Director of Make-A-Wish Puerto Rico, where I led the organization's operations and worked closely with hospitals, physicians, and social workers to support children facing serious medical conditions. That experience reinforced my commitment to child-centered systems that protect dignity, strengthen families, and coordinate care across institutions.

My professional background has also included work across multiple countries through Bethany Christian Services, supporting adoption and foster care systems and programs serving migrant and refugee families. Working alongside international partners provided a broader perspective on how communities respond to complex challenges affecting children. It strengthened my belief that effective local solutions benefit from learning across systems, cultures, and disciplines. These experiences have helped me

8551 NW 30 Terr. Miami, FL 33172  
T. 305.998.8410

MDC047

approach community challenges with both humility and vision, bringing practical insight while remaining grounded in the specific needs of the families we serve locally in Miami-Dade.

I have also served the public during moments of crisis. As a Public Information Officer during the federal response to Hurricane Irma, I supported coordination between government agencies, media, and communities during disaster recovery. That experience deepened my understanding of public accountability and the importance of clear, trusted communication when families depend on public institutions.

Thank you for your consideration. I would be honored to serve and to support the continued impact of The Children's Trust on behalf of Miami-Dade's children and families.

Respectfully,

*-imi*

**Irisaida Méndez Iriarte**

Executive Director

# IRISAIDA MÉNDEZ IRIARTE

Miami, FL 33172

305-998-8410 | irisaida@gmail.com

LinkedIn: linkedin.com/in/irisaida

## EXECUTIVE PROFILE

Bilingual (English/Spanish) social impact executive with 10+ years leading complex, multi-stakeholder initiatives across Latin America, Africa and the U.S. Builds high-performing teams and cross-sector partnerships that deliver measurable outcomes in humanitarian, health-adjacent, and public-facing environments.

Recognized for turning mission into execution by aligning strategy, communications, and operations to drive clear priorities, accountable ownership, and results at scale. Experienced navigating multi-actor ecosystems while embedding dignity, safeguarding, and community trust into programs and communications.

## CORE STRENGTHS

- Multi-country leadership & operating cadence: align distributed teams around shared priorities, decision rights, and a unified operating picture across programs and regions.
- Platform design & ecosystem orchestration: Build scalable initiatives that align media, philanthropy, community partners and institutions around shared outcomes, turning strategy into coordinated action and measurable results.
- Product ownership & multiplatform delivery: lead end-to-end development of initiatives, from concept and partner alignment to launch to performance tracking across media and community platforms.
- Whole Child systems lens: Integrate protection, prevention/family strengthening, education, health, and pathways to adulthood through human-centered, culturally responsive design.
- Execution-driven partnerships: (NGO, government, corporate, academic, and multilateral actors) and translate them into coordinated delivery with shared accountability.
- Governance-ready leadership: Trusted partner to boards and senior stakeholders; drive performance reporting, transparency, risk awareness, and organizational durability.
- Crisis leadership & public voice: Provide calm command during high-stake moments coordinating rapid response, managing reputational risk, and serving as a credible spokesperson.
- Safeguarding & dignity in storytelling: Advance responsible narrative practices grounded in services, systems-change, and evidence-based monitoring.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

### Executive Director, Univision Foundation

Miami, FL

- Lead a multi-pillar social impact portfolio reaching millions of U.S. Hispanic audiences across through Univision's media platforms, advancing initiatives across Health, Wealth (education & economic mobility), and Voice (civic engagement/storytelling).
- Build and mobilize cross-sector alliances with nonprofit, corporate, academic, and public sector partners to co-design and deliver programs with clear execution plans, defined roles, and accountability, connecting media reach with on-the-ground services and resources.
- Establish operating cadence across internal teams and partners (priorities, timelines, performance indicators), strengthening delivery consistency across markets and activations.
- Serve as a public-facing leader and spokesperson, ensuring communications and storytelling uphold safeguarding, dignity, cultural competence, and community trust.

### **Executive Director, Make-A-Wish Puerto Rico**

San Juan, Puerto Rico

- Directed organization-wide operations and team performance, strengthening governance readiness, mission delivery, and stakeholder confidence.
- Partnered with hospitals, physicians, and social workers to coordinate support for medically vulnerable children, aligning services with care protocols, family needs, and child-centered safeguarding.
- Led cross-functional staff and volunteer leadership improving execution reliability and quality of service delivery.

### **Global Communications & Marketing Director, Bethany Christian Services**

U.S. & International

- Helped advance multi-country adoption and foster care initiatives aligning in-country teams, partners, and systems to strengthen safe permanency pathways for children and caregiver support in family-based care systems.
- Coordinated communications and partnerships across humanitarian initiatives advancing wraparound services for migrants and refugees in walkers' routes.
- Translated field realities into operational communications and partner-ready narratives, strengthening coordination and delivery of humanitarian aid efforts.
- Led advocacy and narrative-change initiatives to reduce stigma, elevate community voice, and strengthen trust in child- and family-serving systems.
- Supported youth development and leadership programming by shaping strategy, communications, and partnership coordination to expand access, participation, and opportunity.

