

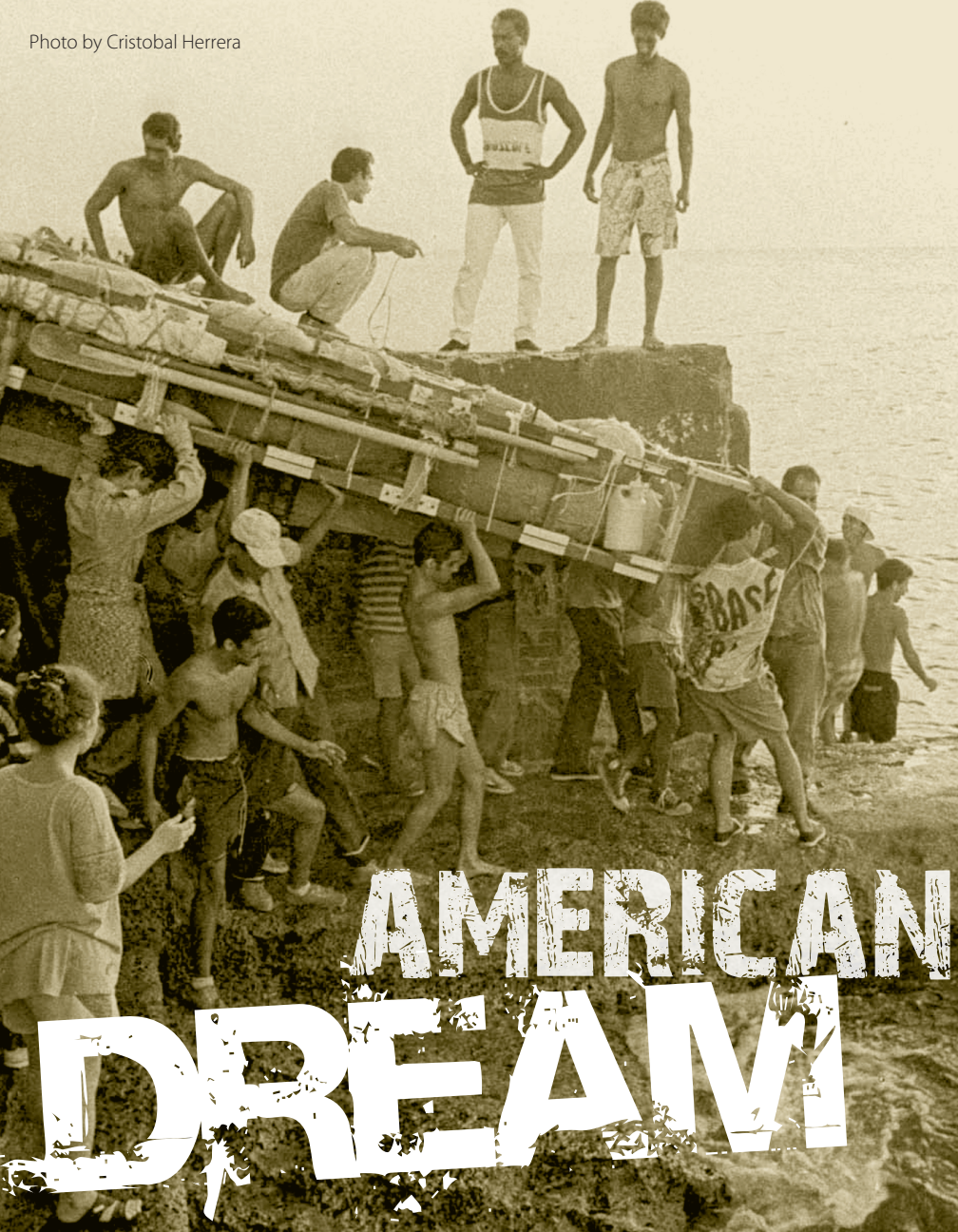
HISPANIC UNITY of FLORIDA

Together, Let's Keep the American dream alive – for everyone!

1982-2017



Photo by Cristobal Herrera



AMERICAN DREAM!

