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## PRESS RELEASE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
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### **Miami Beach Holds Second Annual Family & Community Service Day** *-- Volunteers and Non-Profit Agencies Connect on September 28 --*

**Miami Beach, FL** – This September, from coast-to-coast, schools, non-profit organizations, and municipalities are hosting events in celebration of Attendance Awareness Month. As part of the commemoration, the Miami Beach Service Partnership holds its second annual Family & Community Service Day.

The event engages the community in projects that enhance local parks, restore sand dunes crucial to our coastal environment, and engage youth with senior citizens in cross-generational activities, all while introducing participants to free services and resources that are available to them throughout Miami Beach.

On Saturday, September 28, from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., hundreds of volunteers of all ages will gather for a day of public service at North Shore Open Space Park, 8101 Collins Avenue. Projects include the following:

- Dune restoration and beach clean-up
- Cross-generational (youth & seniors) recreational activities
- Expansion of butterfly gardens
- Tree planting and non-native plant removal
- Cleanliness and litter abatement efforts
- Community beautification plantings
- Graffiti removal

A portion of the event will focus on educating the public about the importance of consistent school attendance, offering parents tips, resource lists, and referrals to free programs.

At the first Family Service Day, held in 2012, 150 volunteers of all ages and from all areas of Miami-Dade County pitched in to improve the Miami Beach community.

In addition, the event will offer information on the many free services available in Miami Beach, including job training, counseling, youth development programs, educational support, health care services, and food banks, among others. Miami Beach Service Partnership is a collaborative engaging more than a dozen community service agencies. By raising the visibility of the partner agencies, the event will improve access to resources that increase the quality of life for all those who live, work, and play in Miami Beach.

Partner agencies and participating businesses include the City of Miami Beach, Ayuda, Barry University School of Education, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Choices, et al, Clearpoint Credit Counseling Solutions, First Care Home Services, English Language Centres the Miami Beach Coalition, Miami Beach Community Health Center, Miami Beach Police, Miami-Dade Public Library System, On It Foundation, Open Arms Community Center, Rose Lesniak ABC Dog Trainer, Success University, Switchboard of Miami, and Teen Job Corps.

Special thanks to the 2013 sponsors: Coca-Cola, Panera Bread, and Urban Resource.

The Miami Beach Service Partnership and Success University are funded by The Children's Trust. The Children's Trust is a dedicated source of revenue established by voter referendum to improve the lives of children and families in Miami-Dade County.

For more information and/or to participate, visit <http://web.miamibeachfl.gov/commservices/default.aspx?id=76114> or contact Talmage Thornhill, Office of Community Services, City of Miami Beach, at 305.673.7491 or [talmagethornhill@miamibeachfl.gov](mailto:talmagethornhill@miamibeachfl.gov).

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