



Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade

2022 Annual Report



Table of Contents:

President's letter.....	3
Board of Directors.....	4
Executive Summary.....	7
2022 Highlights.....	8
Financials.....	15

Message from the President

2022 was another pivotal year for parks and open spaces in Miami-Dade County and for the Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade. The need for vigilant support for parks has never been greater. With an estimated 1300 people per day moving to Florida in a post-COVID population boom, and several hundred of those choosing to live in greater Miami, the pressure on our parks is growing. We've all inherited a tremendous gift -- one of three of the largest parks systems in the country, built up over nine decades—but we need to make sure to build upon that investment and continue to improve to meet the challenges of changing times. With the last bond referendum for parks funding receding far into our rear-view mirror, now more than a decade and a half in the distant past, we absolutely must stay focused on parks.

Access to excellent parks accounts for a whole series of benefits. **Health and wellness** are first among them. This extends beyond traditional parks to include the connective tissue of trails and greenways envisioned in our county's Open Space Master Plan. We heard recently that folks who live within half a mile of a "Class 1 bikeway" are estimated to be 15% more likely to get their recommended daily exercise: that's like the discovery of a miracle drug, naturally fighting the costly epidemics of heart disease, early onset diabetes, childhood obesity, and loneliness, among others.

Parks are also a front-line component of our community's strategy for seeking **equity**. A park is a public space, open to everyone, no matter their income or social status. This is why Miami-Dade needs to continue its efforts to make parks available to all, within a reasonable walking distance of every home, and not just in the wealthiest neighborhoods.

Conservation is another key benefit of parks. Our green, publicly owned acreages are like the lungs and kidneys of the landscape, soaking up greenhouse gases, making oxygen, and cleansing and replenishing our water. Increasingly, parks are on the leading edge of **adaptation** to the challenges of climate change and sea level rise, too.

Continued support for parks is mission critical. The Parks Foundation is deeply grateful to all our donors and supporters, to our superb staff both in the Foundation and the Department of Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces, and to our elected officials, for prioritizing this work in 2022.

Sincerely,
Victor B. Dover FAICP
President



Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade, Inc. Board Members 2022

Victor Dover, President: Partner, Dover , Kohl & Partners

Dr. Lenore Rodicio, Vice President: Senior Fellow, The Aspen Institute

William R. “Rick” Derrer, Treasurer: COO, Gulf Building

Caroline O’Connor, Secretary: Miami Marlins

Jose Felix Diaz: Partner, Ballard and Associates

Loren Parra: Director of Public Relations, Office of the Mayor

Dwight Stephenson: President, D. Stephenson Construction

Danlys Hernandez: Executive Director, CVS Health

Loreen Chant: President, Health Foundation of South Florida

John J. Quick: Partner, Weiss Serota, Helman, Cole & Bierman

Maria I. Nardi: Director, Miami-Dade Parks Recreation and Open Spaces

Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Cultural Affairs Committee (PRCA)

Chairman: Senator Javier D. Souto

Vice Chairwoman: Commissioner Eileen Higgins

Members: Senator Rene Garcia
Commissioner Oliver Gilbert
Commissioner Jean Monestime
Commissioner Raquel Regalado



Daniella Levine Cava
Mayor

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Jose "Pepe" Diaz
Chairman

Oliver G. Gilbert, III
Vice Chairman

Oliver G. Gilbert, III
District 1

Jean Monestime
District 2

Keon Hardemon
District 3

Sally A. Heyman
District 4

Eileen Higgins
District 5

Rebeca Sosa
District 6

Raquel A. Regalado
District 7

Danielle Cohen Higgins
District 8

Kionne L. McGhee
District 9

Senator Javier D. Souto
District 10

Joe A. Martinez
District 11

Jose "Pepe" Diaz
District 12

Senator Rene Garcia
District 13

Harvey Ruvin
Clerk of Courts

Pedro J. Garcia
Property Appraiser

Geri Bonzon-Keenan
County Attorney



The Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade was created in 2004 in support of the Building Better Communities Bond Issue when visionary community leaders acknowledged that additional private and public sector support is essential to maintain, expand, and sustain the needs of the rapidly growing community that relies on Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces Department for quality of life. Today, Miami-Dade Parks is one of the nation's 3 largest park systems and stewards over 280 heritage, regional and neighborhood parks, 75 recreation centers, 19 public pools, 6 marinas, 17 miles of beaches, 5 golf courses, 4 campgrounds, and approximately 40,000 acres of parklands, natural areas, and environmentally endangered lands.

The Parks Foundation remains committed to working closely with Miami-Dade County to foster a healthier, more livable and sustainable Miami-Dade by providing year-round support for park facilities and equitable access to parks programs for our community's residents, with a focus on children, special needs groups, and active older adults. Through our corporate partnerships, membership campaigns, and fundraising initiatives, we support capital projects, scholarships for children, including swimming lessons, after-school and summer camps, and other parks activities.



