The Children of Inmates (COI) partnership supports the well-being of children whose parents are incarcerated, an often-ignored sub-group of children at risk. Through the combined talents of 12 Miami public, non-profit and private sector partner organizations, COI provides regular family bonding visits to Florida prisons, crisis intervention and care coordination services with the goal of strengthening the connection between these children and their incarcerated parents and stabilizing the family. COI also raises awareness about the needs of these children and recruit volunteers to support our children.

This showcase highlights a pilot service-learning program (a pedagogy that provides experiential learning that serves and addresses community needs) launched between Miami Dade College Institute for Civic Engagement & Democracy and the Miami Climate Alliance, a grassroots organization advocating and acting for climate justice in South Florida. Students participated in direct service with the organization as well as launching entrepreneurial projects that combined their own skills and interests with the needs of the Miami Climate Alliance and the aim of furthering the social impact of the organization.

DISRUPTING THE PRISON PIPELINE FOR CHILDREN OF INMATES
LEAD: Hope for Miami
Yvonne Sawyer
(305) 267-3550
yvonne@hopeformiami.org
SECTORS: Public, non-profit and private sector partners

REFLECTIONS ON THE MIAMI CLIMATE ALLIANCE SERVICE - LEARNING PILOT PROGRAM
LEAD: Miami Dade College
Rebecca Pelham
(305) 237-8380
rpelham@mdc.edu
SECTORS: Public and non-profit partners
PACT, representing more than 50,000 people in South Florida, harnesses the power of its large, organized numbers of people to solve pressing community problems. PACT leaders have successfully worked to eliminate out-of-school suspensions, reactivate the Affordable Housing Trust Fund, and pass the First Source Referral Hiring Ordinance. PACT invests significant time and energy to develop grassroots leaders through sponsorship in national training, local workshops and on-going action-reflection processes. Grassroots leaders develop a number of skills – planning, conducting public meetings, developing successful strategies, negotiating with decision makers, fund raising – that are necessary to impact serious community problems through the organizing process.

Wells Fargo is dedicated to sharing the skills of our team members by serving the community of South Florida through non-profit board service. We partner with the non-profit sector providing grants in the areas of Human Services, Education, Civic, Arts & Culture, Environment and Community Development. We look closely at organizations in which our board service and active engagement beyond just a monetary contribution can make a significant difference. We work closely with the Line of Business leaders to identify, train and match the appropriate team member with a non-profit board that fits within our strategic funding framework.

CHANGE MAKING:
PACT GRASSROOTS LEADERSHIP TRAINING
LEAD: PACT (People Acting Together for Community)
Megan O’Brien/Darrell Arnold
(305) 572-0602
mobrien@miamipact.org
SECTORS: Nonprofit and public partners

BRINGING BUSINESS SAVVY TO NON-PROFIT BOARDS
LEAD: Wells Fargo Bank
Patrick G. Morris
(305) 532-2535
Patrick.G.Morris@wellsfargo.com
SECTORS: Private and non-profit sectors
Community Scholars is an innovative initiative designed to familiarize emerging leaders and young professionals in Miami-Dade County with best practices in community development and affordable housing policy and procedures in the United States. The program has been overseen by CCE, the South Florida Community Development, and Catalyst Miami. As of 2016, a total of 33 emerging professionals working in the nonprofit, for-profit, and non-profit sectors have completed the program. During each session, national and local experts in community development and affordable housing shared their insight and knowledge with the group. Each scholar completes a capstone project, some of which have had a significant impact local impact, including the creation of a new Countywide revolving loan fund, new set-asides in the Affordable Housing Trust Fund for the lowest income households, and comprehensive presentation on best practices to the Miami-Dade County League of Cities. The program uses a “Community of Practice,” which encourages participants to share skills and build networks while learning from their peers.

COMMUNITY SCHOLARS IN AFFORDABLE HOUSING PROGRAM

LEAD: University of Miami

Jorge Damien de la Paz
(305) 284-6635
jdelapaz@miami.edu

SECTORS: Private and non-profit sectors
The Social Justice Table (SJT) is dedicated to building collective power and fostering equity in Miami-Dade County, with an emphasis on low-income and working minority communities. The SJT convenes a variety of social justice organizations to create collective spaces and programming around shared values in order to increase collective capacity and impact. Our work includes supporting emerging networks to more effectively tackle the main issues affecting our communities; changing public narratives; changing our political culture; increasing civic engagement; and shifting our policy landscape towards a more people-centered agenda.

Riverside Park is located in a densely populated neighborhood of Miami’s East Little Havana. In February 2016, families living nearby were most likely to say “peligroso” (dangerous) when asked to share the first word coming to mind when thinking of Riverside Park. Ten months later the park has become a go-to spot for community celebrations and family soccer games. What changed?

THE SOCIAL JUSTICE TABLE: BUILDING COLLECTIVE POWER IN MIAMI-DADE COUNTY

LEAD: Catalyst Miami
Camilo Mejia
(305) 576-5001
camilom@catalystmiami.org
SECTORS: Non-profit and public sectors

CAN I DRINK MY BEER HERE? VS. IS IT SAFE TO BRING MY KIDS HERE?

LEAD: The Children’s Trust
Christine Selby
(305) 571-5700 ext. 238
Christine@thechildrenstrust.org
SECTORS: Non-profit, public and private sectors