ROUND TABLE ON EXAMINING NEIGHBORHOOD-BASED CHANGE IN OVERTOWN MIAMI

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH
OVERTOWN CHILDREN & YOUTH COALITION

COSPONSORED BY
 Allegany Franciscan Ministries
 Barry University, School of Social Work
 University of Miami, Office of Civic and Community Engagement

Office of the Honorable
David S. Nelson Professional Chair

MAY 7-8, 2015
NELSON CHAIR ROUNDTABLE ON EXAMINING NEIGHBORHOOD-BASED CHANGE IN OVERTOWN MIAMI:
Implementation, Policy, and Sustainability in Overtown Miami, Florida

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Thursday, May 7, 2015</th>
<th>Friday, May 8, 2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>
| **5:00**  | **8:00**  
| **6:00**  | **9:00**  
| Registration & Reception  | Continental Breakfast  
| Overtown Children & Youth Coalition Overview and Masterplan  |  
| **6:00**  | **9:00**  
| **6:30**  | **9:45**  
| Welcome & Greetings  | Welcome  
| Dr. Tisa McGhee, Barry University, School of Social Work  | Emily Eisenhauer, Program Coordinator, University of Miami, Office of Civic and Community Engagement  
| Dean Phyllis Scott, Barry University, School of Social Work  | Introductions & Roundtable Goals  
| Dr. Anderson J. Franklin, Boston College, Lynch School of Education, Nelson Professional Chair  | Dr. Anderson J. Franklin, Boston College, Lynch School of Education, Nelson Professional Chair  
| Tina Brown, Co-Chair, Overtown Children & Youth Coalition  | Saliha Nelson, Chairwoman, Overtown Children & Youth Coalition  
| Special Recognition  | Youth Performance  
| Clarence Woods, Executive Director, Southeast Overtown/Park West Community Redevelopment Agency  | Girl Power Girls’ Choir of Miami  
| Commissioner Keon Hardemon, City of Miami, District 5  | Special Greetings  
| Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, School Board Member, MDCPS District 2  | City of Miami Mayor Thomas Regalado  
| Senator Dwight Bullard, State of Florida, District 39  | Commissioner Keon Hardemon, City of Miami, District 5  
| **6:30**  | **9:45**  
| **7:30**  | **10:45**  
| NELSON CHAIR COLLOQUIUM  | What is the Overtown Children & Youth Coalition?  
| Florida Children’s Initiatives: Lessons Learned, Best Practices & Future Outlook  | Overtown Children & Youth Coalition Initiative Overview and Masterplan  
| Moderator  |  
| Dr. Anderson J. Franklin, Boston College, Lynch School of Education, Nelson Professional Chair  |  
| Panelists  |  
| Lisa Early, Director, Parramore Kidz Zone, Families, Parks and Recreation Department, City of Orlando - ORLANDO  |  
| Dr. Irvin PeDro Cohen, Executive Director, New Town Success Zone - JACKSONVILLE  |  
| Cecilia Gutierrez-Abety, Executive Director, Miami Children’s Initiative, Inc. - MIAMI  |  
| **8:00**  | **10:45**  
| **9:00**  | **11:00**  
| **9:45**  | **11:30**  
| **10:45**  | **12:15**  
| **11:00**  | **1:15**  
| **11:30**  | **2:45**  
| **12:15**  | **3:30**  
| **1:15**  | **2:45**  
| **2:45**  | **3:30**  
| Break  | Break Out Groups:  
| What does it mean to be an OCYC Member?  | Healthy & Safe Connected Leading Productive & Working  
| Prep and Instructions for Break Out Groups  |  
| Lunch and Keynote  |  
| Charles M. Auslander, President & Chief Executive Officer, The Children’s Trust  |  
| Small Group Report Outs, Takeaways, Action Steps  |  

Hosted by Barry University, Miami Shores, FL  
Hosted by University of Miami, Miami, FL
ROUND TABLE MISSION

The Roundtable Mission is to create a supportive network of exceptional Community-Based Programs, expert consultants, and academics who have a shared commitment to valuable work in the community. Through this network the Roundtable will foster program-to-program mentoring and cultivate mutual resources as well as the sharing of knowledge and skills. Finally, the Roundtable will support participating programs by addressing challenges of leadership capacity building, implementation of strategic planning, staff development, and funding acquisition. Roundtable mission aims to define best practices and strengthen the ties between Community-Based Programs in a manner that enhances their capacity to effectively address the multitude of challenges facing the populations they serve.

DIRECTOR OF THE ROUND TABLE WELCOME LETTER

Welcome to the Boston College Nelson Chair Roundtable on Examining Neighborhood-Based Change in Overtown Miami. This is a historic occasion. We are launching our first Roundtable in the field in partnership with the Overtown Children & Youth Coalition (OCYC). This is a next step in their evolving community organization and we are honored to be a part of this growth process. It is a growth step for the Roundtable also. We are developing ways to further our model of working with community organizations and to facilitate leadership capacity building as well as organizational impact.

The Roundtable model is intuitive. Our belief is that effective community development is a product of strategic collaboration among partnering organizations. Working in the “silo model” as a singular organization to confront community challenges is not as effective as working together. We embrace the African saying: “The webs of many spiders tie down a lion.” As organizations we have resources and capacities that both differ and overlap. When brought together it unleashes enormous potential to bring about change in our communities. The Roundtable seeks to build upon the rich knowledge and capacities of organizations through promoting the sharing of inter-organizational information, best practices in leadership and organizational effectiveness. This can be done at the national, state and local levels given the will. We have an opportunity to model this behavior at this Roundtable in partnership with Overtown Children & Youth Coalition.

