

Memorandum



Date: June 20, 2023

To: Honorable Chairman Oliver G. Gilbert, III
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Daniella Levine Cava
Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniella Levine Cava". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Subject: Miami-Dade County Peace and Prosperity Plan - Quarterly Update

Executive Summary

This Quarterly Report for the Peace and Prosperity Plan (the “Plan”) includes information on the following: the Year 3 Plan’s budget and expenditures; Office of Neighborhood Safety initiatives; youth development programs; and supplemental initiatives local jail reentry and second chance services, Operation Community Shield, and the Miami-Dade County Community Violence Intervention Initiative.

In April, with unanimous support from the Miami-Dade Board of County Commissioners (the “Board”), the County entered into a 17-year naming rights deal with Kaseya for the County-owned Arena, which is now called the Kaseya Center. With this new deal, the County has further solidified our focus on tackling the root causes of gun violence through evidence-based and community-focused solutions that are empowering, build trust, and support residents and businesses. Over the next 17 years, the Administration will invest \$58,282,500 in prevention, intervention, and reentry programming in communities to address the root causes and consequences of gun violence and to empower residents to work in partnership with local government and law enforcement to make all neighborhoods safer.

Peace & Prosperity Plan Budget and Expenditures

As of March 2023, \$1,268,363 has been expended on programs administered by the Miami-Dade Police Department (“MDPD”), Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (“PROS”) and the Office of Neighborhood Safety (“ONS”).

Attachment A highlights the Year 3 Peace & Prosperity Plan budget and expenditures for programs, initiatives, and projects for FY 2022-2023. The total Year 3 Plan approved by the Board on July 7, 2022, is \$3,643,277.00. Funding sources for the Year 3 Plan are as follows: (1) the Administration’s 70 percent share of the FY 2022-23 naming rights revenues, equaling \$1,268,277.00 and Commission District 5 funds in the Anti-Gun Violence and Prosperity Initiatives Trust Fund (“Trust Fund”) funded with naming rights revenue; (2) \$1,200,000.00 in anticipated Trust Fund carryover; (3) \$475,000.00 from the Parks Foundation for Fit2Lead; (4) \$100,000.00 from the Juvenile Services Trust Fund; (5) \$500,000.00 in 2023 Community Development Block Grant funds; and (6) \$100,000 in carryover FTX Foundation grant funding.

Office of Neighborhood Safety Initiatives: Safe in the 305 and Educational Scholarships

Safe in the 305 Grant Program

On April 26, 2023, ONS launched the second round of the Safe in the 305 grant program and

accepted applications through May 26, 2023, from residents, community leaders, community and faith-based organizations, and grassroots groups. Safe in the 305 is a micro grant program that is designed to activate community participation in creating safer neighborhoods, amplify the voices of residents and community leaders against violence, build capacity in communities, and bridge gaps with neighborhood stakeholders and government to address quality of life issues. The Year 3 Peace & Prosperity Plan allocates \$67,500 for grant awards, and as a result, a minimum of 45 projects are expected to be funded.

The inaugural round of Safe in the 305 in 2022 received 123 applications, of which 32 proposals were awarded funding. Individual awards ranged from \$500 to \$1,500. Funded projects include removing graffiti in Brownsville, revitalizing a community garden in Goulds, community clean-ups in Little Havana and Little River, mental wellness in Opa-Locka, cyclist and pedestrian safety in Coral Gables, and rights restoration in Liberty City and Overtown, to name a few.

Educational Scholarships

For a second consecutive year, ONS is partnering with CAHSD's Family and Community Services Division to provide 50 \$1,500 scholarships to youth that live in households that meet the Community Services Block Grant federal poverty guidelines. Funding is allocated via the ONS general fund budget, and all awards are paid directly to the educational institutions. Applications are currently being accepted through June 5, 2023. Last summer, ONS awarded 40 scholarships to students attending 26 colleges/universities.

Youth Development Programs: Fit2Lead and Turn Around Police Academy

Fit2Lead Afterschool and Summer Internship Program

The PROS' Fit2Lead Internship program is an evidenced-based program and the flagship program of the Plan. The program receives referrals of at-risk youth from several sources including Juvenile Services Department ("JSD"), Department of Juvenile Justice ("DJJ"), Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust's ("MDEAT") Teen Court, local law enforcement agencies, PROS staff, Miami-Dade County Public Schools ("MDCPS"), Commission offices, and community-based organizations.