### **Public Information Officer (External Affairs), FEMA —**

Hurricanes Irma and Maria | Central & South Florida

- Led Hispanic media relations and supported intergovernmental coordination during disaster relief operations; supported clear public communication and stakeholder alignment under crisis conditions.

### **Tocqueville Society (Major Gifts) Leadership, United Way**

Miami, FL

- Managed donor relationships and volunteer leadership, achieving 100% renewal of \$10,000+ gifts through strategic cultivation, engagement and stewardship.

### **ADVOCACY & VOLUNTEER LEADERSHIP**

- **Health Advocate and LUNG FORCE Representative (Florida):** spokesperson and trainer for patient advocates; lead community engagement and policy advocacy in support of lung health.
- **Latino Leadership Council | Compassion & Choices:** advocate for culturally competent end-of-life care planning and community education.

### **EDUCATION**

M.A. Labor & Industrial Relations – Interamerican University of Puerto Rico

B.A. Communications – Seton Hill University

Dr. Judith Oriental-Pierre, MD  
Miami, Florida  
[Judithoriental@gmail.com](mailto:Judithoriental@gmail.com)  
(754) 422-0655

February 26, 2026

Board Recruitment Committee  
The Children's Trust  
Miami-Dade County, Florida

Dear Members of the Board Recruitment Committee,

I am writing to express my strong interest in serving on the Board of Directors for The Children's Trust. As an Emergency Medicine physician, educator, and Executive Director and Medical Director of the Roxcy Bolton Rape Treatment Center at Jackson Memorial Hospital, I have dedicated my career to protecting, advocating for, and improving outcomes for children and families across Miami-Dade County. I am deeply aligned with The Children's Trust's mission to invest in the well-being of our community's children and to create equitable opportunities for them to thrive.

In my role at the Roxcy Bolton Rape Treatment Center, a program that has served Miami-Dade residents for over 50 years, I oversee medical forensic care, crisis intervention, prevention initiatives, and multidisciplinary partnerships addressing child abuse, sexual violence, and human trafficking. I work closely with law enforcement, child protection teams, schools, victim advocates, and community organizations to ensure that vulnerable children receive trauma-informed, culturally competent care. My daily work requires strategic leadership, fiscal oversight, grant development, data tracking, and compliance with state and federal regulations—experience that directly translates to effective board governance and fiduciary responsibility.

Beyond clinical leadership, I serve as core faculty for the University of Miami/Jackson Health System Emergency Medicine Residency and as an Affiliated Assistant Professor. My academic and teaching roles have strengthened my ability to evaluate programs, interpret data, and develop systems that improve access, quality, and sustainability. I also serve on Miami-Dade's Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team and Child Abuse Death Review, where I collaborate across sectors to identify systemic gaps and implement prevention strategies. These experiences have given me a county-wide perspective on the social determinants affecting children's safety, education, and health outcomes.

As a bilingual physician (English, Haitian Creole, and proficient Spanish), I am deeply connected to the diverse communities that The Children's Trust serves. I understand

firsthand the importance of culturally responsive programming, community trust, and accessible services—particularly for immigrant, underserved, and historically marginalized populations in Miami-Dade.

I am particularly drawn to The Children’s Trust’s commitment to prevention, early intervention, and measurable impact. My leadership approach is data-driven and collaborative. I have extensive experience working within complex public systems, advocating for sustainable funding, and ensuring accountability while keeping the needs of children at the center of every decision. I would welcome the opportunity to contribute to strategic planning, policy development, community engagement, and long-term impact initiatives that advance the Trust’s vision.

It would be an honor to serve on the Board of Directors and to bring my clinical expertise, governance experience, and unwavering commitment to children and families in Miami-Dade County. Thank you for your consideration. I look forward to the opportunity to further discuss how I can contribute to The Children’s Trust’s mission.

Respectfully,

Judith Oriental-Pierre, MD

## Judith Oriental-Pierre, MD

University of Miami - Emergency Medicine Residency  
Jackson Memorial Hospital – Department of Emergency Medicine  
1611 NW 12<sup>TH</sup> Avenue, Miami, FL 33136  
Cell: (754) 422-0655 Email: Judithoriental@gmail.com

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### EDUCATION

#### **Ross University School of Medicine**

- Doctor of Medicine
- High Honors

Barbados  
May 2013 - November 2016

#### **Florida Atlantic University**

- Bachelor of Science in Chemistry
- Cum Laude

Boca Raton, FL  
August 2006 - May 2009

#### **Miami Dade College**

- Associate of Science in Chemistry

Miami, FL  
June 2003 - July 2006

### POSTGRADUATE TRAINING

#### **University of South Florida Emergency Medicine Residency**

Ultrasound Fellow - Emergency Medicine

Tampa, FL  
July 2021 – June 2022

#### **University of Connecticut Emergency Medicine Residency**

Chief Resident - Emergency Medicine

Farmington, CT  
July 2020 – June 2021

#### **University of Connecticut Emergency Medicine Residency**

Resident - Emergency Medicine

Farmington, CT  
July 2018 – June 2021

- Intern of the year (2018)
- Resident Teacher of the year (2019)
- Philip A Stent, MD Award (2021)
- For demonstrated excellence in leadership, scholarship, interpersonal skills and clinical excellence
- Emergency Medicine Research Award (2021)