Hispanic Unity of Florida (HUF)


1982 – 2017

35-Year Retrospective

To all the friends of Hispanic Unity of Florida who have given their time, talent and funds to HUF and its mission and who, through their involvement, have given more than 400,000 clients their most precious gift: Hope.



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!



“Give me your
tired, your poor,
your huddled
masses yearning
to breathe free.”

From *The New Colossus*, Emma Lazarus, 1883

HUF Mission Statement

Empowering immigrants and others to become self-sufficient, productive and civically engaged.



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—*for everyone!*

ARTICLES OF INCORPORATION

OF

HISPANIC UNITY OF FLORIDA, INC.

FILED

FEB 25 11 39 AM '82

SECRETARY OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE FLORIDA

We, the undersigned, residents of the State of Florida, being twenty one (21) years or more of age, do hereby associate ourselves together for the purpose of forming a corporation (not for profits) under the statutes of the State of Florida.

ARTICLE ONE

NAME

The name of the corporation shall be Hispanic Unity of Florida, Inc.

ARTICLE TWO

LOCATION

The location of the principal office of Hispanic Unity of Florida, Inc. shall be 1341 S.W. 6 Terrace, city of Deerfield Beach, County of Broward, State of Florida.

ARTICLE THREE

PURPOSE

The purpose of the Hispanic Unity of Florida shall be as follows:

1. To provide help and guidance to the hispanic residents of the State of Florida and their families in order for them to adjust better to the american culture in general and that of the State of Florida in specific.
2. To promote, develop and conduct human service programs in accordance with the need of the community.
3. To act as liaison between the Hispanic Community of the State of Florida and government and private human service agencies.

1982

Eugenio Torres envisions a service agency that helps Broward immigrants adapt to life in the U.S.



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—*for everyone!*

1982

First brainstorm meeting held to make the dream a reality. Torres and other founders Angelo Fernandez, Jose “Pepe” Lopez, Jose Rodriguez and Miriam Ruiz are present.



Founders, Manny Baerga and Jose “Pepe” Lopez



A visit by Governor Lawton Chiles



Manny Baerga, Diana Wasserman-Rubin
and Eugenio Torres

1982

HUF hosts first-ever convention with a \$4,000 grant from IBM. The event raises awareness of Hispanic issues and cements the agency's importance to the community.



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1984

First major funding of \$100,000 awarded by the State of Florida Office of Refugee Services. Broward County's Human Services employee Ellen Rodriguez assisted the agency with the refugee program. HUF is now on the map!



HUF's first office space in Ft. Lauderdale

1984

Doña Rylma Sanchez-Cifuentes (earned Ph.D. in education in Cuba) is the only individual who has been a HUF Board Member, employee and volunteer. She is now 85 years young!



Rylma Sanchez-Cifuentes and colleagues



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1985

First office space donated by Mr. Edwardo Cardounel opens in Fort Lauderdale. A staff of eight assists clients with acculturation, employment and translation services.



HUF's early clients.

1987

First official gala dinner to honor Broward community leaders active in helping Hispanics.



Former Board Member Ellen Rodriguez



Diana Wasserman-Rubin and
Maria Sanjuan



Hiram Montero (HUF Board Member Emeritus)



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1988

First HispanicFest held at TY Park. The annual event becomes a major fundraiser through 2010.

WSVN / Channel 7 promotes event and becomes HUF's longest media partner. AutoNation is an event presenter for six years.



AutoNation 

7 NEWS
MIAMI/FORT LAUDERDALE

1989

English classes known as ESOL (English for speakers of other languages) are offered at HUF.



HUF's first ESOL Class



HUF's dedicated ESOL teacher



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

1991

First center for Hispanic seniors opens thanks, in part, to proceeds from HispanicFest '91.



HUF seniors program participants celebrating Christmas

1993

Spanish-language legal assistance offered for the first time by HUF and Broward Lawyers Care.

(Legal Aid Service of Broward County, Inc.)



