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Haitian - American Business News

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County Commission releases 2019 status of women report Wages for women remain stagnant despite gains in education

The Miami Dade Board of County Commissioners, the Commission Auditor and Florida International University's Metropolitan Center on March 19 announced the release of the third annual report on the status of women in Miami-Dade County. The report findings shed light on areas in which women and girls are succeeding or struggling, particularly in economic opportunity, education and health.

The report, authored by the FIU metropolitan Center's Dr. Maria Ilcheva, is a result of legislation sponsored by Commissioner Daniella Levine Cava. In 2015, the Board of County Commissioners adopted the UN Convention on the Elimination of all Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW). The ordinance requires a report to be produced each year, providing a benchmark for measuring gender

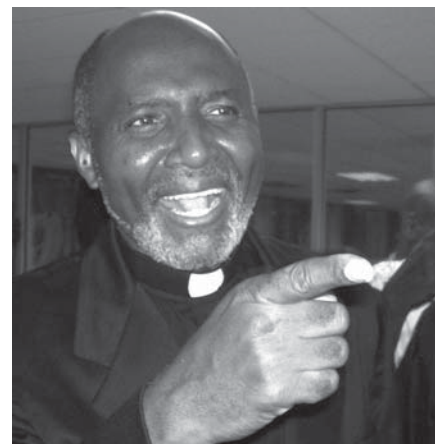


Left to right: Commissioners Monestime, Jordan Higgins, Levine Cava, Commission Chairwoman Edmonson and Commissioner Heyman release report on the status of Miami-Dade women.

equity in the county. While it has been 56 years since the federal Equal Pay Act was signed into law, women's pay still lags behind men's. The 2019 report shows that the wage

Continued on Page 8

Grand opening of Father Gerard Jean-Juste Community Center at Oak Grove Park to take place April 5



On Friday, April 5 at 3:30 p.m., the Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department and Miami-Dade County District 2 Commissioner Jean Monestime will gather at Oak Grove Park, 690 NE 159 St., Miami, to officially dedicate and cut the ribbon on the new Father Gerard Jean-Juste Community Center, named for the late Haitian cleric activist, a tireless crusader for Haitian refugees and the poor. Members of the Jean-Juste family, friends and Oak Grove residents will

Continued on Page 8

Mayor Suarez Hosts U.S. HUD Secretary Dr. Ben Carson

Last week, City of Miami Mayor Francis Suarez hosted U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Dr. Ben Carson for a visit focused on affordable housing. The Mayor and HUD Secretary toured a local affordable housing development - Tuscany Cove - which is currently under construction in the City of Miami. City Commissioner Joe Carollo joined them.

The visit provided Mayor Suarez with a valuable

Continued on Page 8



City of Miami Mayor Francis Suarez hosted U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) Secretary Dr. Ben Carson joined by City Commissioner Joe Carollo.



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Editor's Note

We encourage our readers to continue to send their comments and suggestions to our column: "Letter To The Editor" We also remind our readers that our publication has been distributed free for more than two decades.

For information call 305-807-2466

or write to:

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Editor's Notes



IN MEMORY

The publisher and the staff of the Haitian American Business News express their sincere condolences to the family of Gabriel Rosenberg who passed away in Haiti.

our prayers for support to His children, his sister Mrs Carline Faublas, His uncle Mr Gerard Jeanty, his cousin James Elie

all living in the United States. May Gabriel Rosenberg rest in peace in the glory of the Lord. (March 2019)

The publisher and staff of the Haitian American Business News are asking Mr Taylor Lafaille (Radio Talk Show and Producer) to accept their sympathies

as he is going to a difficult time of mourning his beloved mother who said " good bye for ever " last month. Taylor my friend, We wish you strength and we keep you in our prayers (March 2019) .

Elections in the City of North Miami.

1- Mayoral Race .

