

Dr. Lawrence S. Feldman, Board Member

SUBJECT: REQUEST APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION NO. 19-061 OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA, RECOGNIZING CHRIST FELLOWSHIP, HOMESTEAD HOUSING AUTHORITY AND THE TITLE I ADMINISTRATION MIGRANT EDUCATION PROGRAM, SHARE YOUR HEART, MIAMI-DADE SCHOOL POLICE EXPLORERS, AND THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PUBLIC SCHOOLS ADULT AND CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

COMMITTEE: PERSONNEL, STUDENT, SCHOOL & COMMUNITY SUPPORT

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

The Thanksgiving holiday allows us an opportunity to express gratitude and reflect upon the blessings afforded to us. For many, it is also a time to acknowledge those in our community facing hunger and hardship and to share our time, talent and treasure with those in need. Fortunately for the South Dade community, local institutions led by like-minded leaders came together to deliver resources and meals to 300 families of the Title I Migrant Education Program (MEP) at a special Thanksgiving Family Fun Day resource event on Saturday, November 16, 2019. Through the collaborative efforts of Christ Fellowship Church, Homestead Housing Authority (HHA), the Title I Administration Migrant Education Program (MEP), Share Your Heart, and the Adult and Career Technical Education program, migrant students and families were treated to Publix gift cards for the purchase of a turkey, a basket of traditional Thanksgiving sides, produce, and desserts, access to haircuts, manicures, a wardrobe and shoe “shopping” experience, infant car seats and strollers, face painting and a balloon artist all set to music and entertainment by lively DJs. This experience was facilitated with the assistance of the Miami-Dade Schools Police Explorers, who served as ambassadors from their schools and helped ensure the well-being and positive experience of each participant.

Christ Fellowship was founded in 1917 in Miami. Over a century later, it has grown to eight campuses across Miami-Dade County serving thousands of parishioners attending daily and weekly programming. With a dedication to service, they have established themselves as a long-standing resource for families and communities in need. Since 2010, the Palmetto Bay Campus has remained committed to collaboration with the School Board of Miami-Dade County District 9 Office in serving Miami-Dade County Public School (M-DCPS) students throughout the year, but most especially during the holidays. Each year, they commit Thanksgiving Boxes and resources to under-resourced students. Since 2017, the Homestead and Redland Campus have joined and focused efforts on the migrant student populations residing in the three HHA-managed housing developments, Redland, South Dade and Everglades. This year, Christ Fellowship was able to provide 300 Publix gift cards and all the traditional sides for families to take home. Additionally, through the contribution of their volunteers, all families were treated to an on-site grilled barbecue lunch. A special group of volunteers displayed homemade coordinating short sets and dresses for the young girls to select their very own outfits. Families were also invited to select their very own stroller and car seats to take home. In South Dade, the Christ Fellowship Palmetto Bay, Homestead and Redland Campuses work to ensure their outreach missions reach those most in need of their resources and are widely acknowledged as a pillar of the community, a reliable partner in service.

**Replacement
B-5**

The HHA has as its mission to provide high quality, affordable, safe, and sanitary housing of choice so that families are able to elevate their quality of life with dignity. Dedicated to community programming, including Farm Share food distributions, holiday events, and Back to School Backpack Giveaways, the HHA works to provide resources to the community in support of its mission. Led by Executive Director Mr. Shane White and its Board of Directors in collaboration with The City of Homestead, the HHA works with M-DCPS to foster positive learning environments and opportunities for migrant workers and students. Their support of and collaboration with M-DCPS's MEP has improved the lives of countless farm workers and their children for over forty years. In support of the 2019 Thanksgiving Family Fun Day, the HHA provided the spacious South Dade center venue, personnel, logistical support and resources that made all participants feel welcomed and comfortable. From the colorful tents, tables and chairs, to the clean, air-conditioned barber shop and beauty salon experience, the HHA ensured each child felt special. As long-time partners in this endeavor, their generosity and input are invaluable and greatly appreciated by both their residents and those who serve the migrant community.