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

1993

HUF purchases vacant Social Security Administration office in Hollywood and moves to its current location. Support from City of Hollywood Commissioners makes purchase possible.



1994

Partnership with Broward County School Board launched. From 1,000 to 1,500 students learn English (ESOL) at Hispanic Unity every year.



HUF's partnership with BCSB now in its 23rd year



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

1994

Hispanic Unity becomes a United Way of Broward County funded agency.



1996

HUF receives its first major gift of \$10,000 each from Jim and Jan Moran and JM Family Enterprises, Inc., as a challenge match. Thanks to Maria Sanjuan, HUF received the match.



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1998

Paul Lopez at Tripp Scott, P.A. begins to provide pro bono legal services to HUF. Catalina Avalos, also with Tripp Scott, is HUF's current lead counsel.



1998

HUF's most famous employee, Senator Bob Graham, dedicates a day to HUF as one of his 366 Work Days.



Senator Graham with Al Fernandez, ANF Group, Inc.



Senator Graham with HUF children.



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

1999

First Russian-speaking case manager hired to assist Eastern Europeans – a sign of the changing immigrant face of Broward.

D⊕BR⊕ P⊕ZHΛL⊕VAT

"Welcome" in Russian.

1999

REACH 2010 launches to combat HIV/AIDS. HUF's first research study led by CDC-funded Florida International University in partnership with MDEI, the Urban League of Broward County, American Red Cross, Broward County Health Department, Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance (Broward Alliance) and Broward County.



HUF HIV program staffers and volunteers.



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2000

Memorial Healthcare System opens a Primary Care Facility on Johnson Street and includes Hispanic Unity as a partner.



Memorial Healthcare System and HUF partner on health fair.

2000

Family Success Affiliate Center opens in Hollywood under contract with Broward County. Families receive social, health and financial support.



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2002

MOST after-school program launched to serve middle school students.

HUF is one of the first after-school providers for middle school youth funded by the Children's Services Council of Broward County.



Two Camp Amigos students (program now called Unity 4Teens)

2003

Hispanic Unity in partnership with the Children's Services Council of Broward County, the IRS and American Express launches its first FREE Tax Preparation program.



United Way of Broward County



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2003

The agency's first Financial Literacy course gives clients the knowledge and skills to take control of their economic future.



2003

Growth of ESOL drives expansion. HUF purchases second building near administrative office.

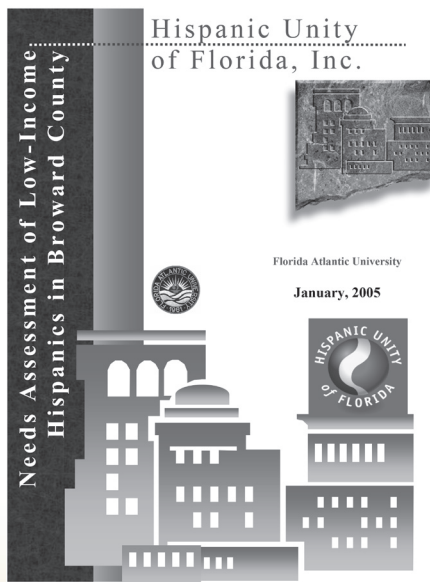
Broward County and City of Hollywood provide key funding for expansion.



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2004

HUF completes first Needs Assessment Study on Broward low-income Hispanics to help identify social services required in the community.



2004

HUF volunteer, Arthur Donovan, starts the agency's first Citizenship class at HUF's Renacer Senior Activity Center. Today, HUF leads 12 weekly citizenship classes throughout Broward County.



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2004

HUF is one of Bank of America's first local Neighborhood Excellence awardees and receives a \$200,000 grant.



Bank of America awards Natalia Sanchez the Student Excellence Award, Margaret Sanchez the Local Hero Award and Hispanic Unity of Florida with the Neighborhood Excellence Award and a grant of \$200,000 – a “trifecta” for Hispanic Unity!

2005

Hispanic Unity becomes a vendor of the School Board of Broward County allowing the agency to provide school-based after school and summer programs at McNicol and Olsen Middle Schools.



