A Message from our CEO

Greetings:

I continue to be grateful for the opportunity to lead such a promising agency. We are even more excited about the foundation laid by our outgoing Board Chair. With our new Chair in place, we are already reaping the harvest of her experience and vigor. We are equally excited about our new board members who are already giving us a new burst of energy with their fresh ideas. Look for some exciting things to come very soon at The Bridge!

We must always work towards our mission of serving needy youth in our community. Remember, we provide counseling and temporary housing for all youth with challenges who need assistance, not just youth who are homeless. If you know of a youth who is couch surfing, or constantly arguing with parents and separation is needed for a few days, call us. We provide many services to youth and family members, with the goal of successful family reunification.

Thanks and God bless,
Dorcas

Client Testimonial

"My personal experience at the Bridge is straight. Been trying to maintain trying to be a better kid. I been focused not trying to commit no more crimes when I get outta here. Jose taught me a lot. He taught me how to control my anger and my attitude and I respect him to the fullest. He like the father I never had."
- Donald, 16

You're Invited!

In This Issue

Client Testimonial
Thanksgiving Luncheon
Miami Bridge Gala
Give Miami Day
Youth Outings
Community Outreach
Did You Know?
Follow Us!
New Board Members
Thank you!
Volunteer Opportunities
Shelter Needs
Upcoming Events
Contact Us

Thank you!!!

September Donors

Adrian Bada
Alina Brady
Beatriz Martin
Betty Lara
Carnival Arts
Comcast
Esserman Acura
Go Ink
Kelya Rodriguez
Mariana Bernardinez
Nike Factory Store @ Dolphin Mall
Province "Boo" Zamek
Save the Date!

Save the Date!

Give Miami Day gives everyone in the community an opportunity to make a philanthropic impact on Greater Miami. In 2015, Miamians made history during the 24-hour online giving event, with more than 17,000 donors raising $7.1 million for 600+ local nonprofits. Save the date for November 17, 2016, when one of the biggest annual giving events in the U.S. returns. We hope you will include Miami Bridge in your Give Miami Day plans this year.

Volunteer Opportunities

We encourage our community to volunteer and participate with our youth. Any assistance can make a difference in a child’s life.

Here are ways you can help:

- Data entry (up to 10 hours per week)
- Become a mentor through our Mentoring Program
- Tutor our youth
- Give a youth job training
- Plan an activity for our children and teens

Volunteer Event:

Dinner is an opportunity to dine and fellowship with the Bridge Family. We are looking for individuals, families, or groups to come in, prepare dinner and eat with our wonderful staff and kids. We can provide the food or you may bring your own food as well! Please note: Uncooked food must be prepared on our premises. We WILL welcome you with a huge smile and a loving environment.

The volunteer hours for cooking dinner for the youth are 4:30 PM to 7:30 PM. (daily)

If you would like to volunteer, serve as a mentor or plan an activity for our youth, please call 305.636-3529 or email info@miamibridge.org.

Shelter Needs

Many of our children arrive with little to no personal belongings. We can always use NEW pajamas and undergarments. New
September Recap

**Color Me Mine**
Our youth have been extra creative this month. We were able to bring our Homestead youth to Color Me Mine art studio where they custom painted some ceramic pieces.

**Ceramic League of Miami**
They also attended a ceramics lesson at Ceramic League of Miami, where they created their own pieces.

**La Petite Haiti Culture Walk**
Miami Bridge Homestead took part in the La Petite Haiti Culture Walk where they experienced Little Haiti with a HistoryMiami Museum guide. Our youth visited the Little Haiti Cultural Center's art galleries and Caribbean Marketplace and enjoyed the rhythms and aromas of this vibrant community.

**Back to School @ Jungle Island**
Miami Bridge Central took part in Jungle Island's Back to School event. All of our youth were thrilled to take photos with the parrot. They also received some back to school book bags and supplies.

**Surfs Up!**
Miami Bridge youth from both shelters attended the first ever Saturday Surfing with Street Waves, made possible by The Little Lighthouse Foundation.

**Everglades Excursion**
Homestead youth visited the Miccosukee Indian Village this month. They were able to hold a baby alligator and take an airboat ride.