#### **Brandon Regional Hospital/HCA**

Transitional Year

Brandon, FL  
July 2017 - June 2018

### PROFESSIONAL LICENSES AND BOARD CERTIFICATION

#### **Medical Licensure**

Florida ME148883 (2021-2023)  
Connecticut #60618 (2018 - 2021)  
Florida #TRN25249 (2017 - 2019)

#### **Skills**

##### Language

- English: Native
- Haitian-Creole: Native
- Spanish: Proficient

##### Certified Victim Advocate

- Human Trafficking Practitioner
- Victims Services Practitioner

##### Sexual Assault Forensic Examiner

**ACADEMIC APPOINTMENTS**

<b>University of Miami</b> <i>Affiliated Assistant Professor – Department of Surgery</i>	Miami, FL July 2022 – Present
<b>University of South Florida</b> <i>Assistant Professor – Department of Emergency Medicine</i>	Tampa, FL July 2021 – Present
<b>University of Connecticut</b> <i>Diversity and Inclusion Committee, Chair</i> <i>Curriculum Committee, Member</i> <i>Resident and Fellow Forum, Chair</i> <i>Graduate Medical Education Committee, Member</i>	Farmington, CT July 2019 – June 2020 July 2019 – June 2021 July 2019 – June 2021 July 2019 – June 2021

**OTHER APPOINTMENTS**

<b>University of Miami/Jackson Health System Emergency Medicine Residency Program</b> <i>Core Faculty – Department of Emergency Medicine</i>	Miami, FL July 2022 – Present
<b>Jackson Memorial Hospital</b> <i>Attending Physician – Department of Emergency Medicine</i>	Miami, FL February 2022 – Present
<b>Homestead Hospital</b> <i>Attending Physician – Department of Emergency Medicine</i>	Miami, FL October 2023 – Present
<b>Roxy Bolton Rape Treatment Center/Jackson Memorial Hospital</b> <i>Executive Director</i>	Miami, FL October 2024 – Present
<b>Roxy Bolton Rape Treatment Center/Jackson Memorial Hospital</b> <i>Medical Director</i>	Miami, FL April 2022 – Present
<b>Tampa General Hospital</b> <i>Attending Physician – Department of Emergency Medicine</i>	Tampa, FL July 2021 – Present
<b>Domestic Violence Fatality Review Team (DVFRT) and Child Abuse Death Review (CADR)</b> <i>Member</i>	Miami, FL July 2022 - Present
<b>University of Miami's Project Freedom (Human Trafficking Initiative)</b> <i>Faculty Advisor</i>	Miami, FL July 2022 - Present

**PROFFESIONAL MEMBERSHIPS**

Emergency Medicine Residents Association (2018 - Present)  
 American College of Emergency Physicians (2015 - Present)  
 American Academy of Emergency Medicine (2015 - Present)  
 Society of Academic Emergency Medicine (2015 – Present)  
 American Medical Association (2013 - Present)

**NON-CLINICAL RESEARCH EXPERIENCE**

<b>Bioresource Technology Inc.</b> Research and Development Chemist	Miramar, FL March 2009 – May 2013
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Conducted research and development projects for Basematrix materials, control, linearity, and proficiency panels for the diagnostic and IVD industries</li> <li>Assisted on a project focused on “Negative” plasma pools and Disease State plasma products for both human use and veterinary care for animals</li> </ul>	

- Worked on experiments that isolated and manufactured human, HbA1C, HDL and LDL cholesterol

#### University of Miami Leonard M. Miller School of Medicine

Volunteer Research Assistant

Miami, FL

February 2011 – June 2011

- Conducted research project under the supervision of Dr. Lina Shehedah, PhD
- Investigated microRNA (miR-30e) and its influence on Cardiovascular disease.
- Conducted research on the effect of miR-30e on cholesterol biosynthesis and HMGCR in atherogenic mice
- Assisted in identifying the downregulation of mechanism of miR-30e

