

Memorandum



Date: February 17, 2022

To: Honorable Chairman Jose “Pepe” Diaz
and Members, Board of County Commissioners

From: Daniella Levine Cava
Mayor

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Daniella Levine Cava".

Subject: Report on the Miami-Dade County 2021 Summer Youth Internship Program and Youth Summer Job Programs- Directive 211844

This report is provided pursuant to a verbal request made by Commissioner Raquel A. Regalado during the discussion of File No. 21184 at the September 1, 2021 Board of County Commissioners meeting. During the discussion, Commissioner Regalado requested that Chief Community Services Officer, Morris Copeland, prepare and submit a report detailing the amount of funds spent to date on Miami-Dade County’s 2021 Summer Youth Internship Program and/or Youth Summer Job Programs, and the amount allocated to other programming or earmarked to be rolled over to next year’s Youth Internship and/or Jobs Programs.

Attachment A highlights funds, organized by funding source, that were allocated and expended on the Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces (“PROS”) Fit2Lead summer program and the 2021 Summer Youth Internship Program, and the amounts allocated for FY21-22 programming, including General Fund investments that were not highlighted in the Peace & Prosperity Plan. In FY20-21, \$5,059,826 were allocated for youth internship and job programs. In addition to the County’s annual contribution of \$1,000,000, \$800,000 was allocated to the Summer Youth Internship Program to serve 500 additional youth. \$1,094,626 was funded via the FTX Naming Rights Revenue and allocated to Fit2Lead to increase the number of slots across the County. All unspent Fit2Lead non-General Fund dollars (\$480,581) were carried over into the current fiscal year. Carry-over funds are being used to increase capacity, engagement, and internship paid hours.

Fit2Lead is an award-winning, evidence-based program for at-risk youth ages 15-19. The program offers job training to participants in park-based employment opportunities for six weeks during the summer. Over the summer, 271 youth were engaged in a variety of character development, leadership, employment, and social and emotional wellness workshops and activities.

The year-round Fit2Lead Afterschool Enrichment and Internship Program began mid-October and has received 659 applications. Presently, 395 youth are fully enrolled and assigned to several County departments and offices to complete their paid internship. Internship host locations include Animal Services, Community Action and Human Services, Cultural Affairs, Homeless Trust, Juvenile Services Department (JSD), Mayor’s Office, Miami-Dade Economic Advocacy Trust, Miami-Dade Police, Miami-Dade Public Library System, PROS, Public Housing and Community Development and Solid Waste Management.

The remaining Fit2Lead applicants are being processed and onboarded. It is important to note that in addition to the impact of the Delta and Omicron Coronavirus surges, several challenges experienced by interested youth arose during the recruitment and onboarding process that

prompted modifications to be made to streamline the processes, increase efficiency, and alleviate retention challenges. In addressing some of the challenges, the workforce vendor has transitioned from a multi-step electronic process to a more streamlined process with fewer layers. Furthermore, applicants now have the ability to complete a paper application, in-person and at any of the workshops offered by PROS and JSD, with assistance from our County staff. PROS and JSD are providing applicants with onboarding assistance on most weekends at various parks throughout the County, with a focus on parks near their homes. PROS is also working closely with Miami-Dade County Public Schools to help bridge the gap between students submitting an application and completing the hiring process. To assist applicants with the completion of their onboarding process, PROS and JSD hosted workshops at the following senior high schools: Miami Northwestern, Miami Jackson, Carol City, Miami Central, Miami Southridge, Miami Edison, and William H. Turner Technical Arts. Additional workshops are being scheduled for the coming weeks. PROS is also eliminating transportation barriers to complete the hiring process by providing free shuttle services for applicants to meet with the contracted staffing agency. PROS continues to receive daily referrals from JSD staff, parks’ staff, school counselors, community-based organizations, and Commission offices. In an effort to improve retention and address competing priorities to earn money, the maximum number of hours a participant is able to work has been increased from 10 hours per week to 20 hours per week. Youth also have the ability to earn an additional two hours of pay per week by completing independent character development and/or SEL workshops to complement facilitator-led enrichment activities. The additional hours are funded via the FY20-21 carryover and dollars accrued due to the 500 slots not yet filled. Notably, on February 11, 2022, a survey was sent to all Fit2Lead participants, and within the first day, 79 responses were received of which 95% of the respondents indicated their desire to continue in the program for the Summer session.