The MEP provides comprehensive supplemental services to ensure academic achievement and the highest quality education for our migrant students. They remain steadfast in their commitment and support of the community and programs that serve to provide identification and recruitment of migrant children, advocacy, support services, pre-school program, tutoring, extended school day services, parental involvement activities and classes related to parenting, GED, and English for Speakers of Other Languages at the Everglades, Redland, and South Dade Labor Centers and the Homestead Community where the majority of migrant families reside. These services have resulted in significant contributions toward the well-being of these students, helping to curtail the dropout rate among migrant high school students in Miami-Dade County. The MEP administration contributed personnel, logistical support and resources, ensuring that each of the 300 families were contacted and invited to receive their Thanksgiving donations. Alongside their volunteers, MEP set up a shopping experience for families including shoes, clothes, home goods, diapers, etc. and assisted families in meeting their unique needs.

Share Your Heart, a 501(C) 3 non-profit organization, is a multi-level community organization dedicated to assisting families in need through aid and services. Share Your Heart works to, among other things, connect faith-based organizations to families in need within the first 72 hours after a crisis. Working hand-in-hand with our School Police, they receive referrals for assistance directly through an app accessible to our officers who are often first in responding to families in need. They also serve the community through food distributions in partnership with Farm Share and local business and organizations. Share Your Heart provided families attending the 2019 Thanksgiving Family Fun Day with nutritious vegetables, canned and non-perishable food items, and desserts to ensure their holiday table was complete. Along with their instantly recognizable wrapped fire truck, they provided musical entertainment and activities for the youngest participants.

The Miami-Dade School Police Explorers program is an integral part of the Miami-Dade Schools Police Department (M-DPSD) and is operated out of the Community Outreach Unit. A well established and highly respected program, it serves as a platform for countless young people who have launched successful law enforcement careers. It also serves to connect students to community projects that serve to establish a deeper understanding of their abilities to make a positive difference in the lives of those in need. Explorers from posts at Homestead, South Dade, Coral Reef Senior and were in attendance and assisted in each facet of set up, resource fair, meal distribution, and clean up. These young volunteers directed parking and visitor traffic flow, played soccer and football with young MEP students, packed and distributed Thanksgiving baskets and made sure to proudly and honorably represent their schools and posts.

A new addition to the 2019 Thanksgiving Family Fun Day event was the participation of students representing cosmetology programs within the M-DPCS Adult and Technical Career Education program. These students provided students ages 4-16 with haircuts, braids, and manicures, lovingly and expertly delivered. Ensuring no student was turned away, they worked tirelessly from start to finish and are to be commended for their spirit of giving and selfless commitment.

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, District 9 Office of Dr. Lawrence Feldman is proud to produce this event in collaboration with key community stakeholders in South Dade each year since 2010. Changing and growing each year, this initiative has been tailored to the communities it serves in deep South Dade and has become a hallmark of success, exemplifying what we can achieve when public offices, community-based organizations, schools, and the faith-based sector come together for the greater good.

**ACTION PROPOSED BY
DR. LAWRENCE S. FELDMAN:**

That The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 19-061 of the School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Christ Fellowship Church, Homestead Housing Authority and the Title I Administration Migrant Education Program, Share Your Heart and Miami-Dade School Police Explorers, and the Miami-Dade County Public Schools Adult and Career Technical Education program.

RESOLUTION NO. 19-061
OF THE SCHOOL BOARD OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY, FLORIDA,
RECOGNIZING CHRIST FELLOWSHIP CHURCH, HOMESTEAD HOUSING AUTHORITY,
THE TITLE I ADMINISTRATION MIGRANT EDUCATION PROGRAM, SHARE YOUR HEART,
MIAMI-DADE SCHOOLS POLICE EXPLORER PROGRAM AND THE MIAMI-DADE COUNTY
PUBLIC SCHOOLS ADULT AND CAREER TECHNICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

WHEREAS, the Thanksgiving holiday allows us an opportunity to express gratitude and reflect upon the blessings afforded to us. For many, it is also a time to acknowledge those in our community facing hunger and hardship and to share our time, talent and treasure with those in need. Fortunately for the South Dade community, local institutions led by like-minded leaders came together to deliver resources and Thanksgiving meals to 300 families of the Title I Migrant Education Program (MEP) at a special Thanksgiving Family Fun Day resource event on Saturday, November 16, 2019. Through the collaborative efforts of Christ Fellowship Church, Homestead Housing Authority (HHA), the Title I Administration Migrant Education Program (MEP), Share Your Heart, the Miami-Dade Schools Police Explorers and the Miami-Dade County Public Schools Adult and Career Technical Education program; and