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2005

The J. Gonzalez Emergency Fund is established; 100% of the contributions go to families in need.

The fund is now called the Beacon of Hope Foundation.



Margaret Sanchez with Clara, the first recipient of the emergency fund, now working as a chemist.

2007

Te Ayudo, a program which provides access to healthcare, is launched with Memorial Healthcare System and funded by the Blue Foundation. Broward Health joins in 2010.

Florida
Blue 

In the pursuit of health®


Memorial
Healthcare System


BROWARD
HEALTH


HISPANIC UNITY
OF FLORIDA
35 YEARS
Empowering Lives

Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2007

HUF becomes an affiliate member of NCLR.



2008

Baseball player Manny Ramirez donates antique car to help fund HUF's new preschool. Carter Oosterhouse, HGTV celebrity, visits and donates toys to preschool.



1960 Impala Coupe donated by Manny Ramirez to fund preschool renovations



Carter Oosterhouse with Unity 4Kids children.



Carter Oosterhouse, nationally recognized lifestyle expert.



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2008

HUF becomes the largest private nonprofit IRS partner in 17 states offering FREE Tax preparation.

By 2016, the program had 200+ volunteers, 35+ partners and funders and assisted 6,000 clients who received \$6.3 million in tax refunds/filing savings!



Mireya Calderon assisting family with their tax return.

2008

United Way of Broward County volunteers work hard to prepare the playground for HUF's soon to be opened Unity 4Kids preschool. The mural was designed by Nadine Floyd and Janie Casoria and painted with the help of the volunteers.



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2009

The Jim Moran Award

The award included a \$25,000 gift for Josie's "favorite" charity.



Josie Bacallao (front, left) with Jan Moran (front, right) and The Jim Moran Foundation's Board of Directors (back, left to right), Irv Kiffin, Tom Blanton, Lucia Lopez, Larry McGinnes, Melanie Burgess and Rick Noland.

2009

Ken Brown and Elizabeth Sanjuan make the largest private Major Gift in HUF's history: \$500,000.



Elizabeth, Lauren and Ken at 2009 Gala presenting \$500,000 check.



Ken and Elizabeth sign the "BIG" check!



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2009

J. Gonzalez Foundation (now the Beacon of Hope Foundation) makes the largest scholarship gift in HUF history to the Unity 4Kids preschool.



José H. and Jorge Gonzalez at ribbon cutting with Unity 4Kids preschoolers.



José H. Gonzalez and Jorge Gonzalez with HUF staffers.



2009

New programs: Dental Clinic with Nova Southeastern University; Foreclosure Attorney services with Legal Aid Service of Broward; three Health Navigators worked on the Promoting Access to Healthcare Services (PATHS) program in partnership with Memorial Healthcare System.



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2009

Broward Legal Immigration Program (BLIP) launched in partnership with Legal Aid Service of Broward, Catholic Charities Legal Services, Broward County Hispanic Bar Association, Caribbean Bar and numerous pro bono immigration attorneys.



BLIP volunteers preparing to meet with 100 clients on a Saturday.

2009

Funding from the USDA allows Hispanic Unity to expand its public benefits program offerings.



Carmen Marin assists a client.



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2009

Unity 4Kids Preschool Ribbon Cutting, May 7, 2009.



Melanie Burgess from The Jim Moran Foundation accepts plant from preschooler.

Funders and preschoolers plant a Gumbo Limbo tree.

2009

Unity 4Kids Preschool opened thanks to the generosity of these partners:

ANF Group, Inc.
Borelli + Partners
Broward County Child Care Licensing and Enforcement
Broward Hispanic Bar Association
Carter's Kids Foundation
City of Hollywood/Department of Housing
& Community Redevelopment
Dollar General Literacy Foundation
Family Central
International Auto Group of South Florida Inc.
José H. Gonzalez
Ken Brown & Elizabeth Sanjuan
Kraft Foods
Manny Ramirez
Martinez Engineering Group
Nadine Floyd and Janie Casoria
Office Depot Foundation
Rotary Club/City of Hollywood
The Jim Moran Foundation
TLC Engineers for Architecture, Inc.
Total Maintenance & Construction
United Way of Broward County
Volunteer USA Foundation
Wayne Boyd, Parsons-Odebrecht J.V.