Executive Summary

On behalf of the Board of Directors of the Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade, it is my pleasure to share our annual report for 2022. This report provides a snapshot of outstanding parks projects and programs we have been privileged to support over the past year. The partnership between the Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade and Miami-Dade County advances a shared goal: to improve the health and overall quality of life for everyone through parks!

- In 2022, The Parks Foundation contributed **\$370,010** in fundraising, and facilitated **\$396,175** in its role as fiscal sponsor, for a total of **\$766,185** that supported projects and programming implemented by Miami-Dade County Parks in the Community.
- Year 4 of a **\$1.8 million**, 5-year award from The Children's Trust, the largest grant ever awarded to the Parks Foundation, continued to support the expansion of Miami-Dade County Parks' nationally acclaimed **Fit2Lead** parks program for high-risk youth. In 2022, this grant funded the participation of 60 teens who received job training and mentorship through the **Fit2Lead** program. One cohort at a time, the Fit 2 Lead program is turning out a new generation of leaders, mentors and park champions.
- A **\$20,000** Batchelor Foundation grant to the Parks Foundation helped purchase new ATV equipment and sea turtle replicas for the Sea Turtle Program. Sea turtles are indicator species, meaning they serve as a recognized indicator of the health of the world's oceans.
- The Foundation provided fiscal sponsorship to the Neat Streets Miami/Million Trees Miami initiative, receiving over **\$150,000** in funding that increased Miami-Dade County's tree canopy, and planted or gave away over **7,000** new trees and plants.
- In the summer of 2022, Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade once again served as fiscal sponsor of South Dade Summer Youth Band Camp with a total value of **\$30,476.57**

These accomplishments advanced the mission of the foundation to mobilize dollars and advocacy in continued support Miami-Dade County Parks, recreation, and Open Spaces, and in this way, help improve and sustain the community's recreational, health, educational, environmental, and cultural life.



Parks Foundation
of Miami-Dade

2022 HIGHLIGHTS

Health and Fitness

2022 Highlights

Fit2Lead

- In 2022 the Parks Foundation, in partnership with Miami-Dade County Parks and other community partners, continued the expansion of Miami-Dade Parks' nationally recognized **Fit2Lead Youth Development and Internship program**, funded by **Year 4** of the largest grant in Parks Foundation history, a **\$1.8 million, 5-year award (2018-2023)** from the Children's Trust. The evidence-based **Fit2Lead** intervention combats poverty, juvenile delinquency and encourages investment by local business back into the community— through parks programs! The expanded Fit2Lead model matches Miami-Dade County's most vulnerable high school students from the identified high-need communities of Goulds, Perrine and Richmond Heights with neighborhood businesses who serve as employers, community partners and mentors to the teens. It also facilitates yearlong academic support, social-emotional learning and skill-building in job coaching, the arts, sports and college readiness for these teens through their participation in Fit2Lead at Miami-Dade Parks.
- In 2022, over **60** youth from high-risk populations within the county participated in the Fit2Lead program. This award-winning, evidence-based, mentoring and leadership parks program serves as a national model and its results are published in scientific journals. Research findings confirm a 31% reduction in juvenile arrests in zip codes where the program was implemented.



Health & Fitness 2022 Highlights

Bike 305

The Parks Foundation partners with Miami-Dade County Parks' Bike 305 program and other county and community partners to help promote cycling for recreation and as an alternative method of transportation. The Parks Foundation supports Bike 305's delivery of bike safety programming to municipalities and residents throughout Miami-Dade County. Through Bike 305, with the support of the Parks Foundation, and in partnership with DTPW, TPO and FDOT, as well as municipalities, state and federal agencies, Miami-Dade Parks implements the community's vision for a connected system of parks, public spaces, natural and cultural areas through 500 miles of greenways and trails across the county – to ensure a resilient and sustainable future for our community.

Every March during Florida Bike Month, which has been designated "Bike 305 Month," in Miami-Dade County, the Parks Foundation helps support Parks' Bike 305 in hosting the annual signature event, "Bike to Work Day," which kicks off a month of cycling activities throughout March. On Bike to Work Day, residents are encouraged to choose a bicycle instead of a car, and join the ride to reduce traffic congestion in Miami-Dade County and experience the stress-relieving benefits of pedaling a bike to travel to work, school, parks, and other destinations. On March 9, 2022, **150** participants joined a police-escorted 6-mile bike ride from Miami Lakes Town Hall to Miami-Dade County's Amelia Earhart Park.

In 2022, the Parks Foundation supported **\$8,000** in sponsorships for Bike to Work Day and provided fiscal sponsorship for **\$160,000** in Bike 305 program funding.