#### PUBLICATIONS AND PRESENTATIONS

1. **Oriental-Pierre J**, Fain H, Bahadorani M, Villanueva S What's Good for the Goose is Good for the Gander: A Case of Male Breast Cancer; Brandon Regional Hospital
2. Bhavsar, Urvi., & Bryan, Mara Nicole., & Ekonomidis, Marilyn., & **Oriental-Pierre, Judith.**, & Shah, Akash., & Siddiqui, Fatima., & Tran, Hannie. (March, 2014). "Differential Diagnosis of Cadaveric Seborrheic Keratosis" Poster presented at: Ross Research Day; Portsmouth, DMA.
3. Mary Raymond, Ramon Docobo, Nishant Dagli, **Judith Oriental-Pierre**, David Sukhai, Ian Musgrave, Sergio Martinez "An Unusual Rash in Florida" ACP Florida 2018
4. **Judith Oriental-Pierre**, Ayesha Gittens, Melissa F Smith, Andrew Kropp, Trent She "Ability of Prehospital Providers to Identify Findings on Extended Focused Assessment With Sonography for Trauma (eFAST) Examination After a Focused Educational Session" Abstract presented at: SAEM's New England Regional Meeting (NERDS) 21, Mount Sinai West/Morningside Regional Ultrasound Symposium 2021, SAEM 21
5. Brock Chimileski, Zachary Boivin, **Judith Oriental-Pierre**, Sharon Smith "Utilization of Brief Screening to Assess Food Insecurity in the Emergency Department" Abstract presented at: SAEM's New England Regional Meeting (NERDS) 21, SAEM 21
6. **Judith Oriental-Pierre**, Not All That Wheezes. Presentation at Gulfcoast Ultrasound Institute March 4, 2022
7. **Judith Oriental-Pierre**, Renal Point of Care Ultrasound. Guest lecture/Grands Round Presentation University of South Florida August 11, 2022
8. Ayesha Gittens, **Judith Oriental-Pierre**, Melissa F Smith, Trent She "Impact of Virtual Compared to In-Person Ultrasound Education for Prehospital Providers" Abstract presented at - 2022 Annual Regional Ultrasound Symposium by The Emergency Ultrasound Divisions of Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai - April 27, 2022, SAEM's New England Regional Meeting (NERDS) 22 - April 6, 2022 and SAEM 2022 May 12, 2022
9. **Judith Oriental-Pierre**, Allyson Hansen, Charlotte Derr : IVC Chapter : Point-of-Care Ultrasound Compendium Textbook
10. Laksmy Castillo, Juhi Varshney, Makena Own, Lilien Socorro, Francesca Rios and **Judith Oriental-Pierre** "Improving Physician Satisfaction and Sign Out Efficiency Through a Standardized Sign Out Process" Presented at 2023 Jackson QI showcase
11. **Oriental-Pierre, J.**, & Hansen, A., & Derr, C., (2023). Chapter 7: IVC Ultrasound. In T. Wu., & E. Westfell. (Ed.), *Multidisciplinary Point-of-Care Ultrasound (POCUS) Compendium* (pp. 317-362). New York: Oxford University Press.
12. Debra T. Linfield, MD, MS, Judith Oriental-Pierre, MD (2026) "Supporting Pregnant and Pumping Emergency Medicine Residents" EMRA *EMResident* (online). Wellness section. Published 11/3/2025 and *EMResident*. January/February/March 2026:45-46

#### HOSPITAL TEACHING ROLES

1. "GOAT Sessions" University of Connecticut Emergency Medicine Residency Biweekly Didactics: Twenty 60-90 minute sessions resident-directed learning sessions and on peer review of emergency medicine cases for emergency medicine residents. (07/2020 - Present)
2. University of Connecticut School of Medicine – Ultrasound teaching sessions: Two full days Hands-On Emergency Medicine Ultrasound
  1. Ultrasound Spring Home Week April 2019 – Medical students
  2. POCUS Hands-On Session May 2019 – Medical students
  3. Ultrasound Bootcamp July 2019 – Residents
  4. Ultrasound Fall Home Week October 2019 – Medical students
  5. Ultrasound Bootcamp July 2020 – Residents
  6. UConn 4<sup>th</sup> year medical student procedure session April 2021 – Medical students
  7. Kickoff Hands-On Ultrasound session April 2021 – Medical students
3. University of South Florida – Ultrasound teaching session
  1. 2021 PGY-1 US EM Course – Two full days of Hands-On Emergency Medicine Ultrasound – July 2021
  2. eFAST lecture and Hands-On Ultrasound – November 2021
4. Gulfcoast Ultrasound Institute – Ultrasound teaching session
  1. September 2021 – Hands-On Cardiac Ultrasound session – Learners from across the USA
  2. November 2021 – Hands-On Ultrasound session (Cardiac, Ultrasound guided Peripheral IV placement, and Nerve) – Learners from across the USA

#### **AWARDS**

1. JMH Clinical Educator of the Year – Jackson Health System in affiliation with University of Miami Miller School of Medicine & Holy Cross Hospital – Emergency Medicine Residency Program 2023-2024
2. Champion in Healthcare Award – March 2025
3. Certificate of Special Congressional Recognition for work as the Medical Director at Roxcy Bolton Rape Treatment Center Jackson Memorial Hospital – March 2025
4. 2025 Top 20 Under 40 Young Professionals - Haitian American Chamber of Commerce of Florida (HACCOF) – September 2025

Favila Paulos Budyszewick  
8601 SW 16 Street  
Miami, FL 33155

March 19, 2026

**Chairman Anthony Rodriguez**  
**Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners**

Office of the Commission Chairman  
111 NW 1st Street  
Miami, FL 33128

I am writing to express my interest in serving on the Board of Directors for The Children's Trust. As a Miami-Dade native, born and raised in this community, this opportunity is especially meaningful to me. I care deeply about the well-being of children and families in our county, and much of my professional and personal work has been centered on supporting them.