2- City Clerk Race

**3-District 1 Race for
Councilmember .**

**4-District 4 Race for Councilman
And the special election for
Councilman in District 3 for the
remaining term of councilman
Philippe Bien Aime who is
running for Mayor
of the City of Miami ., Election
date May 14 2019..**

Small Claims Court process explained at free workshop on April 4

The Miami-Dade County Department of Regulatory and Economic Resources (RER), Office of Consumer Protection, will host a free Small Claims Court presentation at noon, Thursday, April 4 at the Pinecrest Community Center, 5855 SW 111 St., Miami.

The presentation will provide participants with guidance on the procedures for filing a claim in the County's Small Claims Court, including a Q&A session and resources for preparing for trial.

Small Claims Court is used by individuals who want to address disputes involving \$5,000 or less without the costly burden of having to hire an attorney. The Small Claims Court presentation will be led by Community

Outreach Specialist Bryant Acevedo.

For questions about this event or for additional information, contact the Office of Consumer Protection at 786-469-2333. Filing instructions and legal forms on "How to File in Small Claims Court" are available in English and Spanish and may be downloaded for free from the website.

To request materials in accessible format, sign language interpreters, and/or any accommodation to participate in any County-sponsored program or meeting, please call Alain Donderiz, 305-372-6779 or email, dondea@miamidade.gov, five days in advance to initiate your request. TTY users may also call 711 (Florida Relay Service

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Sunday, March 17

3-6 p.m.

Miracle Theatre
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Sunday, March 31

1-5 p.m.

South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center
10950 SW 211th Street, Cutler Bay, FL 33189

Saturday, April 6

2-7 p.m.

Miracle Theatre
280 Miracle Mile, Coral Gables, FL 33134

Sunday, April 7

1-6 p.m.

Miami Arts Studio
15015 SW 24th Street, Miami, FL 33185

Saturday, April 13

1-6 p.m.

City of Miami Little Haiti Cultural Complex
212 NE 59th Terrace, Miami, FL 33137

Saturday, April 20

2-7 p.m.

Miracle Theatre
280 Miracle Mile, Coral Gables, FL 33134

Semifinals

Saturday, April 27, 7 p.m.

Sunday, April 28, 3 p.m.

Miracle Theatre
280 Miracle Mile, Coral Gables, FL 33134

Finals

Saturday, May 4, 7 p.m.

Miracle Theatre
280 Miracle Mile, Coral Gables, FL 33134

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Community Calendar

Golden Passport

(for those 65 years of age or OVER)

If you are a senior citizen 65 years and over and are a permanent Miami Dade resident, you are eligible to ride transit free with a Golden Passport EASY Card. How to apply: When applying for the 65 and over Golden Passport, you must complete the Golden Passport EASY Card Application and provide a current valid Florida ID or driver's license with a Miami-Dade County physical address and your Social Security Number. A new application requires that a picture of the patron be taken at the MDT Transit Service Center or a 3-1-1 Service Center for placement on the newly issued EASY Card. Seniors will receive a Golden Passport EASY Card that is valid for twenty years. Replacement: When replacing their Golden Passport, those 65 and over need to provide a copy of their Florida ID or Florida Driver's License, as well as a copy of the front/back of current EASY Card with a Miami-Dade County physical address and their Social Security Number.

Metrorail and Metromover hours extended during 2019 Ultra Music Festival

It's almost here - the last weekend in March when thousands of electronic music fans will descend on South Florida to attend the Ultra Music Festival, the world's premier electronic music festival being held at Miami Marine Stadium this year.

To encourage those attending the event to take transit, the Department of Transportation and Public Works (DTPW) has joined forces with Ultra to offer 24-hour Metrorail and Metromover service all weekend long beginning Friday, March 29. Transit services will revert back to their regular schedule closing at midnight on Monday, April 1.

Ultra will be running shuttle service from transport hubs in close proximity to Metrorail and Metromover stations. The closest transit stops to Ultra's shuttle hubs are as follows:

- Vizcaya Metrorail station.
- College/Bayside Metromover station.
- Freedom Tower Metromover station.
- Adrienne Arsht Metromover station.

