



LeadershipMIAMISM

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FUTURE LEADERS OF SOUTH FLORIDA



2025

LEADERSHIP MIAMI® (LM) CLASS 47 FALL



LeadershipMIAMISM

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A MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

Dear LM47 ❤️,

As you step forward from this chapter, Raymond and I just want to say how incredibly proud we are to have served as your Chair and Vice Chair. Walking alongside you has been one of the greatest honors of our Leadership Miami journey.

Your work did not live on paper or in presentations — it lives in our community. Because of you all, organizations are stronger, ideas moved forward, and real people felt cared for. You showed up with heart, intention, and courage. Over these past months, we've watched you show up with heart, curiosity, courage, and an unwavering commitment to our community. You didn't just learn about Miami — you stood with it.

Your projects, your questions, your bold ideas, and your willingness to lean in have already made a real and tangible impact across our community, strengthening nonprofits and uplifting the people they serve. Leadership Miami has always been about connection and action, and you all embodied both beautifully. You dreamed big, worked hard, and proved that leadership rooted in service truly changes lives. Thank you for trusting the process, for trusting each other, and for allowing us the privilege of walking alongside you during this chapter.

My hope for each of you is that you continue to show up authentically in every room you enter. Don't leave any part of yourself at the door — your voice, your lived experience, your passion, your joy — all of it belongs. The magic you brought to this class came from you being fully you, and that is exactly what our community needs moving forward.

Thank you for trusting us, for trusting me, for dreaming boldly, and for loving this city the way you do. LM47 will always hold a very special place in my heart, and we cannot wait to see the ripple effects of your leadership continue to unfold. We will always be there cheering you all on. That's a promise.

Once LM, always LM.

With so much pride and love,

Julissa Rivera

Chair, Leadership Miami Fall Cohort 47



LEADERSHIP MIAMI® COMMITTEE CHAIRS



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Community Engagement Manager
The Miami Foundation
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VICE CHAIR

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OUR TEAMS



TEAM 1

Miami1

Supporting
Whispering Manes
Therapeutic Riding Center



**2MORROW'S
MIAMI**

TEAM 2

2morrow's Miami

Supporting
Out of Foster
Foundation



TEAM 3

Lead the 305

Supporting
Sunrise Community



TEAM 4

Together4Miami

Supporting
The Rising Start
Foundation



TEAM I: Miami I



Miami 1 was a dedicated team committed to making a lasting, positive impact in our community. We partnered with Whispering Manes Therapeutic Riding Center, a nonprofit that empowers children and adults with disabilities through the healing power of horses. Our goal was to launch a transformative project that strengthened and expanded their meaningful work.

Together, we created a unified outdoor space that integrated a Sensory Trail, the Manes & Tales Literacy Program, and a peaceful butterfly garden. The space was designed as a cohesive journey of discovery, with interactive stations, outdoor reading nooks, and ADA-accessible pathways. Every element was intentionally crafted to support physical strength, confidence, and emotional well-being.

What We Built

- A wheelchair-accessible trail
- A reading nook with book storage
- Benches along the trail designed for wheelchair access
- A butterfly garden with seating and an educational sign about the butterfly life cycle
- Interactive sensory stations, including wind chimes and chalkboards
- Began construction of a new paddock to give the horses additional space to roam

The Impact

The trail, benches, and sensory activations are fully accessible to all participants, including those using wheelchairs. Clients gained a dedicated outdoor space for reading, sensory engagement, and therapeutic activities, while the garden enhanced the overall environment. Children and adults became more excited about reading through the inviting outdoor nooks, and therapy sessions became more engaging with interactive elements. Participants in wheelchairs were able to navigate the trail independently, fostering confidence, inclusion, and a sense of belonging. The new paddock also supported the health and happiness of the horses, further enriching the therapeutic experience for years to come.



TEAM 1: Miami1



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TEAM 2: 2MORROW'S MIAMI



When foster care ended, too many young adults stepped into the world with little support. **2Morrow's Miami** envisioned a future in which every youth aging out of foster care could enter adulthood equipped with confidence, resources, and a strong community network. In partnership with the Out of Foster Foundation, we supported young adults transitioning out of foster care by providing New Beginnings Essential Kits—carefully curated packages containing household necessities like furniture, linens, cookware, toiletries, and other essentials needed to build safe and stable homes. These kits represented more than just items; they symbolized dignity, hope, and opportunity, sending a clear message to every recipient: You are supported, and your future matters.

