

Frank J. Bolaños, Member

SUBJECT: FLORIDA COALITION AGAINST DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Domestic violence is a crime that has an impact on many of the citizens in Miami-Dade and impacts the education of our children. When the security and comfort of a student or employee is affected because of violent acts at home, our mission in the classroom and as an employer is negatively impacted.

Our children are many times the most vulnerable and overlooked victims of domestic violence. National studies have shown that children are present during 80% of the assaults against their mothers. Yet more critical is the greater likelihood that they themselves become victims; 50% of those residing in a home where domestic violence occurs end up being abused themselves.

The Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence (FCADV) aims to promote a violence-free world by empowering adults and children through awareness and educational activities and provides support to affected victims. Additionally, FCADV provides support to 38 domestic violence centers statewide.

FCADV is launching efforts to provide for a statewide victims hotline available 24 hours a day in English, Spanish and Creole. It is their intent to work with local student organizations to help raise awareness of domestic violence and promote the use of it through the school district.

ACTION PROPOSED BY

FRANK J. BOLAÑOS: That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida authorize the Superintendent to direct staff to support the activities of the Florida Coalition Against Domestic Violence as appropriate and to allow any recognized student organizations to affiliate with FCADV for the purpose of raising awareness of domestic violence and promoting a statewide victims hotline.