Therefore welcome to the Roundtable experience. During this time we hope you will relax, connect to each other as resourceful participants, engage conversations, exchange information, and build or renew partnerships.

Sincerely,

Anderson J. Franklin, Ph.D.
Director, Nelson Chair Roundtable on Networking Community Based Programs
Honorable David. S Nelson Professional Chair
Boston College
Carolyn A. and Peter S. Lynch School of Education
https://www.bc.edu/schools/lsoe/nelson.html
Dr. Anderson J. Franklin is the Honorable David S. Nelson Professor of Psychology and Education in the Department of Counseling, Developmental and Educational Psychology at Boston College Lynch School of Education and Professor Emeritus of Psychology from The Graduate School of The City University of New York. Dr. Franklin holds a Ph.D. in Counseling Psychology from the University of Oregon. He directs the *Nelson Chair Roundtable for Networking Community Based Programs* and the *Boston College Collaborative Extended Learning Project* strengthening ties between schools, families and community partners engaged in out of school time activities to address the achievement gap and mental health of students.

Dr. Franklin was the speaker at 2010 Lewis and Clark College Commencement during which he was awarded an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters. He received the 2010 Outstanding Alumnus Award from the University of Oregon College of Education. Recently Dr. Franklin was honored for his civil rights legacy by the Commonwealth of Virginia General Assembly, The Mayor's Office of the City of Richmond, and Virginia Union University as a member of the “Richmond 34” students who by civil disobedience through Sit-Ins and arrests led to the desegregation of Richmond and the State of Virginia. Dr. Franklin also received the Groundbreakers Award from All Stars Project Annual Gala at Lincoln Center, New York City in 2012. In 2013 he was a Visiting Scholar at the Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University in Port Elizabeth, Eastern Cape South Africa. He is co-author with Dr. Nancy Boyd-Franklin of *Boys Into Men: Raising our African American Teenage Sons* published by Dutton. His last book is *From Brotherhood to Manhood: How Black Men Rescue Their Relationships and Dreams From the Invisibility Syndrome* by John Wiley & Sons which was placed on Essence magazine best sellers list.
David S. Nelson was born in 1933 in Roxbury, Massachusetts, to parents who were Jamaican natives. He received his B.S. from Boston College in 1957 and graduated from Boston College School of Law in 1960. Judge Nelson began his professional career with the Boston law firm of Crane, Inker and Oteri, where he worked until 1973. From 1968 to 1969, Judge Nelson served as a United States Commissioner for the United States District Court, District of Massachusetts. In 1971, Judge Nelson became the first African-American to serve as an Assistant Attorney General for the State of Massachusetts, as Chief of the Consumer Protection Division. In 1973, he was appointed Justice of the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of Massachusetts. Judge Nelson received the “Judge of the Year Award” from the Massachusetts Academy of Trial Attorneys in 1977. On March 23, 1979, President Jimmy Carter appointed Judge Nelson as a judge to the United States District Court for the District of Massachusetts, making him the first African-American to serve in this role.

Judge Nelson was active in the community and at Boston College, where he served on the Board of Trustees for five terms and was its chairman from 1984–1987. In 1979, he received an honorary Doctor of Laws Degree from BC and served as the commencement speaker. In 1995, the University established the Honorable David S. Nelson Professional Chair, to be held by an African-American professor who reflects the “educational aspirations and human qualities” so prominent in Judge Nelson’s career and his civic involvement. Judge Nelson retired from the federal bench in 1995 and died on October 21, 1998.
OVERTOWN CHILDREN & YOUTH COALITION MISSION

A founding group of leaders of community-based non-profit organizations (CBOs) providing services to children and youth formed the Overtown Children & Youth Coalition in September of 2012. Led by a committed steering committee of anchoring community based organizations, the Overtown Children & Youth Coalition (OCYC) began work on an ambitious agenda. As a result, since the summer of 2012, the Coalition, whose members include anchored community-based organizations in Overtown, institutional stakeholders and residents, have completed the Overtown Children & Youth Assets and Needs Assessment Map with the support of Barry University’s School of Social Work, Photovoice Exhibit: Overtown Voices, and just recently, the Overtown Children & Youth Masterplan 2015-2020. The partnership has resulted in a series of reports that will be used to substantiate an application to the State of Florida to make Overtown one of Florida’s Children’s Initiatives. Unique to the Coalition’s approach is that it is community-led and driven, and is comprised of professionals, institutions, public officials/government, residents, and youth. To date, the Overtown Children & Youth Coalition has been recognized as the official steering committee for the area by the Southeast Overtown/ Park West Community Redevelopment Agency (CRA) and City of Miami Commission.

ABOUT OVERTOWN, MIAMI, FL

Overtown, Miami, FL has approx. 13,119 residents, 61% are Black, 28% are of Hispanic heritage, and almost 1/3 are under 18 years old. Eighty-seven percent (87%) of residents live below the poverty line (Census 2000). The community’s arts, business and entertainment corridors are speckled with vacant lots, dilapidated buildings and empty retail bays. Ironically, Overtown is less than a mile from the bustling Port of Miami, less than 2 miles from Brickell’s international banking hub, is encircled by Miami Dade County Public Schools, Miami Dade College, the Performing Arts Center, a new multi-million dollar homeless housing and service center, a state off the art bio-technology park and will be the home of a new billion dollar passenger rail station. But, the level of disparity between Miami’s hub of international and local economic activity and Overtown’s poverty and economic stagnation is jarring.
Overtown Children & Youth Masterplan 2015-2020

**Inputs**

**Common Agenda**
Serve as a catalyst to develop and support multi-agency and cross-sector collaborations that serve to empower all children and youth to thrive.

