



President's Report

DECEMBER 2021 NEWSLETTER

Dear Members,

I hope you all had a wonderful thanksgiving and are enjoying the holiday season! There is so much to be thankful for as we go into the new year, and I am excited and hopeful for what 2022 holds for our organization and its members.

As many of you have heard by now, our Chamber [will be moving its offices](#) early next year to the [SunTrust International Center](#). This office move will put us in the heart of Downtown Miami's Central Business District -- closer in proximity to current and future members and business leaders, as well as in the mix with all the exciting new companies moving into the area. After more than 5 decades in our current space, we are looking forward to this new chapter in our organization's evolution.

As we continue to move forward, it has been great to see all your faces at our in-person events again! Our Women Leaders in Financial Services event, held at the [Coral Gables Museum](#) and moderated by [CNBC Money Court's](#) Katie S. Phang, was a great success, as was our Miami, The Resilient City event held at [545 Wyn](#). We hosted our Trustee Soirée at [Empire Social Lounge](#) in Brickell, where it was great to connect and network with our members. This past month the Chamber was also fortunate to welcome and host [His Excellency Daniel Mulhall](#), Ambassador of Ireland to the United States, to announce the opening of Ireland's New Consulate in Miami next year!

Earlier this month, we held our final trustee luncheon of the year, where we presented the annual [Alvah H. Chapman, Jr. Award](#) to our good friend, Bill Talbert. Bill leaves a long legacy of service and has had a tremendous impact on raising Miami's profile as a great destination to visit and do business in. We also had a chance to recognize Larry H. Adams, former FPL executive and Chamber Chairman (1986-1987) with the [Henry M. Flagler Community Builder Award](#). Larry's impact on our community and this Chamber was profound, including the formation of the Beacon Council. And we also heard from the Beacon Council's [Matt Haggman](#), Executive Vice President of Opportunity Miami. Opportunity Miami, the reformation of One Community One Goal, aims to grow our economy by supporting the opportunities that technology, financial services and a burgeoning entrepreneurial sector is presenting. We hope you all enjoyed this wonderful event and award presentation – it was an honor to recognize and celebrate these key figures in our community! As a reminder, please note that **there will be no Trustee Luncheon**

in January. We will resume with Trustee Luncheon on February 2, 2022.

As we round out the year, I want to also remind you of our program -- the [Greater Health Trust](#), in partnership with AvMed – that offers affordable healthcare for small businesses. If your business is still in the market for health insurance, I encourage you to [go on our site](#) and find a plan that works for your business and employees.

I would like to thank you all for your continued support and express my deep appreciation for your commitment to our Chamber and its mission. I wish you all a very happy and safe holiday season and look forward to all the good things 2022 has in store for us.

Happy Holidays!

Sincerely,

Alfred Sanchez

President and CEO,
Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce

December Trustee Luncheon Featuring the 2021 Alvah H. Chapman, Jr. Award of Excellence



[The Alvah H. Chapman, Jr. Award of Excellence](#) recognizes the outstanding contributions to the development of Miami's core business in three categories "Individual," "Organization" and "Young Leader."

On December 8th, we celebrated Alvah Chapman's legacy by recognizing those whose actions have helped forge a brighter future for Miami's urban core...just like Alvah did more than four decades ago.

These honorees have made significant contributions and set standards for furthering Miami's downtown economy, culture, education, beautification and preservation.

- Individual | **William D. Talbert III**, former President & CEO of Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Organization | **Camillus House**
- Young Leader | **Frankie Ruiz**, Founder of the Miami Marathon

We also did something special this year and presented [The Henry M. Flagler Community Builder Award](#) to **Lawrence H. "Larry" Adams**. The Henry M. Flagler community builder award is presented to an individual who, in the spirit of Henry Flagler, advanced our Miami community because of their vision and leadership. Larry has undoubtedly had a tremendous impact on our community and it is an honor for our Chamber to recognize such a key figure.



Individual

William D. Talbert III

Former President & CEO of Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau

[View Video](#)



Organization

Camillus House

[View Video](#)



Young Leader

Frankie Ruiz

Founder of the Miami Marathon

[View Video](#)



The Henry M. Flagler Community Builder Award Recipient

Lawrence H. "Larry" Adams

[View Video](#)



Keynote Speaker

Matt Haggman

Executive Vice President, Opportunity Miami, The Beacon Council

The Alvah H Chapman, Jr. Awards, along with the December Trustee Luncheon, was presented by: Award Presenting Sponsor, [The Allen Morris Company](#); Trustee Luncheon Title Sponsor and Award Gold Sponsor, [Florida Power & Light](#); Trustee Luncheon Event Sponsor [CareerSource South Florida](#); Award Gold Sponsor, [Miami DDA](#); Award Silver Sponsors, [Bayside Marketplace](#), [Chapman Partnership](#), [The Greater Miami Convention & Visitors Bureau](#), [Pacific National Bank](#), [Orange Bowl Committee](#), and [TD Bank](#).