"We want Ultra fans to safely have fun without having to worry about where to park their cars and without having to sit for hours in traffic. With Ultra's transit hubs near our Metrorail and Metromover stations, taking transit to connect to Ultra's shuttles is truly the

ultimate ride to the festival," said DTPW Director Alice N. Bravo, P.E. Festivalgoers can leave their cars at home and take a bus or Uber or Lyft to the closest Metrorail or Metromover station. Or, they can park at any of DTPW's Metrorail garages or surface lots for only \$4.50 a day. Parking garages will remain open 24 hours a day during Ultra weekend.

For more information about transit connections to Ultra, visit Miami-Dade Transit's website.

For more information about the festival, visit Ultra Music Festival's site.

Those headed to the festival can download the Miami-Dade Transit Tracker app and easily plan their transit trip or track their ride in real-time.

Miami-Dade Transit also has the EASY Pay Miami app which allows riders to purchase their fares on their mobile devices. Festivalgoers can purchase a 1-Day Pass (\$5.65) with EASY Pay and head to the music festival seamlessly. During Ultra weekend, the time that a 1-Day Pass is valid has also been extended until 5 a.m. the following day. Visit the EASY Pay app page for more information on the app.

Loaded EASY cards and EASY tickets are still accepted at Metrorail faregates and on Metrobus fareboxes.

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Miami-Dade adapts in style: County launches sea level rise workshops

Miami-Dade County is seeking active participation from the community as it identifies adaptation strategies to address sea level rise. The County will be hosting a series of public workshops where members of the public will have the opportunity to express their views concerning the social, environmental and economic impacts of sea level rise. Many local experts will be available to answer questions and to guide conversations in small groups to learn more about sea level rise in the County and strategies that can be explored to address anticipated impacts.

The first workshop dates are as follows:

• April 4, 12:30 - 4 p.m. at the Cambridge Innovation Center in Miami. An open house will follow from 5-8 p.m. at the Venture Cafe in the same location.

• April 10, 6-8 p.m. at the McDonald Center in North Miami Beach.

• April 13, 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at the Deering Estate in Palmetto Bay coinciding with Baynanza Biscayne Bay Cleanup Day.

If community members are unable to attend one of the workshops, they are encouraged to participate in an online survey to give the County feedback on sea level rise adaptation.

Although Miami-Dade has experienced a relatively small amount of sea level rise to date, the rate of sea level rise in the region is expected to accelerate significantly in coming decades. It is anticipated that there will be approximately two feet of sea level rise by 2060 in the region. Rising sea levels will result in increased flooding hazards in all parts of the county.

For more information, contact Sandra St. Hilaire, resilience coordinator, at sandra.st.hilaire@miamidadegov.org or 305-790- 5472.

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- Northwest 7th Ave street improvements
- Residential Streets rehabilitation
- Home beautification grants
- Parks Improvements

I have also championed more social service programs for our youth and seniors. I am so proud of our accomplishments together! My primary goal has and will always be to improve the quality of life for you and for all the residents of North Miami. I also strive hard to improve the relationship between the City of North Miami and it's residents. My commitment to always being open and available to you remains and through this page, you have one more option to contact me with any concerns you may have. I encourage you to click on the links above to find out more about my qualifications, the issues at hand, and how you can become part of our important campaign team. Again, it is my pleasure to welcome you! Take this opportunity to explore our website!

Sincerely,

Dr. Alix Desulme

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What is Domestic Violence?

Domestic violence is a pattern of controlling behaviors used by one intimate partner to gain and maintain power over another.

Domestic violence has many forms including:

- Physical abuse
- Sexual abuse
- Emotional abuse
- Financial abuse
- Intimidation
- Stalking
- Neglect
- Controlling or domineering behaviors

Knowing that a loved one is in an abusive relationship can bring about many emotions including:

- Pain
- Fear
- Helplessness
- Anger
- Frustration

It is important that you consider how you can be helpful to the person you care about and how to take care of yourself in the process.