**Shared Measurement**
Use evidenced based strategies and data to inform decisions, policies and develop community-wide best practices.

**Mutually Reinforcing Activities**
Advocate and support mutually beneficial partnerships that leverage existing assets and align resources to maximize impact.

**Continuous Communication**
Facilitate continuous improvement, capacity building and evaluation efforts to drive collective impact goals.

**Community Development**
Empower a broad array of community voices, build awareness, share information, co-develop solutions and mobilize to take action in achieving goals.

**Investment & Sustainability**
Develop a collective action agenda to influence policy and resource allocation decisions within the political, economic and social systems.

**Outcomes**

- **Healthy & Safe**
  Comprehensive community wide service network

- **Connected**
  High Quality Community and family support network

- **Leading**
  Positive youth and community development

- **Productive & Working**
  Positive Engagement in local economy

**Outputs**

- **Create and improve safe and supportive environments**
- **Engage parents and caregivers as partners in children's learning and education**
- **Connect children and youth to volunteer opportunities in their community**
- **Expand opportunities for positive relationships between youth and caring adults**
- **Academic Achievement**
- **Learning & Innovation**
- **College Access and Success**
- **Workforce Readiness**
- **Employment**
- **Business/Career Development**

**Continual Communication**
Facilitate continuous improvement, capacity building and evaluation efforts to drive collective impact goals.

**Common Agenda**
Serve as a catalyst to develop and support multi-agency and cross-sector collaborations that serve to empower all children and youth to thrive.

**Shared Measurement**
Use evidenced based strategies and data to inform decisions, policies and develop community-wide best practices.

**Mutually Reinforcing Activities**
Advocate and support mutually beneficial partnerships that leverage existing assets and align resources to maximize impact.

**Community Development**
Empower a broad array of community voices, build awareness, share information, co-develop solutions and mobilize to take action in achieving goals.

**Investment & Sustainability**
Develop a collective action agenda to influence policy and resource allocation decisions within the political, economic and social systems.
WELCOME LETTER FROM THE CHAIR

As the Overtown Children & Youth Coalition (OCYC) moves forward it is our intent to be seen as a catalyst in leveraging the community’s assets to encourage and support collective impact projects and initiatives which create win-win solutions for Overtown children and youth. Our vision is an Overtown where all children and youth thrive. We believe in order to truly create a caring and empowered community that rallies behind successful outcomes for children and youth requires active participation, correct information, dedicated resources and support of both those working in government, institutions, organizations, families and at the grassroots level every day. It is this combination of knowledge, skills, values and motivation that will make the difference.

The OCYC is committed to work towards this end, and seeks partners with “can do” spirits, open minds and some elbow grease to keep things moving in a positive direction in Overtown. The urgency of this task is undeniable. It is our hope that as we work to make a difference for Overtown children and youth more will join us in this effort. As OCYC Chair, I am proud of the progress we have made and am honored to work alongside many community champions including the OCYC Board of Directors: Tina Brown, Anna Frusciante, Sonia Jacobson, Jason Pittman and Clarence Woods.

We appreciate the Office of the Honorable David S. Nelson Professional Chair at the Lynch School of Education at Boston College for bringing us on as their Miami partner for the 2015 Nelson Chair Roundtable on Networking Community Based Programs.

Our hope is that, as we partner with community organizations, schools, youth and residents, we can use the ideas and information we generate through this Roundtable to continue creating a community where by the age of 24, every child has had access to a caring adult, a stable environment, a quality education, and has the opportunity to become a positive change agent for their community. By deepening our knowledge through the exchange of program data and proven practices, we can continue to create systemic change in our communities with foresight, creativity, and shared accountability.

Thank you so much for your engagement and partnership.

Sincerely,

Saliha Nelson, MSEd
OCYC Chairwoman
Vice President, URGENT, Inc.
Saliha Nelson is an experienced non-profit executive and agent for social change specializing in strength-based approaches with low-income urban youth, youth participatory action research and forming cross-sector coalitions that engage in systems-level change. Ms. Nelson currently serves as Vice President of URGENT, Inc. a non-profit youth and community development organization dedicated to empowering youth to become agents of change and volunteers as the Chairwoman of the Overtown Children & Youth Coalition, Vice Chair of the Miami Dade County Public Schools Student Services Advisory Committee and member of the Miami Dade Economic Advocacy Trust Youth Advisory Committee.

Ms. Nelson has been recognized for her work. Most recently Saliha was inducted into the Women's Fund of Miami Dade Honor Roll, received the MCCJ Student Silver Medallion Award for community-based leadership, service and advocacy and acknowledged as a South Florida Freedom’s Sisters by Ford Motor Company Foundation.

Saliha studied at the American University of Cairo, received a Bachelor of Science in Social Policy and Education from Northwestern University and earned a Master's of Education in Community and Social Change from the University of Miami.

URGENT, Inc.

URGENT, Inc. is a 501 (c) (3) Overtown Miami, FL based youth and community development organization celebrating 20 years of service to the Miami community. URGENT’s mission is to empower young minds to transform their communities. URGENT’s vision is that all youth have the social, economic and educational resources to thrive. The organization concentrates its work in Overtown, Little Haiti and Goulds. Guided by the principles of innovation, growth and transformation, URGENT sees young people as the drivers of change and works to provide empowering opportunities to develop the next generation of social change agents rising out of the inner city. URGENT’s priorities are to innovate and improve upon existing best practices that support youth in their transition to become social change agents. URGENT’s long term goals are to work in partnership with communities, build cross-sector coalitions and partner with organizations in order to bring about systems and community change. Currently, the organization operates six core after school, summer, workforce training and intergenerational programs with the aim to empower youth to contribute positively to their community. Current programs include: Rites of Passage for Girls, Campaign for Girls Well-Being, Youth Empowerment After School, Youth Empowerment Summer Camp for Girls, Intergenerational Project, Murals for Dorsey Park and Film | Arts & Culture | Coding | Entrepreneurship Summer Employment and Training Program.
Tina Brown is a fifteen year veteran in the field of accounting and business management for both corporate and non-profit entities. She has a diverse work history portfolio that includes experience in the field of cost accounting, auditing, general ledger maintenance, taxation, budgeting, systems implementation, and management experience.

