

GREGG, THANK YOU FOR THE INTRODUCTION.

IT'S A PLEASURE TO BE HERE WITH YOU THIS MORNING AS WE CUT THE RIBBON ON THE NEW SOUTH MIAMI PLAZA APARTMENTS.

THIS BUILDING IS IN MY FORMER COMMISSION DISTRICT.

I REPRESENTED THIS AREA FOR MANY YEARS AND IT'S SPECIAL TO SEE THE PROGRESS WE HAVE MADE IN THIS BEAUTIFUL NEWLY RENOVATED APARTMENT BUILDING.

JUST RECENTLY, POPE FRANCIS SPOKE ABOUT THE IMPORTANCE OF CARING FOR OUR ELDERLY, AND LET ME PARAPHRASE:

A SOCIETY THAT DOES NOT CARE FOR THE ELDERLY DOES NOT HAVE A FUTURE, BECAUSE THEY DON'T TREASURE THEIR LEGACY

I THINK WE CAN EXPAND THIS TO ALSO INCLUDE OUR MOST VULNERABLE AMONG US...

THE WAY WE TREAT THEM IS A REFLECTION ON US - AND WE MUST DO ALL WE CAN TO HONOR THEIR LEGACY.

OUR PARENTS AND GRANDPARENTS HELPED US GET HERE, NOW IT'S UP TO US TO CARE FOR THEM. AND THAT'S WHY WE'RE HERE.

THIS IS A UNIQUE PROJECT, AND IT COULD NOT HAVE HAPPENED WITHOUT THE COLLABORATION OF SEVERAL PARTNERS, INCLUDING THE STATE OF FLORIDA.

IT ALSO REFLECTS A NEW WAY OF DOING THINGS.

THE RENOVATION OF PUBLIC HOUSING COMMUNITIES IS A SERIES OF PROJECTS WHERE WE HAVE WORKED TOGETHER WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO BRING A BETTER PRODUCT, IN A FASTER WAY.

JUST LAST MONTH, WE RE-OPENED THE NEW DANTE FASCELL APARTMENTS...

AND LIKE THERE, WE "THREW OUT THE OLD BLUE-PRINT..." FOR HOW WE WOULD HANDLE AND MAINTAIN OUR HOUSING.

WE BROUGHT IN OUR PARTNERS AT THE RELATED URBAN GROUP AND WE BENEFITED FROM THEIR EXPERIENCE.

THIS IS A MODEL OF PUBLIC / PRIVATE PARTNERSHIP, AND ONE THAT WE CAN USE IN OTHER PARTS OF THE COUNTY.

TOGETHER, WE TURNED THIS INTO A PLACE OUR SENIORS CAN BE PROUD TO CALL HOME.

THANK YOU RELATED URBAN GROUP, AND TO OUR PUBLIC HOUSING COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT DEPARTMENT...

AND THANK YOU TO ALL THOSE WHO MADE TODAY HAPPEN.

TO ALL THE RESIDENTS - MAY GOD BLESS YOU AND YOUR NEW HOMES!

AHORA, UNAS PALABRAS EN ESPANOL...

ES UN PLACER ESTAR CON USTEDES EN ESTE DIA TAN FELIZ.

ESTE LINDO EDIFICIO HA SIDO MODERNIZADO PARA QUE LOS RESIDENTES DISFRUTEN UN LUGAR NUEVO Y MEJOR DONDE VIVIR.

DE ESTA MANERA, SEGUIMOS HACIENDO TODO LO POSIBLE PARA MEJORAR SUS VIDAS.

Y QUE MEJOR MANERA DE HACER ESTO QUE CON UN NUEVO HOGAR.

GRACIAS AL RELATED URBAN GROUP Y A NUESTRO DEPARTAMENTO DE VIVIENDAS PUBLICAS.

Y GRACIAS A TODOS USTEDES.

QUE DIOS LES BENDIGA, Y QUE BENDIGA SUS NUEVOS HOGARES!