Advocates on the Florida Domestic Violence Hotline and at the local Certified Domestic Violence Centers are available to provide you with information, resources, tips, and support.

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OPRIMA EL UNO PARA ESPAÑOL • PRESS TWO FOR ENGLISH • PRES KAT POU KREYOL

Continued From Page 1

Grand opening of Father Gerard Jean-Juste Community Center at Oak Grove Park to take place April 5

join them for this special occasion. Following the dedication ceremony, everyone is invited to tour the facility and enjoy a free community festival at the park until 6:30 p.m. There will be fitness demos, music, bounce houses, eco displays and giveaways, while supplies last.

The new, one-story 20,000 square-foot center features a covered passenger drop-off entrance, a reception and lobby area, and assorted multi-purpose rooms for staff, meetings, special events, games, fitness, cultural enrichment activities and after-school and adult programs. There will also be an 82-by-44-foot aquatic pool with a deck and splash pad with lifeguard, first aid and pool ticket stations, plus men's and women's locker rooms, restrooms and showers.

Other new amenities for the site include landscaping, lighted walkways and parking areas, a detached restroom building and a new 1,200-square-foot band shell. There is also a new lakeside pergola gazebo, donated by Art in Public Places artist Edouard Duval Carrie.

"I am thrilled to see this development completed. It has been one of the most rewarding initiatives that I have championed during my service as commissioner for District 2," Commissioner Monestime shared. "This new state-of-the-art Center is more than just a beautiful facility, it is a place where dreams live and today we are living Gerry's dream. He was 'the people's priest,' an amazing man who devoted his entire life and work to help

Continued on Page 9

Continued From Page 1

County Commission releases 2019 status of women report Wages for women remain stagnant despite gains in education

disparity in Miami-Dade has not changed much in the last decade, with women making about 86 cents to a dollar a man earns.

Some key findings in the report include: Educational Attainment

-More women earn bachelor's degrees (19.8%) and fewer attain graduate or professional degrees (10%). 17.8% of men have bachelor's degrees and 11% have graduate or professional degrees.

-In 2017, the largest proportion of bachelor's degrees attained by women in the 25-39 age group were in science, engineering and related fields; 44.8%, up from 39.1% in 2016.

Economic Participation

-Even though women are the majority of the population in Miami-Dade, they only represent 44.2% of the full-time workforce.

Economic Equality

-In a decade, the gap between men's and women's earnings increased from 13.9% in 2007 to 14.2% in 2017.

-In 2017, the earnings gap for full-time female workers decreased to 14% down from 15% in 2016.

-There are double-digit gaps in the top 10 highest-paid occupations for women.

-When adjusted for inflation, both women's and men's earnings have declined over the last 10 years.

-The earnings of White, non-Hispanic full-time workers were 42% higher than those of Black workers, and 37% higher than Hispanic workers.

"Despite the fact that more women than ever are graduating from colleges and universities, an unacceptable wage gap persists," said Commissioner Levine Cava. "It is our hope that by sharing this crucial report with the community, we can all join in crafting common-



Advocates for women and girls joined Commissioner Levine Cava in support of pay equity for women.

sense solutions that will further improve the lives of women and girls in Miami-Dade County."

Since adoption of the CEDAW ordinance, the Board has passed several pieces of legislation addressing pay equity for women in county contracts, representation of women on county boards, and updates to the county's sexual harassment policies. The Miami-Dade Commission for Women took the lead on identifying policy priorities which informed the legislative agenda and is working to prepare policy recommendations based on the 2019 report.

"With the help of my colleagues on the Board of County Commissioners, I look forward to reviewing and implementing these recommendations to address inequalities that still exist between men and women," said County Commission Chairwoman Audrey M. Edmonson. "As we celebrate Women's History Month, let's commit ourselves to truly valuing and supporting women, because when women do well, our society does well."

For a copy of the report contact County Commissioner Levine Cava at District8@miamidade.gov or 305.378.6677.