I have previously had the privilege of serving as a board member for the Children's Home Society, where I gained experience in governance, advocacy, and resource stewardship. In addition, I am the co-founder of A Sweet Chance, a local nonprofit dedicated to celebrating milestone birthdays for children in foster care. Through this work, I have seen firsthand how small, thoughtful efforts can create a sense of dignity, normalcy, and joy for children who need it most. My connection to this work is also personal, as I am the parent of four adopted children, three of whom came through the foster care system here in Miami-Dade County. That experience has deepened my understanding of both the challenges and the opportunities to better support children and families.

My work in local schools, including leadership roles at Gulliver Preparatory School and Temple Beth Am, has given me a direct and ongoing connection to students, families, and educators. I have worked closely with leadership and boards to guide strategic initiatives, strengthen communication, and support long-term planning in ways that reflect both institutional priorities and community needs. In that role, I have also served as a community liaison for neurodiverse initiatives, advocating for inclusive programming and working with local partners to expand access to resources for children and adults with autism and other developmental disabilities.

Over the course of my career, I have worked at the intersection of public health, education, and community engagement. I have partnered with healthcare organizations, schools, and advocacy groups to better understand the needs of the communities they serve and to help translate those insights into strategies that improve access,

understanding, and outcomes. Whether working with patient groups, supporting public health initiatives, or leading communications efforts within educational institutions, my focus has always been on ensuring that decisions are grounded in real experience and lead to meaningful impact.

Across all my work, one principle has remained constant: people respond to what they trust. When organizations listen, communicate clearly, and stay connected to the communities they serve, better outcomes follow. I would bring that perspective, along with my experience and commitment to this community, to the work of The Children's Trust.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I welcome the opportunity to contribute to the continued impact of The Children's Trust and to support its mission on behalf of the children and families of Miami-Dade County.

Sincerely,



Favila Paulos Budyszewick

Public health and communications strategist with more than 20 years of experience working across healthcare, education, and nonprofit sectors. Native Miamian with a strong commitment to improving outcomes for children and families in Miami-Dade County. Parent of three children adopted from foster care in Miami-Dade and a child on the autism spectrum. Experienced board member and executive leader with a track record of aligning strategy, community needs, and stakeholder engagement. Known for building trust across diverse audiences and guiding initiatives in complex, high-stakes environments.

## **Board & Community Leadership**

### **1/17–Present: A Sweet Chance (Nonprofit – Foster Care Support, Miami, FL)**

#### Co-Founder

- Co-founded a nonprofit dedicated to celebrating milestone birthdays for children in foster care, creating meaningful experiences that foster a sense of normalcy, dignity, and joy.
- Mobilize community volunteers and resources to deliver personalized celebrations for youth, strengthening connection and support around vulnerable children.
- Lead efforts to build partnerships and expand awareness to increase reach and impact within the foster care community.

### **5/14–2/18: Children’s Home Society of Florida (Nonprofit – Child Welfare Organization)**

#### Board Member

- Contributed to governance, strategic planning, and oversight of programs supporting children and families
- Participated in discussions related to resource allocation, community impact, and organizational priorities
- Supported initiatives focused on improving outcomes for vulnerable children and strengthening family support systems

### **10/21–2024: FEMCITY® (Professional Network – Community & Economic Empowerment, Miami, FL)**

#### Philanthropy Chair (Miami)

- Led philanthropic initiatives and community partnerships to support economic empowerment and local impact efforts
- Collaborated with members and local organizations to identify and advance initiatives aligned with community needs
- Supported fundraising and engagement efforts to expand reach and effectiveness of programs

**4/07–Present: Paul & Zewick Associates, LLC**

Founder, Managing Partner

Through Paul & Zewick Associates LLC., I support large and small clients in helping to improve their business goals. As a Strategic **Marketing & Communications** Consultant, I work through established firms to provide senior level support on a diverse portfolio of projects, specializing in strategic counsel, crisis communications and integrated communications efforts. Over the years, projects have included:

- **Global Public Health Policy** on behalf of *Policy Wisdom, LLC & Fleishman Hillard*: Led global and local public health initiatives in partnership with policymakers, advocacy organizations, and healthcare stakeholders, strengthening alignment and improving engagement across diverse populations. Directed international market research efforts to inform strategy and support public health initiatives.
- **Public Relations Support for Local Hospitals** on behalf of Boardroom Communications & rbb Public Relations: Led US Hispanic media relations for Palmetto General Hospital, Hialeah Hospital, Coral Gables Hospital, North Shore Hospital's FMC and North Miami campuses and Cleveland Clinic Florida.
- **Fashion and Beauty** on behalf of Fleishman Hillard: Provided senior strategic counsel, media outreach, and spokesperson training for major brands including Target and Procter & Gamble Beauty (Olay, CoverGirl, Pantene), leading multicultural communications initiatives that built deep insight into women's decision-making, cultural context, and the behavioral factors that influence choices within families and communities.
- Strategic Lead on **Multicultural Consumer Accounts** for on behalf of República: Led strategic direction and implementation for multicultural initiatives including AARP and Goya Foods, developing community-centered outreach strategies across Hispanic, African American, and Asian audiences, grounded in cultural insight and an understanding of the behavioral factors that influence decision-making within families and communities.