Below is a breakdown of applications received and youth enrolled by commission district thus far.

District	Commissioner	Allocated Slots	Applications Received	Slots Filled
1	Oliver G. Gilbert, III	64.5	85	46
2	Jean Monestime	101	146	83
3	Keon Hardemon	133	167	85
4	Sally A. Heyman	8.5	17	10
5	Eileen Higgins	10.5	10	2
6	Rebecca Sosa	13	10	6
7	Raquel A. Regalado	4.5	5	2
8	Danielle Cohen Higgins	34.5	84	63
9	Kionne L. McGhee	90	86	72
10	Javier D. Souto	6.5	12	10
11	Joe A. Martinez	10.5	11	6
12	Jose "Pepe" Diaz	13	13	8
13	Rene Garcia	10.5	13	2
Total		500	659	395

While allocated slots have been exceeded in some districts, unspent funding from the 2021 summer program is being used to ensure that no youth is denied the opportunity to participate in positive programming.

The Summer Youth Internship Program, a partnership between the Children’s Trust, Miami-Dade County, Miami-Dade County Public Schools, the South Florida Workforce Investment Board and the Foundation for New Education Initiatives, sponsors student internships annually at a variety of organizations over the course of the summer. Under the Peace and Prosperity Plan, 500 additional slots were added to the 2021 summer program. In total 2,338 youth were enrolled of which 99% (2,321) successfully completed the program. Below is a breakdown of youth served by commission district.

District	Commissioner	Youth Served
1	Oliver G. Gilbert, III	104
2	Jean Monestime	311
3	Keon Hardemon	158
4	Sally A. Heyman	147
5	Eileen Higgins	58
6	Rebecca Sosa	47
7	Raquel A. Regalado	143
8	Danielle Cohen Higgins	120
9	Kionne L. McGhee	357
10	Javier D. Souto	185
11	Joe A. Martinez	209
12	Jose "Pepe" Diaz	219
13	Rene Garcia	280
Total		2,338

Should you require additional information, please contact Sonia Grice, CAHSD Director, at (786) 469-4616.

Per Ordinance No. 14-65, this report shall be placed on the next available Board meeting agenda.

- c: Geri Bonzon-Keenan, County Attorney
- Gerald Sanchez, First Assistant County Attorney
- Jess McCarty, Executive Assistant County Attorney
- Office of the Mayor, Senior Staff
- Sonia Grice, Director, Community Action and Human Services Department
- Maria Nardi, Director, Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces
- David Clodfelter, Director, Office of Management & Budget
- Jennifer Moon, Chief, Office of Policy and Budgetary Affairs
- Yinka Majekodunmi, Commission Auditor

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Melissa Adames, Director, Clerk of the Board
Eugene Love, Agenda Coordinator

ATTACHMENT A

Summer Internships and Jobs Funding

Department	Program Name	Program Term	Funding	FY 2020-21 Budget	FY 2020-21 Actuals	FY 2021-22	Comments
Juvenile Services	Fit 2 Lead	October 1st	Trust Fund	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 100,000	
Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces	Fit2Lead (mentoring program)	June 1, 2021	Naming Rights Revenue	1,094,626	614,045	3,749,755	Includes \$480,581 rolled over from FY 20-21
Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces	Fit2Lead (mentoring program)	October 1st	General Fund*	1,990,200	875,441	1,020,900	
Public Housing and Community Development	Summer Youth Internship Program (Career Source)	June 1, 2021	CDBG-CV3 Funding	175,000	175,000	-	FY20-21 CDBG Coronavirus (round 3) funding
Non-Departmental	Summer Youth Internship Program	Summer 2021/ Summer 2022	Naming Rights Revenue	800,000	800,000	700,000	
Non-Departmental	Summer Youth Intersnhip Program	Summer 2021/ Summer 2022	General Fund	1,000,000	399,103	1,000,000	
Non-Departmental	Fit 2 Lead	October 1, 2021	Mental Health Funding	-	-	300,000	
Non-Departmental	Fit 2 Lead	October 1, 2021	FTX Foundation	-	-	150,000	
Total				\$ 5,059,826	\$ 2,863,589	\$ 7,020,655	