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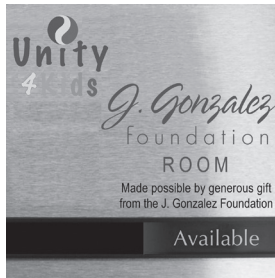
2010

Casa Sanjuan Education Center formally opened with a ribbon cutting in February after more than two years of renovations.



2010

Unity 4Kids, HUF's preschool opens its doors in June 2010 and HUF renames its classroom the J. Gonzalez Foundation Room.



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2010

The Jim Moran Foundation awards Hispanic Unity \$900,000 to launch the agency's Center for Working Families program. This is the largest foundation grant in the history of HUF.



THE
JIM MORAN FOUNDATION
"THE FUTURE BELONGS TO THOSE WHO PREPARE FOR IT."

2010

HUF launches the 12th weekly Citizenship class.
By 2016 serving 2,000+ clients annually with
citizenship and naturalization services.



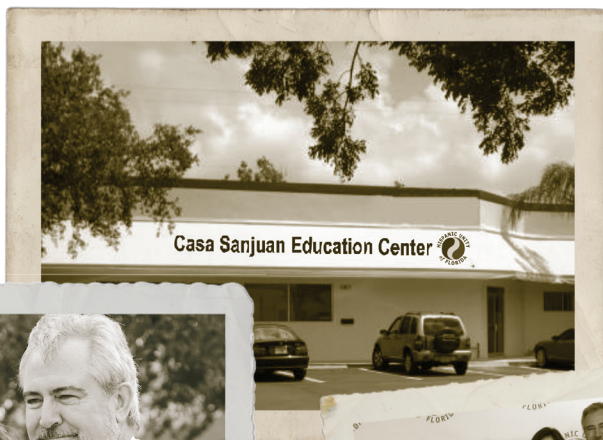
Clients studying for their Citizenship exam.



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2010

Casa Sanjuan Education Center Ribbon
Cutting, February 12, 2010.



The Sanjuan and Brown family.

Elizabeth Sanjuan and Ken Brown, emotional during ribbon cutting ceremony.

2010

Casa Sanjuan Education Center opened
thanks to the generosity of these partners:

ANF Group Inc., Mouji Linarez-Castillo
Broward County Board of Commissioners
Broward County Public Schools
Built By Owner, Inc.
Cable & Communications Technologies, Inc.
City of Hollywood/Department of Housing & Community
Redevelopment
Delta G. Consulting Engineers, Inc.
Ken Brown & Elizabeth Sanjuan
Landscape Architect's Collaborative
Lori E. Gold
Manuel Synalovski Associates, LLC., Merrill A. Romanik
Total Maintenance and Construction, Inc.
Unitarian Universalist Association
United Colors Production, Luis Valderrama
United Way of Broward County and the 2009 Day of Caring
Volunteers

And Hispanic Unity Staff and Family

Ingrid Ekblad
Juan Carlos, Juan Carlos Jr., Natalia & Margaret Sanchez
Virginia Cielo



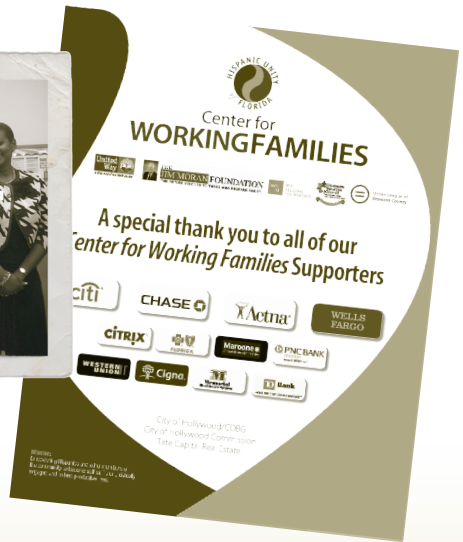
Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2011

The Center for Working Families (CWF) begins services in March supported by United Way of Broward County, Children's Services Council of Broward County and The Jim Moran Foundation. (In 2012, the W.K. Kellogg Foundation joins these major program funders.)