Continued From Page 1

Mayor Suarez Hosts U.S. HUD Secretary Dr. Ben Carson

opportunity to demonstrate how both the public and private sector are working together to provide affordable housing and make Miami more resilient in the process. Through the Miami Forever Bond and its Department of

Housing and Community Development, the City of Miami is working hard to ensure all residents have access to affordable housing and a better quality of life.

NORTH MIAMI MEMORY PROJECT

The Greater North Miami Historical Society, Florida International University Libraries, and the North Miami Public Library invite you to enjoy this interactive exhibit of framed photographs from the 1940s-1960s and oral histories of North Miamians from the StoryCorps project. Learn what it was like to live in the City of North Miami from the very early days to the 1980s.



PINEAPPLE FARMS. ANIMALS ESCAPING FROM THE ZOO.
THE HANGAR HOUSE. TEQUESTA INDIANS.
THE WAX MUSEUM. A CAR IN A HOTEL POOL.



WHAT DO ALL OF THESE HAVE IN COMMON?
All are a part of North Miami's History!

The North Miami Memory Project: A HISTORICAL EXHIBIT AND PROGRAM SERIES

The Greater North Miami Historical Society, Florida International University Libraries, and the North Miami Public Library invite you to enjoy this interactive exhibit of framed photographs from the 1940s-1960s and oral histories of North Miamians from the StoryCorps project.

Learn what it was like to live in the City of North Miami from the very early days to the 1980s.

On display at the
North Miami Public Library
835 NE 132 Street, North Miami, FL 33161
FRIDAY, APRIL 5 - FRIDAY, AUGUST 30, 2019



Opening Reception and Talk
"Boulevard of Dreams: The History of Greater North Miami"
LECTURE BY LOCAL HISTORIAN AND AUTHOR, SETH H. BRAMSON
FRIDAY APRIL 5, 2019 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

"North Miami and the Florida Land Boom"
LECTURE BY FLORIDA HISTORIAN, JUAN L. RIERA
SATURDAY, APRIL 6, 2019 10:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



This exhibit will travel to the
Glenn Hubert Library
Florida International University, Biscayne Bay Campus
3000 NE 151 Street, North Miami, FL 33181
SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2019



Opening Reception and Talk
"Boulevard of Dreams: Greater North Miami and Interama"
BY LOCAL HISTORIAN AND AUTHOR, SETH H. BRAMSON
THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 12, 2019 6:00 - 8:00 p.m.

FIU Libraries



The North Miami Memory Project was made possible by a generous grant from the Florida Humanities Council and is supported by the Friends of the North Miami Public Library.

NORTH MIAMI
Public Library
835 NE 132 Street, North Miami, FL 33161



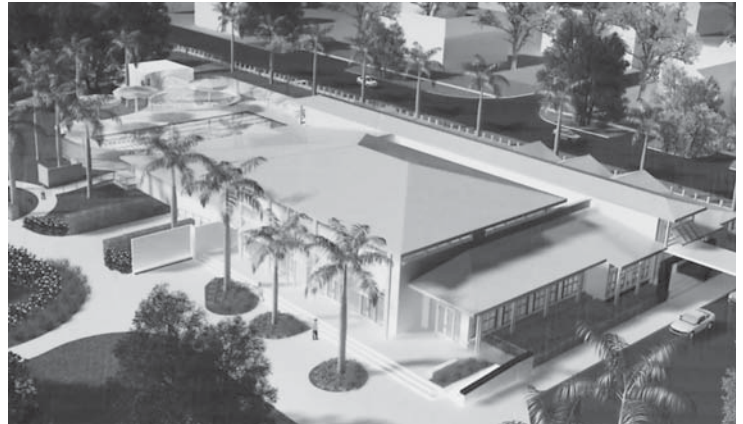
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Continued From Page 8

Grand opening of Father Gerard Jean-Juste Community Center at Oak Grove Park to take place April 5



others. The entire center will be focused on providing educational and recreational programming for every age group, empowering residents to be the best they can be."