**7/22–Present: Temple Beth Am (Nonprofit - Reform Synagogue, Day School and Cultural Arts Center)**

Director of Marketing & Communications (Miami, FL)

Lead marketing, communications, and strategic engagement efforts for one of the largest reform congregations and educational institutions in the Southeast, serving a diverse, multigenerational community of families and children across Miami-Dade County.

- Partner with senior leadership and board members to advance key strategic initiatives, ensuring alignment with community needs and institutional priorities; Identify and segment key audiences to improve engagement, participation, and long-term community involvement.
- Directed a comprehensive rebranding effort, including development of new identity, messaging, and communications platforms to strengthen connection with families and stakeholders.
- Restructured the marketing and communications function to better support organizational growth, transparency, and effective outreach.
- Serve as a community liaison for neurodiverse initiatives, advocating for inclusive programming including instructional swimming and summer camp experiences for children with autism and other developmental disabilities
- Partner with local leaders and organizations to expand access to resources, including bringing Commissioner Raquel Regalado's Inclusive Community Resource Fair to campus and supporting ongoing collaboration with organizations such as Autism Speaks.

**4/17–9/21: Gulliver Preparatory School (Nonprofit - Leading National Independent School PK3-12)**

Director of Marketing & Communications (Miami, FL)

Led marketing, communications, and strategic positioning for one of the nation's leading independent schools serving PK3–12 students and families in Miami-Dade County, strengthening institutional reputation and community engagement.

- Partnered with senior leadership and board members to advance strategic initiatives impacting student experience, family engagement, and institutional growth.
- Directed comprehensive research and rebranding efforts, including development of a new identity, messaging, and communications platforms to better reflect the school's mission and values.
- Developed and implemented a strategic plan to strengthen brand reputation, improve constituent satisfaction, and support long-term enrollment goals.
- Identified opportunities to position the school as a thought leader within the Miami community and in the field of K–12 education.
- Ensured alignment across stakeholders, balancing institutional priorities with the needs and expectations of students, families, and faculty.

**9/05–4/07: UPS (Global Provider of Specialized Transportation and Logistics Services)**

Marketing Communications Supervisor (Miami, FL)

- Led strategic marketing communications across Latin America and the Caribbean, overseeing multi-country campaigns and coordinating with corporate, regional, and local stakeholders.
- Directed development of customer communications and strategic messaging across 40+ markets, ensuring consistency, clarity, and alignment with business objectives.
- Managed crisis communications for customer-facing operations, developing messaging and guidance for senior leadership and frontline teams during high-pressure situations.

**1/02–9/05: Fleishman Hillard International Communications (Public Relations Firm)**

Account Supervisor (Coral Gables, FL)

- Led development and implementation of strategic communications initiatives across healthcare, public sector, and consumer accounts for one of the world's leading global communications firms.
- Partnered with the Miami-Dade County Health Department to support a public-private initiative focused on improving patient-provider communication, including the "Ask Me 3" campaign designed to empower patients to better understand and manage their care.
- Conducted a cultural audit for the University of Miami's Sylvester Comprehensive Cancer Center to improve accessibility and patient experience for non-English-speaking populations, informing more inclusive and effective engagement strategies.
- Managed complex, multi-stakeholder projects, working closely with clients, internal teams, and community partners to ensure alignment and successful execution.

**4/00–1/02: Weber Shandwick Worldwide (Public Relations Firm)**

Program Manager (Coral Gables, FL)

- Developed and managed strategic communications programs for clients targeting U.S. Hispanic and Ibero-American audiences, with work spanning healthcare, tourism, telecommunications, and consumer sectors.
- Provided communications counsel, media training, and executive positioning support to senior leaders across a diverse client portfolio, including Medtronic, Telefónica B2B, the Dominican Republic Tourism Board, Disney On Ice, the National Pork Board, and Burger King.
- Served as an in-house consultant for a top-tier client while managing the broader agency-client relationship and ensuring alignment across strategy, messaging, and execution.
- Helped organizations strengthen brand clarity and audience connection in culturally diverse markets through thoughtful, insight-driven communications strategies.