CWF Staff and Felipe Pinzon, VP of Programs at HUF.



2011

HUF's RENACER Senior Activity Center
clients move to SE Focal Point.



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2011

Unity 4Teens program adds after school programming at two high schools. In 2016, HUF is serving four middle schools and two high schools with after school/summer programs. The Children's Services Council of Broward County, is the largest youth program funder and HUF's largest funder.



Unity 4Teens program participants.



2011

Ken Brown and Elizabeth Sanjuan name HUF's conference room "The Maria Sanjuan Conference Room" in honor of Elizabeth's mom (and HUF board pioneer.)



Maria Sanjuan



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2011

450 attend the inaugural Entrepreneur Summit helping entrepreneurs to “get informed, get connected and get inspired.”



George Feldenkreis, Chairman & CEO of Perry Ellis International, Keynote Speaker at Entrepreneur Summit luncheon.



2011 American Dreamer Award Recipients and Gale Butler, AutoNation, the event's presenting sponsor.

2011

More than 800 guests attend the 2011 Noche de Estrellas Gala. Cristina Saralegui, Emmy-winning Latina talk-show star and entrepreneur, receives our Lifetime Achievement Award.



Cristina Saralegui



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2011

First Miniature Golf Tournament launches and is led by co-chairs Cheryl Goldstein and Elizabeth Sanjuan.



Boy learning to swing at our first mini-golf tourney.

2012

HUF celebrates agency's 30th anniversary.



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—*for everyone!*

2012

In a touching ceremony, 55 parents and family participate in our second graduating class from the Unity 4 Kids Preschool Program. Master of Ceremonies, and one of our generous funders, Kenny Tate, “Planted the Seeds of Knowledge” on the 12 graduates. They would all be attending Kindergarten the following Fall.



Kenny Tate of Tate Capital LLC, presents our student with his graduation certificate.

2012 ESummit

More than 500 up-and-coming entrepreneurs attend the 2nd annual Entrepreneur Summit. Eight exemplary South Florida business-owners were honored.



2012 American Dreamers and Keynote Speaker: L to R: Luis Capó, George Yap, Alberto Perlman, Laurans Mendelson, Harry Kraemer (Keynote Speaker), Michelle Bernstein, Nelson Fernandez, Alberto Gil, & Al Fernandez.



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2012

30th Anniversary Gala Honorees.



Individual Amigo Award honoree, Janet Murguía, president and CEO, National Council of La Raza (NCLR)



Lifetime Achievement Award recipients Emilio and Gloria Estefan



Corporate Amigo Award honoree, AT&T, received by Carlos Blanco-Sposito, presented by Cleveland Clinic's Dr. Dalia McCoy.

2012

30th Anniversary Gala. Target sponsors the Lifetime Achievement Award.



Greg Cunningham and Cosette Gutierrez of Target



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2012

Second Annual Mini-Golf Tournament.



Co-Chairs Elizabeth Sanjuan and Cheryl Goldstein.

2012

Four generations of the Fornias-Soldani-Lemon family support the preschool.



Vicente Fornias, Maria Soldani, Dr. Melissa Soldani-Lemon, Zach and Zoey Lemon



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2013

HUF launches, with support from NCLR, the Comprando Rico Y Sano (Good & Healthy) program to help close food disparity gaps. Clients learn to eat healthy within a tight budget.



2013

HUF selected to coordinate the VITA program county-wide as well as, all the marketing for this FREE Tax Preparation program.



150+ volunteers, 25+ staffers, three dozen partners and funders make up the VITA Broward County effort.



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2013

HUF launches its first Affordable Care Act (ACA) program with three Certified Application Counselors (CAC). By 2016, HUF had five Navigators and CAC's and assisted 500+ clients providing them with more than \$2 million in health care premium savings per year.