The Fit2Lead 2022-2023 Afterschool Internship Program, a thirty-five-week program, began October 3, 2022, and will end June 11, 2023. At present, there are 334 youth in the program, of which approximately 80 are graduating seniors. Senior students are being supported in applying to the ONS scholarship program and connected to PROS job fairs focused on hiring full time, part time, and summer seasonal positions. Although the Year 3 Plan funds 200 afterschool Fit2Lead slots via Trust Fund, PROS allocated funding to serve an additional youth intern via its general fund budget, ensuring that no youth, especially those that are at-risk and/or justice-involved, is turned away.

A snapshot of Fit2Lead Afterschool youth enrollment by Commission District is provided below.

District	Commissioner	Allocated Year 3 Slots	Youth Enrolled*
1	Oliver G. Gilbert, III	27	40
2	Marleine Bastien	32	60
3	Keon Hardemon	56	101
4	Micky Steinberg	6	5
5	Eileen Higgins	7	11
6	Kevin M. Cabrera	13	11
7	Raquel A. Regalado	6	6
8	Danielle Cohen Higgins	16	33
9	Kionne L. McGhee	22	42
10	Anthony Rodriquez	3	4
11	Roberto J. Gonzalez	2	5
12	Juan Carlos Bermudez	3	6
13	Rene Garcia	7	10
Total		200	334

*Additional internship slots funded via PROS.

Fit2Lead interns select job assignments that are convenient to home or school, or of interest to the interns. Work locations include several County departments and offices such as Animal Services, CAHSD, Cultural Affairs, Homeless Trust, JSD, Mayor’s Office, Miami-Dade Audit and Management Services, MDEAT, MDPD, Miami-Dade Public Library System (“MDPLS”), PROS, Public Housing and Community Development, and Solid Waste Management. The Boys and Girls Club, Big Ideas, Empowering Youth, Hope for Miami, The Resource Room, Overtown Optimist, Mahogany Youth, Sant La Haitian Neighborhood Center, and Arts for Learning are just a few of the many community partners that play a significant role in providing meaningful mentorship opportunities and work locations for interns. To expand work placement opportunities and mitigate transportation challenges experienced by some interns, PROS and MDCPS are completing an affiliating agreement to have select high schools serve as after school and summer work locations.

Enrichment classes and workshops continue to be important components of the Fit2Lead Internship Program. Enrichment classes are available to interns both virtually and in-person and include music (Guitars Over Guns), entrepreneurship (Dream Team Concepts), sailing (Fly Pelican Fly), fishing (Mahogany Outdoors), environmental and conservation education (PROS), communication skills, self-care, and mental health assessments and referrals (JSD).

The seven-week Fit2Lead Summer Internship program will begin June 19, 2023, and will conclude August 6, 2023. In accordance with the Year 3 Plan, the program will host 500 interns for Summer 2023. Recruitment remains ongoing and program partners such as JSD, Miami-Dade County Hospital-based Violence Intervention Program social workers, case managers, school counselors, commission districts, and community partners continue to refer at-risk and justice involved youth to the program.

Turn Around Police (“TAP”) Academy

The MDPD’s TAP Academy allows at-risk and justice-involved participants to attend an 11-week program that offers prevention techniques designed to instill positive youth behaviors, discourage delinquency, and encourage community service. TAP sessions are provided by law enforcement, County departments, and community-based organizations including the Village, GATE Program, CareerSource of South Florida, Gang Alternative, and MDEAT, to foster socio-emotional skills. TAP provides a holistic approach to intervention through mentoring and advocacy to improve community experiences with the police while increasing awareness of the consequences of negative behaviors. Law enforcement “mentors” work in partnership with JSD case managers to address psychosocial needs and link the family to supportive services, if needed. TAP participants are between the ages of 13 to 17.

Weekly sessions consist of topics such as gangs and gun violence, drug and alcohol addiction, social media challenges, and consequences of violence and homicides. Sessions also focus on career planning, resume building, the job application process, peer-to-peer interviews, and how to dress for success. Participants also engage in family counseling and community service projects.

MDPD partners with JSD to provide a comprehensive approach to addressing the needs of TAP participants. Through JSD’s administration of evidence-based tools, assessment results indicate that 38% of participants have substance abuse issues, 36% have family issues, and 55% have mental health issues. As a result, participants have been linked to community-based organizations that address their service needs. To date, 78% of TAP participants that have received assessments have completed their JSD treatment plans.

Since the program’s launch, five cohorts of youth have completed the program. The most recent cohort began with 24 youth of which 19 completed the program. Participants were identified by JSD and the Department of Juvenile Justice for offenses such as battery, theft, and trespassing. TAP also includes at-risk youth receiving prevention services from JSD or MDPD Youth Outreach Unit. Eligible graduates were referred to Fit2Lead and supported with the application process.