---

**Upcoming Events!**
- Adrienne Arsht Birthday
- Kick Boxing Fit Club
- FIU Football Laserland
- Zoo Boo Miami
- Karaoke Night Carnival Arts
- House of Horror Halloween Party

---

**Contact Us**
Miami Bridge Youth & Family Services, Inc.  
2810 NW South River Dr. Miami, FL 33125 Ph. 305-635-8953 info@miamibridge.org
Community Outreach

Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce Business Expo

Human Resources Director, Lina Aguirre, and Outreach Coordinator, Kanisha Williams, attended the Annual Business Expo at Jungle Island on September 20th, 2016.

99 Jamz Hope for the Youth

Outreach Coordinator, Kanisha Williams, represented Miami Bridge at the 99 Jamz Hope for the Youth panel discussion on September 22nd, 2016, hosted by Shelby Rushin.

Children’s Trust Family Expo

Outreach Coordinator, Kanisha Williams, and Outreach Case Manager, Ilene Ochoa, attended The Children’s Trust Family Expo on September 10th, 2016.

Here’s Help Radio Show

Miami Bridge CEO, Dr. Dorcas Wilcox, was recently on the Here’s Help radio talk show. The show airs every Sunday at 6:00 AM on both Y-100 & 103.5 The Beat.

Special Thank You

Commissioner Francis Suarez

Many thanks to Commissioner Francis Suarez for sponsoring the legislation concerning our recent $10,000 grant from the City of Miami.

Rotary Club of Key Biscayne

Many thanks to the Rotary Club of Key Biscayne for honoring Miami Bridge as a grant recipient at their 2016 Grant Program on September 16th, 2016.
Esserman Acura “Vote for Charity”

Many thanks to all our Facebook fans who voted and voted and voted, making Miami Bridge the July “Vote for Charity” winner at Esserman Acura. Program Assistants, Dionne Hamilton & Judith Johnson, picked up our winnings this month.

Thank You from a Bridge Kid’s Parent

We are always grateful for the gratitude of the parents of the youth we serve; but, this card really made our day.

Many thank you to this special individual for your kind words and donation.

Did You Know?

These are the top four risk factors of the Florida youth The Florida Network serves. Be proactive and prevent poor choices and troubled behavior by utilizing our resources, agencies and shelters. www.floridanetwork.org

Miami Bridge is the local shelter for Miami-Dade County.

Follow Us on Instagram!
Welcome to the Board!

Miami Bridge welcomes two new board members to the team:

**Julie Harris Nelson**

Julie is an experienced insurance defense trial attorney who has personally tried more than 50 criminal and civil jury and bench trials involving automobile liability personal injury protection (PIP) litigation and insurance law.

Julie worked as in-house and private counsel for many major insurance companies, with responsibility for the investigation and defense of personal injury protection litigation files involving fraud, insurance coverage, and breach of contract issues.

Her work includes the investigation and practice of Special Investigation Unit (SIU) claims. She is court-approved to serve as an attorney fee expert in litigation matters.

**Darren Campbell**

Darren is a Director tasked with the responsibility of growing the Cushman & Wakefield’s business platform in South Florida. In his ten year tenure as an advocate for the office space consumer, Darren has specialized in the representation of large entities with their corporate real estate initiatives as well as the representation of the office space tenant-client. Darren provides his Cushman & Wakefield clientele with a seamless delivery of highly sophisticated integrated real estate solutions. Predicated upon a benchmark of personal integrity, knowledge of-and respect within-the South Florida office space marketplace, he exercises his in-depth knowledge of the marketplace coupled with a determined work ethic, and vast experience with the client representation process on his
Julie began her legal career as an Assistant State Attorney in Miami-Dade County under Katherine Fernandez Rundle. She later began practicing insurance defense with an emphasis on premises liability and bodily injury.

While attending St. Thomas, she was a member of Black Law Students Association, the Catholic Lawyers Guild, the Appellate Moot Court and Trial Court Teams, and the Peter Faye Inns of Court. She served as summer federal law clerk to the Honorable William Hoeveler in 1992. In 1993 and 1994 she served as a law clerk for the City of Miami Attorney's Office and the Florida Department of Transportation.

Prior to becoming Director with Cushman & Wakefield, Darren was President of Allegiant Corporate Real Estate Advisors, and prior to that, an Associate at Campbell Real Estate Advisory Group, Inc.

Darren is a Licensed Real Estate Broker for the State of Florida and holds a Masters of Business Administration degree with an emphasis in Project Management from Keller Graduate School of Management. He will also hold Corenet's MCR designation in 2017.

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets you enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com.

The difference is that when you shop on AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price to Miami Bridge Youth and Family Services, Inc.

Just choose us as your charity of choice.