Our team set out to assemble over 50 fully stocked kits while strengthening OOFF's operational capacity. We transformed a permanent space at the Citrus Family Care Network's Downtown Miami building into a functional operations hub, building custom shelving, organizing inventory, and creating scalable systems to ensure the program's sustainability. Alongside logistics, we engaged the Miami-Dade community through fundraising, donation drives, volunteer efforts, and collaboration, raising awareness about the challenges faced by youth leaving foster care.

Youth leadership was central to the project. We incorporated the voices of the Youth Advisory Council into key decisions and established a new scholarship pathway for future YAC members to participate in Leadership Miami. The project also laid the foundation for expanded programming, including financial literacy and life-skills workshops, to support long-term independence.

Through this initiative, 2Morrow's Miami helped break cycles, open doors, and transform lives—ensuring that young adults leaving foster care were empowered, supported, and ready to thrive.



TEAM 2: 2morrow's Miami



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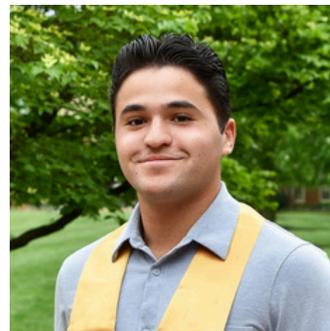
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TEAM 3: LEAD THE 305



At **Lead the 305**, we envisioned a Miami where every individual, regardless of ability, had access to spaces that supported wellbeing and empowered them to thrive. Our passionate Leadership Miami® team was committed to creating environments that embraced and uplifted the diverse needs of our community.

We proudly partnered with Sunrise Community, a pioneering private not-for-profit organization dedicated to serving individuals with intellectual and developmental disabilities. Together, we created spaces designed to promote calm, confidence, and connection. The project focused on developing innovative, sensory-friendly environments with adaptable lighting, textures, and interactive elements tailored for therapy, learning, and personal growth.

Thanks to generous support, the project exceeded its original goals and delivered meaningful, transformative results for Sunrise Community. Indoors, we created a dedicated sensory room equipped with a color-changing bubble tube, soft bean bag seating, a vibrating acoustic chair, a projector, and a curtain of LED lights. Outdoors, we transformed the sensory garden into a fully accessible space by installing pavers throughout, ensuring ease of navigation for individuals with mobility challenges. The garden was enhanced with native, sensory-friendly plants engaging all five senses, a welcoming mural, and comfort features such as fans and a large patio umbrella to provide relief from Miami's heat. Additional elements—including a swing chair, wind chimes, and vibrant plants and flowers—further enriched the outdoor experience.

The impact extended beyond physical improvements. These spaces provided individuals with developmental disabilities opportunities to find peace, regulate their nervous systems, and step away from overstimulating environments. To ensure long-term sustainability, we established a partnership with a local nonprofit farm and allocated \$3,000 to support garden maintenance for at least two years. This project delivered dignified, therapeutic spaces for Sunrise Community residents—spaces that will continue to serve and support them well into the future.



TEAM 3: Lead the 305



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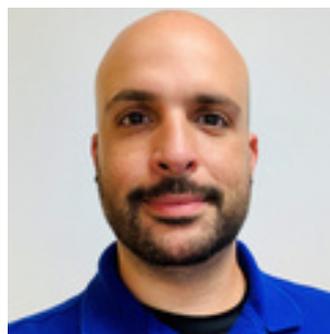
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TEAM 4: TOGETHER4MIAMI



Our dedicated and diverse team, **Together4Miami**, partnered with The Rising Start Foundation (TRS) to empower autistic and neurodivergent young adults through community service, innovation, and entrepreneurship. Together, we helped create the TRS Culinary Lab and Marketplace Storefront, a hands-on training space designed to build life skills, foster entrepreneurship, and address food insecurity.

Serving neurodivergent students and young adults ages 12–22+, TRS integrates personalized academics, social-emotional development, and community engagement into a holistic, student-centered model. Our project focused on three goals: designing and installing the Culinary Lab and Marketplace Storefront, expanding TRS's Neurodiversity Fights Food Insecurity initiative through community events, and supporting early partnerships for food distribution.

The project was successfully completed, resulting in a safe and accessible workspace where young adults can develop real-world skills while creating and selling handcrafted products. We also organized a sandwich-making event in the new Lab, delivering meals to the Miami Rescue Mission ahead of Thanksgiving, and established a sustainable food distribution partnership with Buddy System MIA.