WHEREAS, Christ Fellowship works to ensure their outreach missions reach those most in need of their resources. They commit Thanksgiving Boxes and resources to under-resourced migrant student populations residing in the three HHA-managed housing developments, Redland, South Dade and Everglades. This year, Christ Fellowship was able to provide 300 Publix gift cards and all the traditional sides for families to take home. Additionally, through the contribution of their volunteers, all families were treated to an on-site grilled barbecue lunch. A special group of volunteers displayed homemade coordinating short sets and dresses for the young girls to select their very own outfits. Families were also invited to select their very own stroller and car seats to take home. In South Dade, the Christ Fellowship Palmetto Bay, Homestead and Redland Campuses and are widely acknowledged as a pillar of the community, a reliable partner in service; and

WHEREAS, the HHA has as its mission to provide high quality, affordable, safe, and sanitary housing of choice so that families are able to elevate their quality of life with dignity. Dedicated to community programming, including Farm Share food distributions, holiday events, and Back to School Backpack Giveaways, the HHA works to provide resources to the community in support of its mission. In support of the 2019 Thanksgiving Family Fun Day, the HHA provided the spacious South Dade center venue, personnel, logistical support and resources that made all participants feel welcomed and comfortable. From the colorful tents, tables and chairs, to the clean, air-conditioned barber shop and beauty salon experience, the HHA ensured each child felt special. As long-time partners in this endeavor, their generosity and input are invaluable and greatly appreciated by both their residents and by those who serve the migrant community; and

WHEREAS, the MEP remains steadfast in their commitment and support of the community and programs that serve to provide identification and recruitment of migrant children, advocacy, support services, pre-school program, tutoring, extended school day services, parental involvement activities and classes related to parenting, GED, and English for Speakers of Other Languages at the Everglades, Redland and South Dade Labor Centers and the Homestead Community where the majority of migrant families reside. The MEP administration contributed personnel, resources and logistical support, ensuring that each of the 300 families were contacted and invited to receive their Thanksgiving donations. Alongside their volunteers, MEP set up a shopping experience for families including shoes, clothes, home goods, diapers, etc. and assisted families in meeting their unique needs; and

WHEREAS, Share Your Heart, a 501(C) 3 non-profit organization, is a mutli-level community organization dedicated to assisting families in need through aid and services. They also serve the community through food distributions in partnership with Farm Share and local business and organizations. Share Your Heart provided families attending the 2019 Thanksgiving Family Fun Day with nutritious vegetables, canned and non-perishable food items, and desserts to ensure their holiday table was complete. Along with their instantly recognizable wrapped fire truck, they provided musical entertainment and activities for the youngest participants; and

WHEREAS, the Miami-Dade School Police Explorers program is an integral part of the Miami-Dade Schools Police Department (M-DPSD) and is operated out of the Community Outreach Unit. Explorers from posts at Homestead, South Dade, Coral Reef Senior and were in attendance and assisted in each facet of set up, resource fair, meal distribution, and clean up. Explorer volunteers directed parking and visitor traffic flow, played soccer and football with young MEP students, packed and distributed Thanksgiving baskets and made sure to proudly and honorably represent their schools and posts; and

WHEREAS, a new addition to the 2019 Thanksgiving Family Fun Day event was the participation of students representing cosmetology programs within the M-DPCS Adult and Technical Career Education program. These students provided students ages 4-16 with haircuts, braids, and manicures, lovingly and expertly delivered. Ensuring no student was turned away, they worked tirelessly from start to finish and are to be commended for their spirit of giving and selfless commitment

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, approve Resolution No. 19-061 of The School Board of Miami-Dade County, Florida, recognizing Christ Fellowship Church, Homestead Housing Authority, Title I Administration Migrant Education Program, Share Your Heart, Miami-Dade Schools Police Explorers and the Adult and Career Technical Education Program.

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

CHAIR

ATTEST:

Secretary