**8/99–4/00: Beacon Health Plans (Healthcare Insurance Provider)**

Corporate Communications Manager (Coral Gables, FL)

- Managed communications, marketing, and community outreach for a Miami-based healthcare organization serving diverse patient populations.
- Led development and execution of campaigns to support Medicare and Medicaid enrollment, improving access to care for vulnerable individuals and families.
- Partnered with local organizations and coordinated community events, including health fairs and outreach initiatives, to strengthen engagement and public awareness.
- Directed brand positioning and communications efforts across advertising and public relations, ensuring clarity and consistency in messaging.
- Renegotiated media contracts, achieving significant cost efficiencies while maintaining market reach and effectiveness.

**1/95–5/99: Humana, Incorporated, (Healthcare Insurance Provider)**

Senior Marketing Manager, Diversity - Marketing/Business Development (Louisville, KY)

- Selected to establish and lead the organization's first Diversity Marketing function, later promoted to Senior Marketing Manager based on performance and impact.
- Developed and executed the company's first national Spanish-language advertising initiative, informed by a deep understanding of Medicare and Medicaid populations and their unique needs.
- Led national marketing strategies focused on diverse populations across 20+ markets, improving engagement, access, and retention.
- Managed a marketing budget exceeding \$8 million, aligning business objectives with community needs and growth priorities.
- Partnered with regional teams and external agencies to drive enrollment growth and improve cost efficiency across targeted markets.
- Established standards for culturally and linguistically appropriate communications, improving consistency and effectiveness across multiple regions.

**1/95-12/93: United HealthCare, Inc. (Healthcare Insurance Provider)**

Customer Education Specialist (Coral Gables, FL)

- Supported special projects reporting directly to senior marketing leadership, contributing to initiatives focused on Medicare and Medicaid populations
- Conducted research and analyzed member feedback to identify trends and improve communication strategies
- Worked closely with members to address questions and concerns, gaining early insight into the real-world challenges individuals and families face when navigating healthcare decisions
- Contributed to a pilot program focused on improving member onboarding and reducing early dissatisfaction, which later informed broader organizational practices

**Education**

**8/24–8/26 (Expected): Florida International University (Miami, FL)**

Master of Science in Marketing (In Progress)

**6/94-5/96 - Florida International University (Miami, FL)**

Bachelor of Science Degree in Mass Communications,  
Concentrations in Marketing and Public Relations,

- Member, Alpha Kappa Psi (professional business fraternity)
- Member, Phi Theta Kappa (national honor society)

**8/92–5/94: Miami Dade College (Miami, FL)**

Honors College Program

**Core Capabilities**

- Public Health Strategy & Policy Alignment
- Community Engagement & Stakeholder Collaboration
- Board Governance & Strategic Planning
- Multicultural Communications & Audience Insight
- Healthcare Access & Patient Advocacy
- Crisis Communications & Reputation Management
- Organizational Leadership & Team Development

**Additional Expertise**

- Professional coach and meeting facilitator, specializing in leadership transitions, team integration, and effective group dynamics.
- Fluent in Spanish; proficient in French; working knowledge of Portuguese and Italian.

**References**

- Meg Daly, Founder, Friends of The Underline
- Ana Rita Gonzalez, President and Co-Founder, Policy Wisdom
- Blanca Recio, Associate Professor, Miami Dade College's School of Global Business
- Maria Palacio-Pike, President and Director of community relations for Crystal Academy

March 9, 2026

Dear Commissioner Rodriguez,

I am writing to express my strong interest in opportunities with the Office of Commission Chairman Anthony Rodriguez. I am passionate about public service and deeply motivated by the opportunity to contribute to the work of Miami-Dade County in a meaningful way. With a professional background in operations, project management, cross-functional coordination, and process improvement, along with my service in the U.S. Army National Guard and my role as a parent, I believe I would bring both practical experience and a sincere personal commitment to supporting the residents and long-term future of our community.

What draws me to public service at the county level is the direct impact it has on people's everyday lives. The work of the Board of County Commissioners shapes the quality of local government, the strength of public infrastructure, the responsiveness of constituent services, and the long-term direction of Miami-Dade County. These are not abstract policy issues to me. They affect families, neighborhoods, public safety, transportation, economic opportunity, and the kind of community our children will grow up in. As a parent, I view local government not only through a professional lens, but also through a personal one. I care deeply about building a county that is organized, forward-looking, accountable, and responsive to its residents' needs.

Throughout my career, I have built a foundation in managing complex operations, improving workflows, coordinating across departments, and driving projects from planning through execution. In prior roles with organizations including Tesla, PepsiCo, and other operationally intensive environments, I was trusted to oversee high-priority initiatives, align multiple stakeholders, solve problems under pressure, and improve systems to support efficiency and outcomes. These experiences have prepared me well for the pace, complexity, and public-facing nature of government work, where strong organization, follow-through, and judgment are essential.

I understand that offices such as the Chairman's rely on individuals who can manage sensitive matters professionally, communicate clearly with internal and external stakeholders, support leadership priorities, and help ensure initiatives are carried through effectively. Those responsibilities align closely with the work I have done throughout my career. I have experience supporting leadership teams, coordinating projects with multiple moving parts, maintaining accountability across deadlines, and working in environments

where discretion, responsiveness, and adaptability are critical. I take pride in being someone who can bring structure to demanding workflows while remaining flexible and solutions-oriented.