MIAMI-DADE COUNTY PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACES

BIKE 305

10th Annual **BIKE TO WORK DAY**

Wednesday, March 9

7:00 a.m. Arrive for **FREE** shirts, helmets, refreshments

8:00 a.m. Bike305 Municipality of the Year Award

8:20 a.m. Police-escorted Bike Ride to Miami-Dade County's Amelia Earhart Park

6-MILE BIKE RIDE

**** Bring your own bike**

MIAMI LAKES TOWN HALL
6601 Main Street
Miami Lakes 33014

NEW Location

Mayor Daniella Levine Cava leads the 10th Annual Bike305 Bike to Work Day encouraging residents in all municipalities to ride a bicycle to work, school, and fun destinations for a healthy way to live life!

- **FREE BIKE305 Performance Shirts**
- **FREE Bicycle Helmets**
- **FREE Refreshments at Start & Finish**

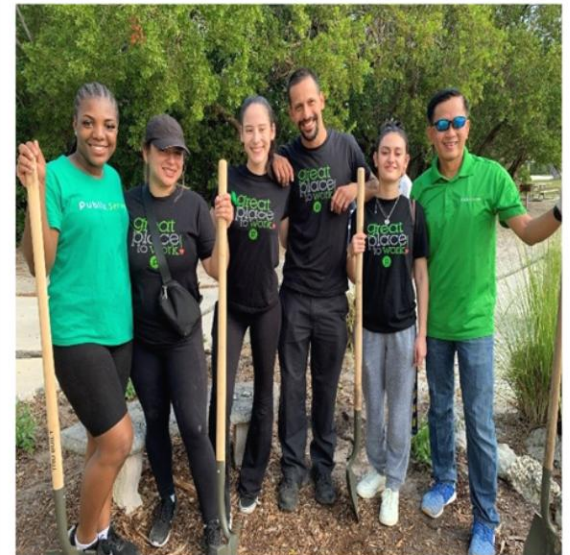
MIAMI-DADE COUNTY MIAMI LAKES TOWN HALL OPA LOCKA AvMed MACK CYCLE

To request materials in accessible format, sign language interpreters, CART and/or any accommodation to participate in any Miami-Dade County Parks, Recreation and Open Spaces sponsored program or meeting, please contact Gisel Prado, 305-755-7848 or Gisel.Prado@miamidade.gov at least 7 days in advance to initiate your request. TTY users may also call 711 (Florida Relay Service).

Conservation & Stewardship 2022 Highlights

Growing Park Stewards Through Volunteer Programs

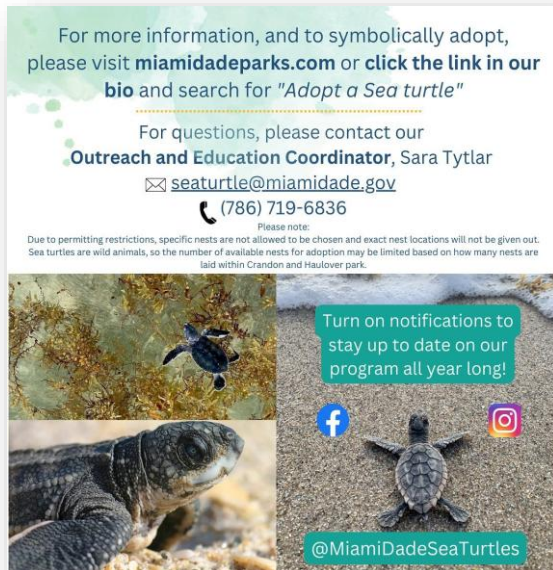
- Miami-Dade Parks' PLACE (Parks Leadership and Community Engagement) Program connects people and parks through volunteer service. The PLACE Program partners with the Parks Foundation by connecting with community partners who provided **\$21,000** of grant support to the Foundation to fund volunteer programming and conservation initiatives at Miami-Dade Parks.
- Throughout 2022, the PLACE Program helped lead and/or facilitate **154** community volunteer events (coastal cleanups, community action days, "EcoAction" days, and signature events) and **120** private group events (garden installations, invasive plant removals, and trail enhancements). The program engaged over **5,500** volunteers, who collectively installed over **3,100** plants, picked up nearly **9,000** lbs of marine debris and litter, and participated in **15** natural areas restorations.
- In August 2022, through the Parks Foundation, Wells Fargo sponsored a coastal restoration project at Pelican Harbor Marina and Pelican Island. In collaboration with The Mission Continues, Wells Fargo, and Parks Conservation Corps, volunteers participated in a coastal cleanup and installed over **500** native trees, shrubs, and pollinator plants to enhance the maritime hammock on the island. Volunteers also learned about the impact of restoring coastal habitats and other conservation efforts taking place across Biscayne Bay.