Tina began her career working as a Staff Accountant for Terranova Corporation in 1996. Since then, she has held several positions within various other corporations (i.e. Whitman Education Group, Sharpton, Brunson, CPA, Royal Caribbean) which afforded her the opportunity to gain an invaluable amount of experience which would later result in the progression to senior level positions within many different organizations.

In 2005 Tina was fortunate to land a position at the Alonzo Mourning’s Overtown Youth Center as the Finance Director. As the Finance Director, she was responsible for the oversight of a $1.8 million budget and provided oversight for other administrative positions within the agency.

In August 2010, Tina was appointed Interim Executive Director by the governing board of Alonzo Mourning Charities, Inc. Tina is now responsible for the effective implementation and service delivery of program components; supervision of Development, Finance, Facilities, and Human Resources. After serving in the capacity of Interim Director for approximately one year and three months, Tina was appointed as Executive Director by Alonzo Mourning.

Tina earned a Bachelor of Business Administration in Accounting from the Savannah State University and a Master’s degree in Accounting from University of Phoenix.

Born and raised in Miami, Florida, Tina continues to reside in the sunshine state with her husband and three children, Kaige and Canaan, and Kaiden Brown.

Overtown Youth Center

The Overtown Youth Center’s (OYC) mission is to inspire and empower youth and families by fostering hope through enrichment services. Dedicated to its mission, OYC strives to improve the quality of life for youth and families in the area of Overtown, a community overflowing with socio-economic challenges.

The Overtown Youth Center offers a comprehensive and holistic set of services to over 400 youth and families in the Overtown community and surrounding areas. OYC consists of four high quality, structured, service components; in-school support services, after-school program services, and summer camp service and parent program services. The program offers life skills, homework assistance, mentoring, tutoring, wrap-around services, and an array of enrichment and exposure activities to help develop a well-rounded child.
Anna Frusciante, OCYC Secretary
Director, Sundari Foundation, Inc.

Anna Frusciante, Esq., is Director of the Sundari Foundation, Inc. dba Lotus House, an organization providing holistic, trauma-informed shelter and wrap around support services for over 170 women, youth and children with high special needs daily. Previously an attorney at Legal Services of Greater Miami, and in private commercial practice before that, Anna has extensive experience representing indigent individuals in a wide range of consumer, civil and benefits matters, and corporate clients in areas such as civil rights and discrimination, professional liability, and contract dispute matters. She graduated, cum laude and Order of Coif, with a Juris Doctor degree from the University of Florida, Levin College of Law, and also earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Psychology from the University of Miami.

Sonia Jacobson, OCYC Treasurer
Founder/Executive Director, Dress for Success Miami

Sonia Jacobson has over 30 years experience as an entrepreneur in both the profit and not-for profit arenas. In 1985 she founded Image Development Group, a communications firm providing training seminars for individuals and the corporate community in defining, cultivating and promoting their business image, communications skills, professional presence and international protocol.

In 1994, Sonia co-founded Suited For Success, a non-profit corporation providing employment skills training, professional image, business etiquette and professional clothing for economically disadvantaged women. Several other programs followed: in 1998, an at-risk teen program called START NOW! (Smart Teens Are Responsible for Tomorrow Now!); in 1999, a division of SFS for men called Career Gear-Miami, an affiliate of Career Gear New York. In 2006, a new program called “Barbara's Girls” was developed to provide foster care girls with professional image and employment skills training.

Each year, since 1996, Former Mayor Alex Penelas of Miami-Dade County proclaimed June 5th Suited For Success Day. Former Governor Lawton Chiles awarded Sonia “Florida’s Finest” an award for outstanding community service. In 1998, the achievements of Suited For Success were recognized by former Vice President Al Gore.

In May, 2007, the women’s program of SFS joined Dress for Success Worldwide in New York City and became Dress for Success Miami. The youth program and men’s program remain Suited For Success.

As a guest speaker, Sonia continues the tradition of providing universities, corporations and business professionals with seminars in professional image, communication skills, business etiquette and international protocol.
Jason Pittman
Executive Director, Touching Miami With Love

Jason Pittman, Executive Director of Touching Miami with Love, serving over 200 children and youth in the high need communities of Overtown and West Homestead has over 20 years’ experience serving in American inner cities. He holds a Masters of Social Work degree from Baylor University and a Master of Divinity from Truett Seminary. He is the founder and former director of a drug and alcohol treatment center, Manna House, in Texas. He served as a Community Development Coordinator in Detroit and is passionate about asset based community development and impacting communities. Jason and his wife have raised their two sons in the inner city currently as homeowners in Overtown.

Clarence Woods
Executive Director, SEOPW Community Redevelopment Agency

Clarence Woods, III is Executive Director of the Southeast Overtown/ Park West Community Redevelopment Agency (SEOPW CRA), where he is responsible for designing, developing, and implementing sustainable community development plans in a cost-efficient and time-efficient manner.

