NELSON CHAIR

ROUND TABLE ON EXAMINING NEIGHBORHOOD-BASED CHANGE IN OVERTOWN MIAMI
Reception & Nelson Chair Colloquium

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, 2015
### ROUNDTABLE RECEPTION & NELSON CHAIR COLLOQUIUM
Hosted by Barry University, Miami Shores, FL

#### Thursday, May 7, 2015

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<tr>
<td>5:00</td>
<td>Registration &amp; Reception</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Overtown Children &amp; Youth Coalition Overview and Masterplan</td>
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<tr>
<td>6:00</td>
<td>Welcome &amp; Greetings</td>
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<td>Dr. Tisa McGhee, Barry University, School of Social Work</td>
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<td>Dean Phyllis Scott, Barry University, School of Social Work</td>
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<td>Dr. Anderson J. Franklin, Boston College, Lynch School of Education, Nelson Professional Chair</td>
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<td>Tina Brown, Co-Chair, Overtown Children &amp; Youth Coalition</td>
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**Special Recognition**

Clarence Woods, Executive Director, Southeast Overtown/Park West Community Redevelopment Agency

Commissioner Keon Hardemon, City of Miami, District 5

Dr. Dorothy Bendross-Mindingall, School Board Member, MDCPS District 2

Representative Cynthia Stafford, State of Florida, District 109

Senator Dwight Bullard, State of Florida, District 39

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<tr>
<td>6:30</td>
<td>NELSON CHAIR COLLOQUIUM</td>
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<td></td>
<td>Florida Children’s Initiatives: <em>Lessons Learned, Best Practices &amp; Future Outlook</em></td>
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**Moderator**

Dr. Anderson J. Franklin, Boston College, Lynch School of Education, Nelson Professional Chair

**Panelists**

**ORLANDO**

Lisa Early, Director, Parramore Kidz Zone, Families, Parks and Recreation Department, City of Orlando

**JACKSONVILLE**

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

**MIAMI**

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