"This is an absolutely outstanding community center and is exactly what this park and the community needed," said Miami-Dade Parks Director Maria I Nardi. "This project marks another milestone in our Parks department's master plan for creating a vibrant parks system with amenities that residents can enjoy, while connecting people and parks for life!"

The cost to complete the new development was \$11 million. Funding was provided by the "Building Better Communities" General Obligation Bond program.

Born in Cavaillon, Haiti, Father Jean-Juste became the first Haitian ordained as a Catholic priest in the United States. While living and working at the Cathedral of the Holy Cross in Boston, he earned bachelor's degrees in engineering technology and civil engineering from Northeastern University (1974-77). He later established the Haitian Refugee Center in Miami as part of his efforts to help Haitian immigrants win greater asylum consideration and to protect their due process rights. Always appearing

positive in the face of challenges, his slogan was "Piti, Piti, na rive" ("Little by little we will arrive"). He passed away on May 27, 2009, at the age of 62, after a four-year battle with chronic lymphocytic leukemia.

The 22-acre park features a five-acre lake, a three-acre hardwood hammock, a small recreation center, a lighted soccer field, lighted parking, four tennis courts, walkways and park benches.

About Miami-Dade Parks
2019 marks the 90th anniversary of Miami-Dade Parks! Celebrate with us all year and follow us on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter or on our website for information on our yearlong celebration and the latest news and updates from Miami-Dade Parks!

Miami-Dade Parks is the third largest county park system in the United States, consisting of 270 parks and 13,573 acres of land. It is one of the most unique park and recreation systems in the world and focused on Placemaking, Health and Fitness and Conservation and Stewardship. The nonprofit Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade supports Miami-Dade Parks' efforts to further develop Miami-Dade County's world-class parks system for residents and visitors.

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HEALTH CARE



GET THE FACTS.
STAY STRONG.

IT'S TIME FOR A HEART-TO-HEART

GET (HEART) HEALTHY

It's no secret that heart disease takes a major toll on our country's health. In fact, about 5.1 million Americans are living with chronic heart failure, a progressive condition in which the heart can't pump enough blood to meet the body's needs.

As you age, you have a higher risk of contributing to these statistics. It's important to know that with proper care and management, those living with heart failure can enjoy a full, active life.

KNOW THE SIGNS

Most people that develop heart failure have a pre-existing condition, like coronary artery disease, high blood pressure or a previous heart attack. If you've been diagnosed with one of these issues, it's critical that you manage it carefully to help prevent the onset of heart failure.

In general, the number one thing you can do to fight back against heart-related health problems is to be aware of the most common risk factors. If you answer "yes" to any of these questions, you may be at a higher risk.

• Do you have high blood pressure or high LDL cholesterol levels?

• Do you smoke or consume alcohol excessively?

• Are poor diet and inactivity causing you to be overweight or obese?

• Do you have diabetes?



LIVE THE SIMPLE 7

Beating heart disease is a lot easier than you may think. To make the biggest impact on your heart's health, the American Heart Association recommends you practice these "Simple 7" habits every day:

- 1 Keep a healthy weight
- 2 Eat better and healthier
- 3 Get up and get active
- 4 Watch your blood pressure
- 5 Lower your blood sugar
- 6 Kick the smoking habit
- 7 Control your cholesterol

If you've been diagnosed with a heart issue, open communication with your care team is vital. Remember, with proper management, you can live a long and healthy life.

About 1 in every 4 deaths is caused by heart disease.