Mr. Woods brings more than two decades of knowledge and experience in real estate, banking, finance, and government to his role as the SEOPW CRA’s chief executive. He earned a bachelor’s degree in Business Administration from Virginia State University and master’s degree in Business Administration from Cameron University. Prior to his work in government, Mr. Woods held positions at First Commercial Bank SSB, BankUnited, and Mortgage.com, where he gained practical experience in banking, finance, and real estate as a Secondary Market Analyst. He brought that experience and earned knowledge to bear as a Real Estate Specialist for the City of Miami in 2000, coordinating development activities and providing project management for City of Miami development projects, including Parrot Jungle, Miami Children’s Museum, and Grove Harbour Marina & Marketplace.

In 2005, Mr. Woods joined the Office of Miami City Commissioner Michelle Spence-Jones as a Senior Advisor for Economic Development and Housing. During his tenure, he gained intimate knowledge of the challenges faced by the Overtown community, which informed his belief that sustainable community redevelopment must address the complex mix of challenges faced by residents of low-income neighborhoods. Mr. Woods was then brought on as Assistant Director of the City of Miami Community Redevelopment Agencies and later appointed Executive Director of the SEOPW CRA to head the redevelopment of Overtown.

As Executive Director of the SEOPW CRA, Mr. Woods provides strategic leadership during this crucial phase of Overtown’s progress. Under his management, the SEOPW CRA has worked with its partners to implement a number of programs in the redevelopment area that will increase human capital and income, and stimulate economic development. Now having secured approval to seek up to $60 million in bond loan financing for several major new mixed-used and affordable housing projects, Mr. Woods has positioned Overtown to be a focal point of future investment and growth in Miami.
Emily Eisenheur  
Program Coordinator, University of Miami, Office of Civic and Community Engagement

Emily Eisenhauer is a recent graduate of Florida International University’s Global and Socio-cultural Studies Department, where she completed her dissertation research on socio-ecological vulnerability to climate change in South Florida. From 2005 to 2011 she was a Research Associate at the Research Institute on Social and Economic Policy (RISEP) at the FIU Center for Labor Research and Studies where she conducted applied research projects with labor and grassroots social justice organizations on issues of economic justice, environmental justice, and social movements. She served in the Peace Corps as a TEFL educator at Qing Yang Teacher’s College in Gansu, China. She grew up in central Florida and completed her undergraduate work in German and Humanities at Stetson University in DeLand, FL.

Dr. Tisa McGhee  
Barry University, School of Social Work

Dr. McGhee joined Barry University’s School of Social Work in the fall of 2010. She teaches a variety of Social Work Practice, Research, Policy courses. Dr. McGhee received both her Bachelors and Masters degrees in Psychology from Cal State University; her Masters in Social Welfare from the University of California Los Angeles and her doctorate in Social Work with a concentration in macro organizational capacity building work from the University of Southern California. Dr. McGhee’s current research interest is in the management and administration of human service organizations specifically in the capacity building activities of non-profits.

Neighborhood Technical Assistance Grant

The Miami-Dade County-funded Neighborhood Technical Assistance (NTA) Grant dedicates its work to improving service delivery in urban communities. Over four years, this grant provided internships at community-based agencies, capacity-building within vulnerable communities, and trainings to the leadership of these community-based agencies that formed a network of support for 20 agencies and communities. In 2013, twelve graduate students provided 3,823 internship hours working with
families and more than 2,875 hours providing community services, including a community needs assessment that was presented to more than 90 residents and community leaders. The goals for the Neighborhood Technical Assistance Program are: (1) To strengthen and build the Neighborhood Resource Network which shall include ten (10) community-based agencies; (2) Provide Technical Assistance to the ten (10) agencies who are members of the Neighborhood Resource Network; and (3) build resource/service capacity of six (6) agencies within the Neighborhood Resource Network. Each component and goal of this project is designed to help maximize the collective sustainable resources of the Network, enhance the knowledge, skills, and collaboration of member-agencies and their workers, and expand needed services through student internships and clinical supervision.

Barry University, School of Social Work

Since it’s founding in 1966, The Ellen Whiteside School of Social Work’s (SSW) commitment to community engagement has been central to its mission. The School prioritizes in its mission “the quest for social and economic justice in local and global communities.” The SSW is fully committed to engaging and supporting students in their community engagement initiatives; with both “explicit” and “implicit” curriculum and the support of the faculty and staff.

Miguel A. Milanes
Regional Vice President, Miami-Dade County, Florida, Allegany Franciscan Ministries, Since 2003

Miguel is responsible for the organization’s grantmaking and community engagement activities in Miami-Dade County. In addition to overseeing the organization’s funding efforts, he develops relationships and partnerships with funders, community leaders and nonprofit organizations to further the mission of Trinity Health and Allegany Franciscan Ministries. He believes that his most important job function is that of advocating for our community’s marginalized and economically disadvantaged residents and all others suffering from life's challenges.

Before joining Allegany Franciscan Ministries, Miguel worked in state government serving first as director of the Miami-Dade County Health Department’s Office of HIV/AIDS and then as communications director for the Florida Department of Children and Families, serving abused, neglected and abandoned children.

In 1998, Miguel was appointed to the Presidential Advisory Council on HIV/AIDS by President Bill Clinton. Miguel also worked as special assistant to the director of the homeless programs at the US Department of Housing and Urban Development in Washington, DC. In Oklahoma City, he directed a nonprofit organization helping to improve the socio-economic conditions of immigrants and refugees settling in the state.

Miguel holds a Master’s of Public Administration from The City University of New York, and a Bachelor’s degree from Oklahoma City University. He is the former chair of the Donors’ Forum of South Florida, a regional association of grantmakers, and now serves on the board of the Florida Philanthropic Network.
Charles is both a public administrator and a lawyer. His efforts to serve the interests of children began taking shape in 1989 when he chaired the “cocaine babies” dependency court pro bono project that paired pro bono attorneys with guardians appointed to represent dependent children.