2014

Broward County Commissioners and the Human Services Division partner with Hispanic Unity, Urban League and ARC Broward on the Center for Working Families program.



Broward County Commissioners & Human Services Division support three Center for Working Families programs.



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2015

Family Strengthening Program Pilot launched with support from A.D. Henderson Foundation and Sandy and Kenny Tate.

(The pilot is then funded in 2015 by the Children's Services Council of Broward.)



Our dual-generation, 10 week program teaches parents and children how to communicate and strengthen their families. And how to celebrate!

2015

NCLR names HUF its Southeast Affiliate of the Year!



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2016

Unity 4Kids, HUF's early learning center for 3-5 year olds, becomes one of 20 preschool centers - in Broward County - that is Nationally Accredited!



2016

HUF launches its first Housing program to teach clients how to prepare and make decisions on housing.



HISPANIC UNITY OF FLORIDA

NCLR 2016 AFFILIATE OF THE YEAR

Pathways to Homeownership

First Time Homebuyer Workshop

This workshop will be presented in ENGLISH



Get ready to learn:

- How to become mortgage ready
- The home buying process
- Down payment & closing cost assistance programs
- Tips & tools from experts

BREAKFAST & LUNCH WILL BE SERVED



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2016

HUF Board of Directors complete five year plan that includes capacity building to support the scaling of HUF's mission work. Felipe Pinzon named Senior Vice President of Strategy & Programs.



2016

HUF's naturalization and citizenship work expands with the hiring of two paralegals.

HUF launches naturalization services to support its citizenship work.



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2016

Hyrarn and Lucia Montero plaque installed at HUF for their decades of involvement and support to HUF.



2016

Kenny and Sandy Tate make major gift pledge to HUF in support of HUF's Early Learning Center.



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2016

JP Morgan Chase & Co. provides significant support to HUF's Center for Working Families and expands commitment to the agency's naturalization and citizenship work.

JPMORGAN CHASE & CO.

2016

NCLR names HUF Affiliate of the Year!



NCLR 2016 AFFILIATE
OF THE YEAR



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—*for everyone!*

2016

Mike Fernandez is Keynote Speaker at HUF's 2016 Entrepreneur Summit.



(L) Mike Fernandez, MBF Healthcare Partners
(R) Aurelio Fernandez, Memorial Healthcare System.



American Dreamer Awardees, 2016 Entrepreneur Summit.

2016

The Jim Moran Foundation continues its support for Center for Working Families program.



THE
JIM MORAN FOUNDATION
"THE FUTURE BELONGS TO THOSE WHO PREPARE FOR IT."



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2017

HUF hosts NCLR Peer-to-Peer Exchange
and welcomes 29+ national Latino-serving
agency's to HUF.



NCLR Affiliate attendees



From LtoR:

Melida Akiti, Memorial Healthcare System

Bob Boegli, Sheridan Technical College

Sandra Bernard-Bastien, Children's Services Council of Broward County

Dr. Rolando Garcia, Broward College

Commissioner Richard Blattner, City of Hollywood

Courtnee Biscardi, Urban League of Broward County

George Gremse, Broward SCORE.

2017

HUF's Founder, Eugenio Torres, returns to HUF to be interviewed by Comcast on the agency's 35th Anniversary.



Eugenio Torres whose vision led to HUF being established. He remains an active community leader.



Together, let's keep the American dream alive—for everyone!

2017

Maria Sanjuan, HUF's most beloved volunteer leader and rainmaker for several decades writes about HUF's early years – its struggles and successes.



Maria Sanjuan

¡Gracias!

For 35 years of love and support.



Empowering a new generation of Americans

1982 to 2017: 400,000 clients
empowered by HUF – and *YOU*

*NOTE: HUF fact-checked the information listed herein with dozens of individuals including staffers, board members, and community leaders. The chronology of these events has been reconstructed to the best of our collective memory.



35 YEARS
Empowering Lives

5840 Johnson Street, Hollywood, Florida 33021

954-964-8884

www.hispanicunity.org