[READ FULL RECAP HERE](#)

[View photos of the event here](#)



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Women Leaders In Financial Services



Our Women in Financial Services event was held in-person at the Coral Gables Museum. Guests heard from **Laura Kaplan**, Market President, BNY Mellon & Commonwealth Institute Executive Committee as she discussed the 2021 Women's Leadership Development in Florida Impact Study.



We also heard from moderator, **Katie S. Phang**, Co-Host of CNBC's Money Court; NBC and MSNBC Legal Contributor; Trial Lawyer at Phang & Feldman, P.A., as well as our panel speakers, **Leigh-Ann Buchanan**, President and Executive Director, aïre ventures; **Kiki Del Valle**, Executive Vice President of Market Development, Mastercard Latin America; **Lyan Fernandez**, President and CEO, OURBank (I/O); and **Sarah Washburn**,

Thank you to presenting sponsor [City National Bank](#); and Gold Sponsors [Avila Rodriguez Hernandez Mena & Garro LLP](#), [Kaufman Rossin](#) and [Nelson Mullins](#).

Real Estate Developers Forum: Miami, The Resilient City



We hosted our annual Real Estate Developers Forum: Miami, The Resilient City, where panelists discussed sustainable real estate development and affordable workforce housing. We heard from speakers **Mark Anes**, Business Development, Coastal Construction; **Rishi Kapoor, J.D.**, Founder and CEO, Location Ventures; **Willie Logan, PhD**, CEO and President, Opa Locka Community Development Corporation; and **Patrick Erin Murphy**, Executive Vice President, Coastal Construction. The discussion was followed by a Cocktail Reception at [545 Wyn](#).

The Developers Forum was hosted by: [545wyn - Miami](#), [Blanca Commercial Real Estate](#), and [Sterling Bay](#); Presenting Sponsors: [Ocean Bank](#) and [Wells Fargo](#); Gold Sponsors: [Berger Singerman](#), [Douglas Elliman Real Estate](#) and [Florida International University](#); Silver Sponsors: [Coastal Construction](#) and [Peninsula Developers](#), and Supporting Sponsor: All-Dade Driveway Maintenance Inc.



The banner features a blue background with a white checkmark icon on the left. The checkmark is surrounded by the words 'REIGNITE', 'PROTECT', and 'ENCOURAGE'. Below the icon, the text 'WE DID IT!' is written in white. To the right of the icon, the text 'WE TOOK THE COVID SAFETY PLEDGE!' is written in large, bold, yellow letters. At the bottom right, the website 'WeDidItSFL.com' is displayed in white.

Help fight COVID-19: Take the We Did It campaign pledge!

Recently, our Chamber joined with Miami-Dade County and Health Foundation of South Florida to launch the [We Did It! campaign](#), a new pledge program that calls on small businesses to encourage vaccines at work as a way to keep workers and customers safe and reignite the local economy.

Will you join us? All you have to do is go to [WeDidItSFL.com](#) and take the pledge by downloading posters, stickers and social media fliers to communicate your commitment. You'll also find information on how to encourage vaccines and talk to your team about them.

Official Visit: Ambassador Of Ireland To The United States



We were honored to welcome and host His Excellency Daniel Mulhall, Ambassador of [Ireland](#) to the U.S., and the Honorable Ian O'Flaherty, Honorary Consul of Ireland! We look forward to the new consulate office — coming to [Miami](#) next year!

Meet & Greet Luncheon



The Chamber hosted a Meet & Greet Luncheon for US Army Col. James L. Booth at PortMiami, sponsored by Haskell. The Colonel is the new commander for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Jacksonville District.

Trustee Soiree



We had a wonderful time connecting with our members at our Trustee Soiree at Empire Social Lounge in Brickell. Thank you to everyone who attended!



WHAT'S AHEAD

01/19

Committee Meeting

Education & Workforce Development

02/01

Committee Meeting

Human Resources & Professional Development

02/10

Committee Meeting

Healthcare

Committee Meeting
Resilience

03/01
Sand In My Shoes Award®
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03/24
Committee Meeting
Healthcare

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Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce
www.MiamiChamber.com