Over the years he has participated in law-altering decisions that served the best interests of children. Through his efforts, guardians won the right to pursue termination of parental rights actions even when the state would not. A second appeal successfully served the permanency interests of foster children by authorizing their foster parents to adopt even when relatives expressed their willingness to do so, relieving trial courts of a rigid rule favoring relatives that could harm children’s well being. More recently, he was on the team of lawyers that achieved the declaration of the unconstitutionality of the bar on gay adoption that deprived so many children of permanent homes with foster parents with whom they were placed by the state simply because of those adults’ sexual orientation.

Charles served as Miami-Dade/Monroe District Administrator for DCF. During his tenure, there was a significant increase in the number of public adoptions to over 500 children annually. Specialized therapeutic foster care was expanded to keep children in family-like settings by integrating child welfare and mental health services in foster homes.

In March 2006, he began his tenure as the Chief Programs & Operations Officer for The Children’s Trust, an independent special district of local government dedicated to improving the conditions of children and families in Miami-Dade County, particularly focusing on prevention and early intervention services. In July, 2013, Charles was appointed by The Trust’s board of directors to be its second President & CEO.

Since becoming CEO, Charles has engaged the board of directors to restrategize the funding distributed annually by The Trust, from a budget of approximately $1 million. He has established a revised approach to budgeting, which has increased the funds available for programs including after school and summer camps for school-aged children, quality improvement for child care centers and services, parenting and health as well as home visitation programs, and collaborative partnerships to curb youth violence, reduce chronic absenteeism and serve at-risk families.

Moreover, The Children’s Trust is finding new ways to create more effective networks among its providers. We work from the premise that advocacy for communities and learning from residents is critical to transforming neighborhoods and increasing opportunities for children. We are guided by the knowledge that no single agency alone will accomplish sustainable improvement.
Lisa Early, Director, Parramore Kidz Zone, 
Families, Parks and Recreation Department, City of Orlando

In November 2003, Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer appointed Lisa Early to serve as the City’s first Director of Children and Education. In this capacity, Ms. Early implemented the Mayor’s pre-kindergarten initiative and served as Mayor Dyer’s liaison to the Mayor’s Education Action Council, Blue Ribbon Panel on Education, Parramore Task Force (Children & Education Committee), and Safe Orlando Task Force (Prevention Committee). She also founded Parramore Kidz Zone (PKZ), a replication of Harlem Children’s Zone in what was, at the time, Orlando’s highest poverty, highest crime neighborhood. Since then, PKZ has achieved precipitous declines in juvenile arrests and teen births and improvements in the academic performance of Parramore’s children.

With the award of a Federal AmeriCorps grant, partnership with Orange County Public Schools, federal funding for after school meals for low income children citywide, and expansion of the After-School All-Stars program at all City middle schools, Ms. Early and her team are now enhancing children’s programs across the full spectrum of City operations.

In addition to her work with children, in January 2006 Mayor Dyer appointed Ms. Early to serve as Orlando’s Director of Families, Parks and Recreation, so Ms. Early also oversees operation of the City’s 113 parks and 21 community centers. Ms. Early and her team have made numerous improvements to the City’s park and recreation operations, including development of the City’s tree management program, renovation of City parks and playgrounds, and expansion of the City’s iconic Lake Eola Park.

Prior to her work with the City of Orlando, Ms. Early developed and directed children’s programs in the United States and abroad since graduating from Cornell University in 1981. She lived in the Dominican Republic for ten years, where she worked with UNICEF and the U.S. Agency for International Development developing preschool education and maternal-child health programs for children living in urban slums and impoverished rural villages. She then returned to the United States to work with Arnold Palmer Hospital for Children for twelve years, where she established the Howard Phillips Center for Children & Families, Healthy Families Orange and the Orange County Children’s Advocacy Center.

Ms. Early is fully bilingual in English and Spanish and also speaks some Swahili. She serves on the Board of Directors of Florida Impact and the Orlando Community & Youth Trust (Board Chair) and is a longstanding Cornell Alumni Admissions Ambassador.

Dr. Irvin PeDro Cohen, Executive Director, New Town Success Zone

Dr. Irvin PeDro Cohen is the Executive Director of the New Town Success Zone, a community collaborative initiative largely based upon the Harlem Children Zone. The goal of the New Town Success Zone is to build a continuum of care for young people and their families with the explicit goal of leading children on a path to college, the military or some other form of post secondary training. He is also the Director of the Center for the Prevention of Health Disparities on the campus Edward Waters College in Jacksonville, FL.
Dr. Cohen is a Jacksonville, FL native and he received his bachelor’s degree in Sociology from the University of North Florida, his MBA in Marketing from Pfeiffer University and his Doctorate in Organizational Leadership and Urban Education from Nova Southeastern University. He is the author of “A Charge to Keep: The Changing Black Church Post Civil Rights.” His book is an examination of the African-American church relative to issues of well-being, particularly education, health and economics. Dr. Cohen is also a frequent commentator on issues relative to Social Economic Status and the Urbanization of Poverty.

Dr. Cohen serves on the advisory board of the Florida Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys, the University of North Florida’s School of Education’s Dean’s Advisory Council and the Institute for Urban Education and Policy, he is a member of the Jacksonville Chapter NAACP and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated Jacksonville Alumni Chapter and a member of Leadership Jax.

www.newtownsuccesszone.com
www.irvincohen.com

Dr. Cohen serves on the advisory board of the Florida Council on the Social Status of Black Men and Boys, the University of North Florida’s School of Education’s Dean’s Advisory Council and the Institute for Urban Education and Policy, he is a member of the Jacksonville Chapter NAACP and Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity Incorporated Jacksonville Alumni Chapter and a member of Leadership Jax.