My military service has further strengthened those qualities. Serving in the U.S. Army National Guard has reinforced in me a strong sense of discipline, duty, and commitment to something larger than myself. It has taught me to remain calm under pressure, to operate with accountability, and to approach challenges with a mission-focused mindset. I believe those values are directly relevant to public service and especially important in a governmental environment where trust, reliability, and consistency matter.

Beyond qualifications, I want to emphasize that my interest in this work is genuine and long-term. I am not simply seeking a position. I am seeking the opportunity to contribute to county government in a substantive, mission-driven way. I want to support a public office that is helping shape the future of Miami-Dade County, whether through constituent support, administrative leadership, policy coordination, community engagement, or special projects. I am particularly drawn to environments where thoughtful leadership and effective execution come together to drive real public impact.

I also believe my background gives me a useful perspective for this kind of role. I have worked across private sector, operational, and service-oriented settings. I understand the importance of efficiency and accountability, but I also understand that behind every task, policy, or public initiative are real people who are depending on the government to work well. That perspective matters to me as a professional, as a service member, and as a parent raising a family in this community.

I would be honored to bring my experience, work ethic, and commitment to public service to the Office of Commission Chairman Anthony Rodriguez. Thank you for your time and consideration. I would welcome the opportunity to discuss how my background and values align with the office's needs and how I can contribute to its work on behalf of Miami-Dade County residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Oleg Smirnov".

Oleg Smirnov, PMP

olegsmirnovjr@gmail.com

# OLEG SMIRNOV, JR

Miami, FL · olegsmirnovjr@gmail.com · (917) 421-6605

## PROFESSIONAL SUMMARY

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- Results-driven management professional with 5+ years of expertise in project management, process improvement, team leadership, and executing high-stakes international projects for Fortune 500 companies and startups.
- Project Management Professional (PMP) and Lean Sigma Six Green Belt certified, holding a Bachelor of Arts degree and currently pursuing a graduate degree. Multilingual, fluent in English, Russian, and Spanish.
- Specialist (E4) in the U.S. Army National Guard with expertise in battalion leadership and supply chain operations.

## PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

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### Tesla Motors

New York, NY

*Project Developer*

04/2024 - 10/2025

- Cut discrepancies by 50% after building out innovative, data-driven project plans that automated DMV data collection and integrated Yassi/Dealertrack systems surrounding trade-in valuation.
- Reduced title processing time by 12% quarterly after implementing specialized training programs that were recognized by senior leaders and scaled to multiple projects.
- Headed the smooth launch of the "No Title, No Problem" program, generating a record-breaking \$25M+ in additional trade-in revenue and unit deliveries, ranking among the top of all project developers.

### Altir Ventures

Dubai, UAE

*Program Manager*

03/2022 - 03/2024

- Uncovered 25% in potential savings while overseeing the strategic development and execution of international startup projects across their entire lifecycle, including managing cross-functional teams and day-to-day operations.
- Initiated U.S. market entry strategies for a portfolio of studio startups, leading to successful collaborations with leading investors and securing collective pre-seed investments of over \$2.5 million to fuel growth and expansion.
- Directed and continuously improved the governance for a managed portfolio of startups, ensuring regulatory compliance for multiple countries and eliminating recurring risks.

### PepsiCo

Moscow, Russia

*Senior Project Analyst*

08/2020 - 02/2022

- Strategically optimized transportation routes using data-driven insights and Sigma Six methodologies, achieving a remarkable 24% reduction in lead times and generating substantial annual cost savings of €1.2 million.
- Enhanced regional fulfillment center efficiency by resolving process bottlenecks and adopting a pick-and-pack method, boosting productivity by 18% and increasing daily co-packing output by 150 units per employee.
- Partnered with management to develop a custom reporting system that increased operational workflow and enhanced decision-making responsiveness, resulting in an additional 100 hours of team productivity.

## EDUCATION

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### West Virginia University

Morgantown, WV

*Bachelor of Arts, Multidisciplinary Studies*

05/2020

Leadership: Student Government Association, Alpha Sigma Phi, American Red Cross, U.S. Soccer Federation

Internships: Amazon (2020), United Nations (2020), Messe Frankfurt (2019), FIFA World Cup (2018)

## MILITARY SERVICE

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### U.S. Army National Guard

Kingston, NY

*Specialist Rank (E4), 104th Military Police Battalion*

11/2024 - Present

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

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**Languages:** English (fluent), Russian (native), Spanish (advanced)

**Certifications:** CompTIA Project+, Project Management Professional (PMP), Lean Sigma Six Green Belt, Notary Public

**Technical Skills:** Microsoft Office, Excel VBA, QuickBooks, AutoCAD, SAP, Jira, SQL, Power BI, Trello, Figma, Miro