

Ms. Susie V. Castillo, Board Member

**SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 19-058 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING ROLANDO GONZALEZ**

**COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT**

**LINK TO STRATEGIC BLUEPRINT: INFORMED, ENGAGED AND EMPOWERED STAKEHOLDERS**

Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS) is fortunate enough to have many community partners that have gone above and beyond in the name of education. One of these is Mr. Rolando Gonzalez. Mr. Gonzalez serves as the Executive Director of Victory for Youth and the Share Your Heart Program. Born in Havana, Cuba and a proud graduate of Miami Senior High School, Mr. Gonzalez is a true testament of the importance of education and the incredible impact that community partnerships have on our students.

Mr. Gonzalez established Victory for Youth in 1998 with the vision of providing children in need with valuable resources, services, and information available to them in the community. Through the organization's signature event, "Victory Day," Mr. Gonzalez is able to connect families with over 260 state and local agencies, colleges, universities, and trades with services available to them.

In 2009, Mr. Gonzalez partnered with the Department of Children and Families (DCF) to provide their Child Protection and Investigation Department with supplies for specialized hubs where children are placed to wait while investigations are conducted. The rooms, equipped with televisions, toys, books, play pens, strollers, and other basic child care supplies all provided by Mr. Gonzalez, create a safe and calm atmosphere for children.

In an added effort to address the needs of the children and families in our community, Mr. Gonzalez created the Share Your Heart Chaplaincy Program with the DCF. Through this program, Victory for Youth was able to reach out to faith-based communities willing to assist and connect them with families in need through their referral system. Whenever Share Your Heart receives a referral for services, one of their certified Volunteer Chaplains is deployed to serve the referral within 48 hours. This includes providing food, clothing, supplies, emotional and spiritual support for those in need, as well as referral to additional resources in the community. For the past 9 years, Share Your Heart has been an invaluable bridge between the state and faith-based community.

Victory for Youth and the Share Your Heart Program have two office locations, one of which is our Miami-Dade County School Police Headquarter Complex. Just last year, the Share Your Heart Program served more than 1,500 referrals received by Miami-Dade County Public Schools.

**Replacement  
B-4**

**ACTION PROPOSED BY  
MS. SUSIE V. CASTILLO:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 19-058 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Rolando Gonzalez.

**RESOLUTION NO. 19-058  
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,  
RECOGNIZING ROLANDO GONZALEZ**

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Rolando Gonzalez serves as the Executive Director of Victory for Youth, a non-profit organization established to provide students with the knowledge of the programs, services, and opportunities available to them in their community; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Gonzalez was born in Havana, Cuba and is a proud graduate of Miami Senior High School. He stands as a true testament of the importance of education and the incredible impact that community partnerships have on our students; and

**WHEREAS**, Victory for Youth was established in 1998. The organization prides itself on its signature event "Victory Day" which connects families in need with over 260 state, colleges, universities, and trades and services agents in attendance; and

**WHEREAS**, in 2009, Mr. Gonzalez began his partnership with the Department of Children and Families to provide their Child Protection and Investigation Department with supplies for specialized hubs are placed to wait while investigations are conducted. The partnership stemmed the Share Your Heart Chaplaincy Program; and

**WHEREAS**, The Share Your Heart Program connects families in need through their referral system. At the time Share Your Heart receives a referral for services, one of their certified Volunteer Chaplains is deployed to serve the referral within 48 hours. This includes providing food, clothing, supplies, emotional and spiritual support for those in need, as well as referral to additional resources in the community; and

**WHEREAS**, For the past 9 years, Share Your Heart has been an invaluable bridge between the state and faith-based community. Just last year, the Share Your Heart Program served more than 1,500 referrals received by Miami-Dade County Public Schools; and

**WHEREAS**, Mr. Gonzalez is to be commended for his extraordinary leadership, his dedication to the families in the Miami-Dade County community, and his commitment to education;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:**

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 19-058 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Rolando Gonzalez.

A copy of this resolution is placed in the permanent records of this Board.

**Presented this twentieth day of November, A.D. 2019**

THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA

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CHAIR

ATTEST:

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Secretary