

CHAIRWOMAN SOSA, DEAR FRIENDS...

IT'S A PLEASURE TO JOIN YOU THIS MORNING TO RECOGNIZE THE CONTRIBUTIONS THAT ELDERS MAKE TO OUR COMMUNITY AND TO CELEBRATE OLDER AMERICANS MONTH.

¡BUENOS DIAS A TODOS!

ES UN PLACER ESTAR CON USTEDES PARA CELEBRAR EL MES DEL ANCIANO AMERICANO.

THIS IS A CELEBRATION THAT BEGAN DURING THE KENNEDY PRESIDENCY AND CONTINUES TODAY...

BECAUSE WE NEED TO HONOR AND ALWAYS REMEMBER THOSE WHO CAME BEFORE US, THOSE WHO SET THE PATH WE ARE ALL ON NOW.

OUR ADMINISTRATION HAS MADE IT A TOP PRIORITY TO CARE FOR OUR SENIORS, AND WE ARE ALL WORKING TOGETHER TO MAKE SURE SENIORS CAN AGE WITH THE DIGNITY THEY SO DESERVE.

UNA DE LAS PRIORIDADES DE MI ADMINISTRACIÓN HA SIDO CUIDAR A LAS PERSONAS DE LA TERCERA EDAD.

HEMOS TRABAJADO JUNTOS PARA QUE ELLOS VIVAN SUS VIDAS CON LA DIGNIDAD QUE TANTO MERECEAN.

JUST THIS PAST APRIL, I AM PROUD TO HAVE CUT THE RIBBON ON OUR FOURTH PUBLIC HOUSING BUILDING, THE JOE MORETTI BUILDING.

FOLLOWING STIRRUP PLAZA, SOUTH MIAMI PLAZA, AND THE DANTE FASCELL BUILDING, WE REPLACED THOSE OLD STRUCTURES WITH MODERN, REFURBISHED APARTMENTS.

THIS IS AMONG THE MOST SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENT IN PUBLIC HOUSING HERE IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY IN DECADES...

BECAUSE OUR SENIORS DESERVE THE VERY BEST IN HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES.

WE HAVE ALSO MADE GREAT STRIDES IN THE HEALTH ISSUES THAT FACE OUR SENIORS, INCLUDING RAISING AWARENESS ON ALZHEIMERS.

THIS IS WHY THIS PAST MARCH, I BROUGHT TOGETHER REPRESENTATIVES FROM THE NATIONAL ALZHEIMER'S ASSOCIATION TO CONTINUE WORKING WITH MIAMI-DADE COUNTY TO SUPPORT EARLY DETECTION OF THIS DISEASE.

EL MES PASADO COMPLETAMOS LA REMODELACIÓN DE CUATRO EDIFICIOS DE VIVIENDA PÚBLICA.

HEMOS TOMADO APARTAMENTOS QUE ESTABAN EN MALAS CONDICIONES, Y HOY SON APARTAMENTOS MODERNOS.

ESTA ES LA MAYOR INVERSIÓN EN DÉCADAS EN ESTOS PROYECTOS, PARA DARLE MEJORES VIVIENDAS A NUESTROS ANCIANOS.

TAMBIÉN HEMOS TRABAJADO PARA MEJORAR LA SALUD DE NUESTRAS PERSONAS MAYORES, INCLUYENDO PLANES PARA COMBATIR LA ENFERMEDAD DE ALZHEIMER.

THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY...

WE ARE ENGAGED IN NUMEROUS AND WIDE RANGED EFFORTS TO SUPPORT OUR SENIOR POPULATION.

OUR COMMITMENT IS ALSO SHOWN THROUGH OUR PARTNERSHIP WITH ALL THE ORGANIZATIONS PRESENT HERE TODAY WHO ARE DOING A GREAT JOB IN DELIVERING THE SERVICES OUR SENIORS NEED.

THIS YEAR'S THEME "SAFE TODAY. HEALTHY TOMORROW," SAYS TO OUR ELDERS THAT WE WANT THEM TO STAY ACTIVE AND INVOLVED IN OUR COMMUNITIES.

THERE IS NO REASON THAT OUR SENIORS CAN'T ENJOY THEIR GOLDEN YEARS WITH FUN, AND EVEN CONTINUE GIVING BACK TO OUR COMMUNITY.

WE ARE INVOLVED IN A LARGE NUMBER OF WAYS IN THE CARE OF OUR SENIORS, BUT WE ALSO PROVIDE WAYS FOR SENIORS TO CARE FOR US!

OUR FOSTER GRANDPARENT PROGRAM CELEBRATED ITS 41ST ANNIVERSARY LAST DECEMBER...

AND THE PROGRAM HAD 82 VOLUNTEERS PROVIDING TUTORING AND MENTORING TO AT RISK CHILDREN OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY.

THESE "GRANDPARENTS" PROVIDED NEARLY 66,000 HOURS OF SERVICE.

OUR RETIRED SENIOR VOLUNTEER PROGRAM IS NEARLY 40 YEARS OLD,

AND IT RECRUITS AND MATCHES VOLUNTEERS 55 YEARS AND OLDER WITH COMMUNITY SERVICE ASSIGNMENTS THROUGHOUT THE COUNTY.

LAST YEAR, MORE THAN 540 VOLUNTEERS PROVIDED CLOSE TO 140,000 HOURS OF SERVICE.

THIS IS OVER 200,000 HOURS OF SERVICE PROVIDED BY SENIORS IN OUR COMMUNITY.

EL TEMA PARA ESTE MES ES "SEGURO HOY, SALUDABLE MAÑANA."

ESTO QUIERE DECIR QUE QUEREMOS QUE NUESTRAS PERSONAS MAYORES SE MANTENGAN ACTIVAS EN NUESTRA COMUNIDAD.

NOSOTROS TENEMOS MUCHAS OPORTUNIDADES PARA QUE USTEDES NOS SIGAN AYUDANDO.

A TRAVÉS DE VARIOS PROGRAMAS DEL CONDADO, LAS PERSONAS MAYORES CONTRIBUYERON MAS DE 200,000 MIL HORAS DE SERVICIO VOLUNTARIO.

LA GENEROSIDAD DE USTEDES NO TIENE LIMITE.

THE GENEROSITY OF OUR SENIORS KNOWS NO BOUNDS.

AND AT AN AGE WHEN MANY WOULD BE CONTENT TO SIMPLY JUST RETIRE...

WE ARE ALL GLAD THAT OUR ELDERS CONTINUE TO GIVE OF THEIR EXPERTISE, THEIR TIME, AND THEIR LOVE.

YOU ALL DESERVE A GREAT BIG ROUND OF APPLAUSE!

QUIERO PRESENTARLES ESTA PROCLAMA NOMBRANDO EL MES DE MAYO COMO EL MES DEL ANCIANO AMERICANO.

AND NOW, ON BEHALF OF THE RESIDENTS OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, IT IS MY PLEASURE TO PRESENT THIS PROCLAMATION NAMING THE MONTH OF MAY AS OLDER AMERICANS MONTH.

THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS!