Supplemental Initiative: Reentry Plan and Second Chance Services

Reentry is a key focus of the Peace & Prosperity Plan, and Miami-Dade Corrections and Rehabilitation (MDCR), with technical and advisory support from ONS, continues to fully implement the local reentry strategy for the County’s jails. In doing so, MDCR is working with stakeholders that represent government, the judicial system, community-based organizations, law enforcement, grassroots, faith-based groups, and returning citizens to develop a comprehensive plan to address the needs of individuals returning to Miami-Dade County from other county, state, and federal institutions.

Since Directive Report 221731 was published and subsequently accepted by the Board on April 4, 2023, the following additional progress has been achieved. The Reentry Unit in MDCR has been fully established and consists of five Correctional Counselors who are responsible for preparing the sentenced population for reintegration into the community. Correctional Counselors have received certification on the Ohio Risk Assessment System (ORAS), an evidence-based assessment tool. Individuals identified as High or Very High Risk receive an Individualized

Reentry Plan to address appropriate domains of high need. Additionally, the counselors have received approximately 80 hours of professional development training in Motivational Interviewing, Cognitive Behavioral Therapeutic Intervention, Addiction and Justice Involved Individuals, Trauma Informed Counseling, Mental Health / Substance Use addictions, and reentry focus group coaching. The Inmate Services Administrator position, responsible for overseeing and directly supervising the Correctional Counselors, has been filled. Lastly, the Release and Reentry Coordinator position, which is responsible for collaborating with County departments and external community organizations to ensure continuity of services for those individuals released from MDCR's custody, is expected to be filled this summer.

The MDCR Boot Camp Program Computer Lab was recently approved by the state of Florida Department of Education via Pearson Vue to be an official General Equivalency Degree ("GED"), or high school equivalency, Testing Site. This designation positions MDCR to support cadets in working toward and ideally achieving the educational credential prior to their release. Boot Camp is an Inmate Management System in a paramilitary setting integrating academic, vocational, rehabilitative programs, cognitive behavioral education, structured activities, and a wide array of services. Boot Camp cadets are sentenced offenders between the ages of 14 and 24, with those under 18 having been adjudicated as adults mandated in the program as part of their sentence. Boot Camp was implemented in 1995 and has been accredited by the American Correctional Association since 2004.

MDCR is in the process of purchasing the Unite.US software program, a virtual coordinated social services care platform that will allow Miami-Dade Correctional Counselors to connect inmates to a myriad of critical community-based services ranging from psychosocial to mental health services, as well as employment and educational services. Other highlights include, but are not limited to:

- MDCR is working with OMB to develop processes for community-based organizations that receive county funding to provide services behind the wall (prior to release).
- Ladies Empowerment and Action Program (LEAP) began programming for female inmates at TGK. Leap is providing therapeutic programming, workforce readiness, and post-release reentry support.
- Florida International University (FIU) is teaching a construction trades class to sentenced inmates at Metro West. Each student is receiving reentry support through a reentry collaborative maintained by FIU and VIP Reentry Services.
- MDCR has ordered 14 Promethean Boards, active instructional boards that include mobile carts, which will be installed in all of its classrooms. Boards will be used for both in-person and virtual educational and vocational instruction.
- The Empowerment Reentry Zone Initiative / Transition, Inc. collaborative will assist inmates nearing release with wraparound social services to include employment training and job placement. Services are anticipated to begin in late May 2023.

Supplemental Initiative: MDPD’s Operation Community Shield

Operation Community Shield (“OCS”) continued to yield results in curtailing gun violence in our community. OCS is a joint gun violence reduction initiative that brings together MDPD with local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies and prosecutorial agencies. Between June 4, 2021, and March 5, 2023, OCS removed 2,171 firearms from our street. The program has led to 6,547 felony arrests, and the recovery of \$2,884,724.66 in currency and 998 stolen vehicles. A substantial amount of illegal substances have also been recovered: 237.22 kilograms of cocaine, 6.67 kilograms of heroin, 438.64 kilograms of marijuana, and 42.25 kilograms of methamphetamine

From January 1, 2023, to March 31, 2023, MDPD continued to show a measurable impact in reducing shootings. Currently, shootings are slightly up by 8% overall with a decrease of 14% in the South District and an increase of 20% in the Northside District and 33% in the Intracoastal District, as compared to the same period in 2022. However, when you compare the aforementioned period in 2023 to the same period two years prior in 2021, shootings in the unincorporated areas of the County are down 30% overall, with a decrease of 29% in the Intracoastal District, 53% in the South District, and 24% in the Northside District.