Cecilia Gutierrez-Abety, Executive Director, Miami Children’s Initiative, Inc.

With an adventurous spirit and a passion for culture and travel, Cecilia Gutierrez has dedicated her career to helping those most in need, particularly children. In 2009, she fulfilled a lifelong dream and embarked on a year abroad working in South Africa and India that fueled her passion for service.

Since October 2011, Cecilia has worked for the Miami Children’s Initiative (MCI), initially as the Vice President for Development and a now as its President/CEO. The organization is utilizing the framework of the nationally renowned Harlem Children’s Zone to transform Liberty City into a prosperous community, where all its children will graduate from College. Prior to MCI, Cecilia successful led the launch of a three-year $1 million dollar grant from the JPMorgan Chase Foundation to Florida International University (FIU) to establish a university-community partnership at Miami Northwestern Senior High School in Liberty City, FL.

The majority of Cecilia’s executive level positions have been held in the education space, helping students’ and families access quality education. These experiences have served to shape and develop a senior level executive who leads with inspiration, and is committed to being a part of a team working to accelerate student achievement and school performance. Cecilia’s leadership style is one of collaboration and problem solving. No challenge is too small or great for her. As a leader, she consistently demands excellent work from herself and her team.

Cecilia has served as an Executive Director of an education non-profit organization in Miami-Dade County, Breakthrough Miami and as a Senior Program Officer for the Beaumont Foundation of America, managing grants valued at approximately $11.5 million. For more than three years, Cecilia served as Special Assistant to a member of the New York City Board of Education crafting policies on instructional technology, improving middle-grade schools and strengthening bilingual education. Cecilia is a graduate of Boston College with a Bachelor of Arts degree in Sociology and minor in Women Studies. She also received a Masters in Public Administration as a National Urban Fellow from Baruch College, CUNY.
Barry University School of Social Work
11300 NE 2nd Ave, Miami Shores, FL 33161
Web:  http://www.barry.edu/social-work/
Phone: (305) 899-3900
Contact: Dr. Tisa McGhee
Email: tmcghee@barry.edu

Booker T. Washington Alumni Association, Inc.
1200 N.W.6th Avenue, Miami, FL 33136-2499
Web:  www.btwalumniassociation.org
Phone: (305) 542-0632
Contact: Agnes Morton
Email: Queenerelu@aol.com

Boston College, Lynch School of Education
Office of the Nelson Professional Chair
140 Commonwealth Avenue, Campion 309, CDEP
Chestnut Hill, MA 02467
Phone: (617) 552-4572
Contact: Dr. Anderson J. Franklin
Email: aj.franklin@bc.edu

Downtown Miami Charter School
305 NW 3rd Avenue, Miami, FL 33128
Web:  www.downtowncharter.org
Phone: (305) 579-2112
Contact: Rebecca Dinda
Email: rdinda@downtowncharter.org

FIU, Office of Engagement, The Education Effect
1200 NW 6th Ave, Miami, FL 33136
Web:  http://engagement.fiu.edu
Phone: (305) 348-7752
Contact: Dr. Donnie Hale, Jr.
Email: dhalejr@fiu.edu

Girl Power/World Literacy Crusade of Florida, Inc.
1600 NW 3 Ave, Ste.100, Miami, FL 33136
Web:  www.girlpowerrocks.org
Phone: (305) 756-5502
Contact: Thema Campbell
Email: girlpower@girlpowerrocks.org

Institute of Contemporary Art
4040 NE 2 Ave, Miami, FL 33137
Web:  www.icamiami.org
Phone:  (305) 901-5272
Contact: Crystal Molinary
Email: cmolinary@icamiami.org
New Horizons Community Mental Health Center, Inc.
1469 NW 36th Street, Miami, FL 33142
Web: www.newhorizonscmhc.org
Phone: (305) 635-0366
Email: msweeting@nhcmhc.org

Overtown Youth Center
450 NW 14th St, Miami, FL 33136
Web: www.overtownyouth.org
Phone: (305) 349-1204
Contact: Tina Brown
Email: tina.brown@overtownyouth.org

Rainbow CDC
2043 NW 4th Court Miami, FL 33127
Phone: (305) 573-6885
Contact: Lucille Rich
Email: rainbowcdcmiami@gmail.com

SEOPW Community Redevelopment Agency
819 NW 2nd Ave., Miami, FL 33136
www.miamicra.com
Contact: Clarence Woods
Email: cwoods@miamicra.com

South Florida CARES Mentoring Movement
1951 NW 7th Avenue, Miami, FL 33136
Web: southfloridacares.tumblr.com
Phone: (786) 571-4732
Contact: Tracey Robertson Carter
Email: trobertsoncarter@gmail.com

Stephanie Creates
201 NW 7th Street #108, Miami, FL 33136
Web: www.stephaniecreates.com
Phone: (305) 710-2212
Contact: Stephanie vanVark
Email: info@stephaniecreates.com

Suited for Success/Dress for Success Miami
1600 NW 3rd Avenue, Miami, FL 33136
Web: www.dfsmiami.org
Phone: (305) 444-1944
Contact: Sonia Jacobson
Email: sj@suitedforsuccess.org
Sundari Foundation, Inc. dba Lotus House
1514 NW 2nd Ave, #1, Miami, FL 33136
Web: www.lotushouse.org
Phone: (305) 438-0556
Contact: Anna Frusciante
Email: anna@lotushouseshelter.org