Heart Disease Facts. (2015, August 10). Retrieved January 04, 2017, from <https://www.cdc.gov/heartdisease/facts.htm>
Heart Failure Fact Sheet. (2016). Retrieved January 04, 2017, from https://www.cdc.gov/dhdsfp/data_statistics/fact_sheets/fs_heart_failure.htm
My Life Check - Life's Simple 7. (n.d.). Retrieved January 04, 2017, from http://www.heart.org/HEARTORG/Conditions/My-Life-Check--Life's-Simple-7_UCM_471453_Article.jsp?WGOrrn11K4

CATALYST MIAMI AND THE MIAMI-DADE ORAL HEALTH NETWORK TO HOST 4TH ANNUAL ORAL HEALTH EQUITY SUMMIT

WHAT: Catalyst Miami and Miami-Dade Oral Health Network Partners to host the 4th Annual Oral Health Equity Summit on March 29, 2019. We invite members of the community to examine the current state of oral health in terms of health equity in our County, and to share and receive information regarding existing programs and policy initiatives to increase access and equity in oral care.

WHO: Catalyst Miami and members of the Miami Dade Oral Health Network, in partnership with the City of Miami Gardens and the Live Healthy initiative.

Speakers include:

- Chelsie Purcell, M.P.H., Jessie Trice Community Center
- Adriana Torres, M.S., FIU Neighborhood HELP program
- Norma Subadan, Community Health of South Florida, Inc
- Audrey P. Miller, PhD, MSN Ed, APRN, PPCNP-BC, FIU Nicole Wertheim College of Nursing and Health Sciences
- Claudia A. Serna, PhD, DDS, MPH, MCHES, CPH, Nova Southeastern University - Dr. Kiran C. Patel of Osteopathic Medicine
- Miriam Harmatz, J.D., Florida Health Justice Project, Inc.
- Zelalem Adefris, M.P.H., Catalyst Miami

WHEN: Friday, March 28, 2019,

3:30 - 6:30pm

WHERE: Betty T. Ferguson Recreational Complex

3000 NW 199th Street, Miami Gardens, FL 33056

WHY: To improve awareness that oral health is critical to overall health. The summit's goals are to:

- Examine the intersectionality of oral health, social justice, and community advocacy
 - Identify available resources for comprehensive oral health programs in our communities
 - Develop strategies that yield policy and systems change to address existing disparities and inequalities in oral health
- According to the U.S. News and World Report (2019) Florida ranks 48 out of 50 states in terms of overall healthcare access. Children and adolescents from low-income families have approximately two times or greater the rates of tooth decay than children from higher-income families. Other specific groups also lack access to proper oral healthcare coverage, including seniors, people with disabilities, and Medicaid and CHIP recipients, due to a shortage of dental care providers who accept public insurance plans.

Admission for the summit is free. Refreshments and childcare provided. Registration and more info can be found at bit.ly/ohesummit.

Miami Beach Appoints New Economic Development Director

Leading Business Development Executive Bo Martinez Miami Beach, FL Charged with rolling out the red carpet for the business community and cutting out the red tape, the City Commission unanimously appointed Bo Martinez to serve as the new Economic Development Director. "I'm excited to bring Mr. Martinez on board given his decorated history in economic development and significant success in business retention and expansion in the communities he's served," shared City Manager Jimmy L. Morales. Working with various government across the United States, including the City of Phoenix and City and County of Broomfield, Colorado, Martinez has over 20 years of experience in economic development. In his most recent role at the City and County of Broomfield, Martinez was responsible for enhancing the city's revenue base, pursuing investments in transportation and development, connecting people and jobs and ultimately facilitating

community revitalization. Prior to Broomfield, Martinez worked for the City and County of Denver's Office of Economic Development where he directed the city's Neighborhood Marketplace Initiative, Business Retention, Expansion and Attraction programs. At the City of Phoenix, he developed and managed the Metro Light Rail Transit Oriented Development program and downtown development projects. Martinez received his Bachelor of Arts and Master's Degree in Urban and Regional Planning from the University of Colorado and is the past chair of the Metro Denver Economic Development Corporation Professionals Group. "I'm thrilled to join the dynamic team in place at the City of Miami Beach," said Martinez. "I look forward to working with leaders in the public and private sectors and the community to enhance the local economy and build on the vibrancy of this world-class city."

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