Conservation & Stewardship 2022 Highlights

Sea Turtle Conservation Program

- In 2022, the Parks Foundation secured a **\$20,000 grant from The Batchelor Foundation** for the purchase of (2) ATV's and educational replica materials that supported Miami-Dade County Parks' Sea Turtle Conservation program.
- Miami-Dade Parks' Sea Turtle Conservation team is charged with monitoring and recording all sea turtle nesting activity along the county's 19 miles of beaches, which are maintained by Miami-Dade County Parks. The team responds to sea turtle rescue and stranding year-round. In the 2022 season, the team surveyed **697** sea turtle nests, a **30%** increase from 2021, and responded to a total of **48** sea turtle strandings. In addition, the team's **33** community events engaged **over 3,500** participants; these **included 15** sea turtle hatchling releases and **3** public nest excavations.
- In 2022, the Sea Turtle Team launched a new Adopt-A-Nest program, with **34** nests adopted in the pilot year.
- Sea Turtles are an indicator species, meaning they serve as a recognized indicator and have an acknowledged role in maintaining the health of the world's oceans and stabilizing coastal habitats.



Placemaking 2022 Highlights

Increasing Tree Canopy

- In 2022, the Parks Foundation partnered with **Neat Streets Miami-Dade County/Million Trees Miami-Dade County** by serving as fiscal sponsor of **\$210,550** in grants awarded to the Foundation that increased tree canopy throughout Miami-Dade County with focus on low tree canopy neighborhoods.
- **Neat Streets Miami-Dade County/Million Trees Miami-Dade County** partnered with the Parks Foundation to lead community volunteer projects and other initiatives that planted **over 6,000 new trees** in Miami-Dade County and gave away over **1,700 free trees and over 4,400 free plants** to residents.
- These trees improve climate resilience and help attract businesses to Miami-Dade. It has been established that improving a community's tree canopy produces numerous benefits, from addressing the rising heat index to improving air quality to strengthening social ties among neighbors.
- Trees increase property values and job performance and satisfaction, while reducing energy costs. Research has shown the presence of trees can help reduce crime in a neighborhood.
- Canopy trees enhance a community's resiliency by beautifying and greening resident commutes, pollution absorption, wind protection, noise pollution reduction and storm water retention.





Special Parks Events 2022 Highlights

South Dade Summer Youth Band Camp

- In the summer of 2022, Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade once again served as fiscal sponsor of South Dade Summer Youth Band Camp with a total value of **\$30,476.57**
- Over **40** Youth participated in the 5-week program, led by renowned retired FAMU Band Director Dr. Julian White
- Marching bands represent a natural element of football programs, many of which are in communities struggling with gun violence and other high-risk behaviors in youth. The Summer Youth Band Camp, in existence since 2016, takes hundreds of young people off the streets and provides them with a positive environment to learn not only marching and music, but self- worth and useful life skills.

Foundation Financials

Through the generosity of community residents, foundations, corporate partners, and its Board of Directors the Parks Foundation advances its mission to create a healthier, more livable and sustainable Miami-Dade community by ensuring the implementation of the Parks and Open Space Master Plan and the development of year-round equitable and accessible recreation programs for all, with a focus on children, active older adults and people with disabilities.

		REVENUE		
ASSETS		Donations	\$ 72,685	
		Grants	\$ 354,879	
	Cash	\$ 1,033,937	Sponsorships & Admin Fees	\$ 38,804
	Accounts Receivable	\$ 119,837	Event Revenue (net)	\$ 117,360
	Investments	\$ 652,555	Investment Income (Loss)	\$ (72,262)
Total Assets	\$ 1,806,329	Total Revenue	\$ 511,466	
		EXPENSES		
LIABILITIES		Program Services	\$ 414,039	
	Accounts Payable	\$ 99,767	General Support	\$ 106,813
	Fiscal Sponsorship Funds	\$ 593,358	Total Expenses	\$ 520,852
	Deferred Revenue	\$ 5,000	CHANGE IN NET ASSETS	
Total Liabilities	\$ 698,125	Decrease in Net Assets	\$ (9,386)	
NET ASSETS				
Total Net Assets	\$ 1,108,204			
Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$ 1,806,329			

Consistent with national fundraising standards referred to in Section 4(a) of the amended and restated agreement between Miami-Dade County and the Parks Foundation of Miami-Dade, Inc. approved by Miami-Dade County Board of County Commissioners Resolution No. R-573-15, and the requirements of Chapter 496 of the Florida Statutes, the Foundation provides the Parks Director an annual report that includes audited financial statements complying with OMB Circular A-133; Form 990 including all attachments as filed with the Internal Revenue Service; and a financial report form as filed with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services, pursuant to the requirements of Florida Statutes Section 496.407.