Through both tangible improvements and lasting community impact, the Culinary Lab became more than a learning space—it became a place of belonging, opportunity, and contribution. This project created pathways to economic participation for students while strengthening inclusion and community connection in Palmetto Bay.



TEAM 4 : Together4Miami



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OUR TEAMS BY THE NUMBERS

TEAM 1

Miami1

Volunteer hours: 1,224.55

\$52,308.08

Total Funds Raised

\$23,553.48

Total Cashed Raised

\$28,754.60

Total in-kind

TEAM 2

2morrow's Miami

Volunteer hours: 1,286.85

\$64,301.94

Total Funds Raised

\$18,398.59

Total Cashed Raised

\$45,903.35

Total in-kind



OUR TEAMS BY THE NUMBERS

TEAM 3

Lead the 305

Volunteer hours: 1,088

\$37,965.88

Total Funds Raised

\$18,013.97

Total Cashed Raised

\$19,951.91

Total in-kind

TEAM 4

Together4Miami

Volunteer hours: 1,000

\$35,608.05

Total Funds Raised

\$30,158.05

Total Cashed Raised

\$5,450

Total in-kind



LEADERSHIP CREDENTIALS

Upon completion of the Leadership Miami® program, participants earn the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce's **Leadership Credential** representing **100+ hours** of leadership skills education, development, and practice.

Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce's Leadership Miami® program Leadership Credential represents 100+ hours of leadership skills teaching, development and practice:

- 12** classroom teaching hours with top experts from South Florida leading educational institutions teaching advanced leadership Curriculum (*Barry University, Florida International University, Florida Memorial University, Miami Dade College, St. Thomas University, and the University of Miami*)
- 18** classroom hours with community leadership, government officials and prominent business executives presenting and facilitating discussion and activities around our critical community issues: resilience, transportation, housing, workforce development, technology, financial literacy, Diversity, Equity & Inclusion.
- 55+** hours devoted to executing and delivering defined Team Community Service Project
- 8** hours of Fieldwork assignments to broaden awareness of community, to experience diverse cultures and needs, and learn the importance of philanthropy
- 7** hours in program delivery, presentations, graduation, and integrating with business leaders in Chamber's Goals conference





THE MIAMI FOUNDATION



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This marks the third consecutive year that **The Greater Miami Chamber Foundation/Leadership Miami** has participated in Give Miami Day. Over the past three years, we raised more than **\$58,000** and awarded **fifteen scholarships** to aspiring participants.

More than **\$38,000** in funds were directly distributed toward scholarships, seed funding for community projects, Project Pitch Night awards, and tailored, enhanced workshops in partnership with **Radical Partners**.

PROVIDE SCHOLARSHIPS TO DESERVING LEADERS

FOSTER INNOVATION AND IMPACT: SEED FUNDING FOR LEADERSHIP MIAMI®

ENHANCE THE PROGRAM EXPERIENCE AND PROVIDE TAILORED WORKSHOPS FOR PARTICIPANTS.

HELP BUILD A SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITY: STRENGTHENING LOCAL NONPROFITS



THE MIAMI FOUNDATION

Leadership Miami®, the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce, and the Greater Miami Chamber Foundation would like to formally recognize our generous donors and silent contributors who believe in our mission and help carry our vision forward.

We extend our heartfelt thanks to our **Community Champions, Norie del Valle and Madeline Pumariega**, for their generous support during this past Give Miami Day.



A huge, heartfelt **THANK YOU** to our Leadership Miami Champion, **Monica Llerena** (*President & CEO, CBT Technology Institute | LM47 EPC | LM42 Alumna*) Your unwavering dedication, deep love for our community, and continued commitment to the growth of Leadership Miami® do not go unnoticed. You lead with heart, purpose, and generosity, and your servant leadership inspires all of us. We are so grateful for your support, your friendship, and the many ways you continue to show up for this program and for Miami. Thank you for believing in Leadership Miami and for being such a powerful force for good in our community.





THE MIAMI FOUNDATION



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We are grateful to our 2025 Give Miami Day Donors

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Raymond Dueñas

JC Gonzalez del Valle
Daniel Jacobson
Alessandra Laricchia
Monica Llerena

Chelsea Lunn
Ashaki Marcellus

Kurt McKinley
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