The Center for Social Change
2103 Coral Way, 2nd Floor, Miami, FL 33145
Web: www.csc-centers.com
Phone: (786) 235-8030
Contact: Dacia Steiner
Email: dsteiner@4socialchange.org

Touching Miami with Love
711 NW 6th Avenue, Miami, FL 33136
Web: www.touchingmiamiwithlove.org
Phone: (305) 416-0435
Contact: Jason Pittman
Email: jason@touchingmiamiwithlove.org

University of Miami
Office of Civic and Community Engagement
Coral Gables, FL 33146
Phone: (305) 284-6635
Contact: Emily Eisenhauer, Program Coordinator
Email: e.eisenhauer@miami.edu

URGENT, Inc.
1000 NW 1st Ave, Ste. 100, Miami, FL 33136
Web: www.urgentinc.org
Phone: (786) 439-1544
Contact: Saliha Nelson
Email: saliha@urgentinc.org

YWCA of Greater Miami-Dade, Inc.
351 NW 5th Street, Miami, FL 33128
Web: www.ywca-miami.org
Phone: (305) 377-9922
Contact: Patricia Williams
Email: pwilliams@ywca-miami.org

INSTITUTIONAL / GOVERNMENT PARTNERS

City of Miami, Office of the Mayor
Web: www.miamigov.com
Phone: (305) 416-1100
Contact: Pat Santangelo, psantangelo@miamigov.com

City of Miami Parks & Recreation, Williams Park
Contact: Robert Lockett, rolockett@miamigov.com
Miami Dade County Public Schools,
Office of Educational Equity, Access and Diversity
Web: www.dadeschools.net
Phone: (305) 995-1000
Contact: Marcus Bright, mbright@dadeschools.net

The Children’s Trust
3150 SW 3rd Ave. (Coral Way), 8th Floor, Miami, FL 33129
Web: www.thechildrenstrust.org
Phone: (305) 571-5700
Contact: Donavon Lee-Sin, donovan@thechildrenstrust.org

United Way of Miami-Dade
The Ansín Building
3250 Southwest Third Avenue, Miami, FL 33129-2712
Web: www.unitedwaymiami.org
Phone: (305) 860-3000
Contact: Mary Donworth, mdonworth@unitedwaymiami.org

FUNDING PARTNER
Allegany Franciscan Ministries- Miami Dade Region
2050 Coral Way, Ste. 200, Miami, FL 33145
Web: www.afmfl.org
Phone: (305) 860-1441
Contact: Miguel Milanes
Email: mmilanes@afmfl.org
In early 2014, Allegany Franciscan Ministries announced a new strategic endeavor, the “Common Good Initiative,” designed to mobilize communities towards better health and wellness through community engagement, a long-term commitment of resources, and increased collaboration of residents and stakeholders.

In keeping with the legacy of the Franciscan Sisters of Allegany and with our mission to serve together in the spirit of the Gospel as a compassionate and transforming healing presence within our communities, this initiative will bring hope, inspire residents to embrace opportunities to improve their health and wellness, and make a transformative and measurable impact for the poor and underserved.

The principle of the common good, to which every aspect of social life must be related if it is to attain its fullest meaning, stems from the dignity, unity and equality of all people. According to its primary and broadly accepted sense, the common good indicates “the sum total of social conditions which allow people, either as groups or as individuals, to reach their fulfillment more fully and more easily”.

Allegany Franciscan Ministries has committed a significant amount of resources to the initiative, and we look forward to working with a broad spectrum of stakeholders to become a part of improving health and wellness for community residents. We recognize that success will require that stakeholders in the community take an active role in identifying opportunities, making recommendations and implementing the plan. Success also depends on other philanthropic, public, private, non-profit, and faith-based organizations coming together to leverage funding, take leadership roles, and commit to a sustainable effort over time.

The Common Good Initiative is focused in under-resourced communities, increasing access to health and related resources necessary to bring about change towards better health and wellness. Broadly speaking, the goal of the Common Good Initiative is to partner with specific neighborhoods to create healthier, safer, and more prosperous places in which our most vulnerable residents can live, learn, work and play.

Allegany Franciscan Ministries has identified one community in each of the three regions we serve and will work with its residents and stakeholders to create opportunities develop strategies and make investments that lead to positive health outcomes in each community. Our three Common Good Communities are: Miami-Dade Region – Overtown; Tampa Bay Region - Wimauma Village, and, Palm Beach Region - Lincoln Park in Fort Pierce.

Allegany Franciscan Ministries believes and expects the following outcomes from this initiative:

1. Positive movement in health and wellness indicators.
2. Documented changes in systems that improve a community’s health and wellness. These will be determined collectively by the community and Allegany Franciscan Ministries and must address causes and lead to outcomes.
3. Evidence that efforts will be sustained.
4. Evidence of community engagement, collaboration and partnership.
5. Evidence of community mobilization and capacity.
There is an African proverb, "The web of many spiders tie down a lion." We believe that through better collaboration between Community-Based Programs the array of problems that beset underserved communities can be tamed under a web of effective collaborative services.

Dr. Anderson J. Franklin

**Achimota Nsafoa (Achimota Keys) – Ghana, West Africa**
This Akan Kente Weft motif is a symbol of knowledge, unity in diversity and harmony. The motif represents the logo of Achimota, the black and white keys of the piano. One can make a melody on either the black or the white keys, but it is in playing both together that one creates harmony.

**Nkonsonkonson – Ghana, West Africa**
Adinkra symbol of the chain link represents unity and human relationships. It is a reminder to contribute to the community and that in unity lies strength.

**Ananse Ntontan – Ghana, West Africa**
Adinkra symbol of the spider’s web is a symbol of wisdom, creativity and the complexities of life. Ananse, the spider, is a well-known character in many African folktales.