MDPD District Shootings January 1 to March 31	<u>2021</u>	<u>2022</u>	2023	<u>% Change</u> 2021 vs 2023	<u>% Change</u> 2022 vs 2023
Intracoastal District	45	24	32	-29%	+33%
Northside District	79	50	60	-24%	+20%
Northwest District	1	5	5	+400%	0%
Midwest District	6	12	6	0%	-50%
Hammocks District	14	17	19	+36%	+12%
Kendall District	17	5	9	-47%	+80%
South District	80	44	38	-53%	-14%
Totals	242	157	169	-30%	+8%

Supplemental Initiative: Miami-Dade County Community Violence Intervention Initiative

In 2022, via Resolution R-701-22, Miami-Dade County invested 8.943 million dollars to enhance the County’s community violence intervention infrastructure as part of its overall efforts to reduce gun violence through a community-centered and community-led approach. Through a partnership with the Carrie Meek Foundation (the “Foundation”), which is responsible for administering and managing the initiative through its Supporting Safer Communities Program with oversight by OMB and ONS, the Miami-Dade County Community Violence Intervention Initiative is providing \$7,295,560 to community organizations to lead efforts in violence intervention and prevention.

On April 5, 2023, the Foundation released the Request for Proposals (RFP) inviting nonprofit organizations, including small grassroots groups, to apply for \$7,155,560 in grant funding for

programs, projects, and initiatives centered around prevention, reentry services, high-risk intervention work, mental health, trauma and wellness services for individuals impacted by gun violence, and capacity building and training and technical assistance for grant funded organizations. In addition to a widespread media campaign, informational sessions and technical assistance workshops have been and continue to be held throughout Miami-Dade County and in close collaboration with Commission districts and community partners.

The RFP closed on May 12, 2023, with 246 proposals received. The review, scoring, and selection process is underway. Award announcements will be made this summer.

Conclusion

Through the Office of Neighborhood Safety, my Administration will continue to leverage resources and opportunities to further strengthen Miami-Dade County's community violence intervention infrastructure to combat gun violence and create safer neighborhoods for all. Now in its third year, the Peace & Prosperity Plan and its supplemental efforts continue to have a positive impact on reducing violence for our youth, families, and our County. These efforts combined with the Miami-Dade County Community Violence Intervention Initiative help to further realize the overarching goal of creating a safer and more prosperous Miami-Dade where all residents can thrive. Lastly, the Office of Neighborhood Safety is currently developing the proposed Year 4 Peace & Prosperity Plan and will be engaging every commission office for input and support.

Should you require additional information, please contact Annika S. Holder, Director of the Office of Neighborhood Safety, at (786) 469-4716 or annika.holder@miamidade.gov.

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Peace & Prosperity Plan Attachment A



Department	Program Name	Program Term	Funding Source	FY 2021-22 Actuals*	FY 2022-23 BCC Approved Budget W/ Carryover	FY 2022-23 YTD Actuals as of March 31, 2023	Comments
Juvenile Services	Fit 2 Lead	October 1, 2022	Trust Fund	-	\$ 100,000	\$ -	
Miami-Dade Police Department	MDPD Youth Athletic and Mentoring Initiative	October 1, 2022	Anti- Gun Violence and Prosperity Fund	195,598	25,000	2,753	
Miami-Dade Police Department	MDPD Turn Around Police Academy	October 1, 2022	Anti- Gun Violence and Prosperity Fund	109,455	106,000	38,872	
Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces	Fit2Lead	September 1, 2022	Anti- Gun Violence and Prosperity Fund	2,982,498	1,987,277	1,208,750	
Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces	Fit2Lead	October 1, 2022	CDBG Funding	-	500,000		Approx \$300K in expenditures pending
Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces	Fit2lead	October 1, 2022	Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade	-	475,000		
Community Action & Human Services	Safe in the 305 Community Grant	October 1, 2022	Anti- Vgun Violence and Prosperity Fund	48,750	75,000	-	Grant application deadline: May 26, 2023
Miami-Dade Police Department	Project Greenlight	October 1, 2022	Anti- Gun Violence and Prosperity Fund	-	200,000	13,225	
Miami-Dade Police Department	Youth Outreach Unit	October 1, 2022	Anti- Gun Violence and Prosperity Fund	-	75,000	4,763	\$4,762.99 in additional expenditures pending
Non-Departmental	Independent Evaluation	October 1, 2022	FTX Foundation	50,000	100,000	-	Funding will not be realized
Total including PHCD				\$ 3,386,301	\$ 3,643,277	\$ 1,268,363	