



MIAMI BEACH

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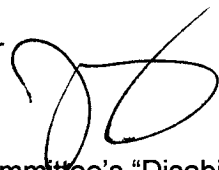
CITY CLERK'S OFFICE

OFFICE OF THE CITY MANAGER

LTC # 278-2009

LETTER TO COMMISSION

TO: Mayor Matti Herrera Bower and Members of the City Commission

FROM: Jorge M. Gonzalez, City Manager 

DATE: October 16, 2009

SUBJECT: Invitation to Disability Access Committee's "Disability Awareness Day" events

This Letter to Commission is intended to provide you with information relating to the upcoming Disability Awareness Day activities that have been developed by the City's Disability Access Committee. The activities are designed to bring awareness to the many challenges and opportunities that exist for our disabled community. As you are aware, the City is working to improve access for all of our residents, including – among other things – the installation of audio crosswalk signals at various intersections throughout the city, as well as providing "mobi-mats" for beach access.

The day-long series of events kick off with the hosting of the Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce's monthly "Breakfast with the President" in the breezeway area outside of the Commission Chambers. A welcome and event kickoff will begin at 9:00am in the Commission Chambers, which will include the assignment of "disabilities" to employee volunteers as part of a hands-on simulation. It is my understanding that many of you have already volunteered to participate in the simulation.

We would also like to invite you to attend the press conference and ribbon cutting at 12:30pm at the intersection of Lincoln Road and Washington Avenue, where we will officially launch our fully functional audio crosswalk. In addition, the Committee will recognize two local businesses that support the disabled community.

The Committee has organized an expo and art exhibit at the Miami Beach Community Church from 1:00pm to 4:00 pm, as well as events at the Euclid Circle that include the live taping of the show "Cooking without Looking," and live entertainment by disabled performers. A fundraising reception will be held at Crescendo's Piano Bar later in the evening.

Please see the attached card for even specifics. We hope you can join us for some or all of the events.

IMPORTANT: Please confirm your participation in the Disability Simulation with Rebecca Wakefield. The simulation lasts approximately 1-1/2 hours, and you would be assigned a volunteer to be with you during that time (in your office, etc.). The disability for the simulation will not be assigned until the day of the event.

As always, please feel free to contact me should you have any questions on this event, or contact Hilda Fernandez should you require additional information.

JMG/hmf

Save the date!



DISABILITY awareness DAY

Disability Awareness Day is a national day of awareness for people with disabilities. It is a day to raise awareness of the needs and capabilities of people with disabilities and to celebrate the contributions they make to our community.

10.23.2009

disabilityawarenessday.org



Save the date!



DISABILITY awareness DAY

Join us for a full day of events as the Miami Beach Disability Access Committee helps raise awareness of the challenges and opportunities experienced by our disabled community.

10.23.2009

disabilityawarenessday.org



DISABILITY awareness DAY

Schedule

9:00 a.m.

Miami Beach City Hall

Chamber of Commerce Coffee with the President

9:00 a.m. - 11:30 a.m.: Event Kick-off and Disability Simulation

Miami Beach City Hall, Commission Chambers

Events kick off when Miami Beach employees simulate a disability alongside committee members and/or disabled partners.

12:30 p.m.: Press Conference and Ribbon-cutting of Audible Pedestrian Warning Devices @ Crosswalks

Lincoln Road & Washington Avenue

The first intersection with fully audible crosswalks is unveiled and other improvements to assist the disabled are announced.

1:00 p.m.- 4:00 p.m.: Disability Expo & Art Exhibition (Free & open to the public)

Miami Beach Community Church, 1620 Drexel Avenue (Lincoln Road)

Businesses and organizations will showcase the latest in assistive technologies to increase Human Abilities and Accessibility, while an art exhibit features the works of those with disabilities.

2:00 p.m.: Taping of TV Show "Cooking without Looking" (Free & open to the public)

Lincoln Road & Euclid Avenue

4:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.: Live Entertainment (Free & open to the public)

Lincoln Road & Euclid Avenue

Featuring groups & artists with disabilities.

Sponsors

ACE Central Hardware • ACE Hard Goods • American Chair Exchange • Amuka • AT&T • AV Pros • Big Cheese • Brown's Beauty • common zen media • Conni Gordon Foundation • Crunch Fitness • DMR • Elite Tent Company • Epicure Market • Florida Council of the Blind • James and Pat Kracht • Jerry New • L'Occitane • Lighthouse for the Blind • Miami Beach Chamber of Commerce • Miami Beach Community Church • Michael's Designs • Patricio J. Garcia • Police Athletic League • Roasters and Toasters • Rock Star Tans • Romero Britto • Taylannas Inc. • The Miami Heat • Vision World Foundation

Expo Participants

7 Productions, Inc. • Abilities Unlimited • Access Now • AT&T • AYUDA • Best Buddies • CCDHACT • Center for Hearing and Communication • Center for Independent Living • Crunch • Dade County Disability Guide • DBS • Deaf Family Literacy Academy • DMR • Dr. Emily Rowe Acupuncture • FCB • Florida Reading and Vision Technology Inc. • FTRI of CIL • H.O.P.E. • INcard • Jewish Community Services (JCS) • L'Occitane • Magnifying America • Menus that Talk/Tours that Talk • Miami Beach Parks and Recreation • Miami Dade Public Library System • Miami Lighthouse • OtLite Technology • Sabrina Cohen Foundation • Shake A Leg • Special Olympics • Sunrise Community/Log Cabin • Syringomyelia Foundation • Taylannas • The Miami Project to Cure Paralysis • The Shimmy Club • UM - NSU Center for Autism and Related Disabilities • Veterans Administration • Vision World Foundation and Cooking without Looking



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