Calendar of events

One Community One Goal says it surpasses its own goal

BY CAMILA CEPEDA

The One Community One Goal Annual Report to the Community last week detailed a crowd of more than 600 local community and business leaders eager to hear about the strides made to improve Miami-Dade County’s economy over the past year.

The event, held at the University of Miami’s Don Shula Hall, featured keynote speeches, panel discussions and speaker presentations centered on getting the attendees up to speed on what the countywide initiative, now in its fourth year, had accomplished.

During 2015-2016, the One Community One Goal initiative engaged more than 230,000 individuals, 3,000 students and 600 companies engaged, and 163 C-level executives and 43 nonprofits participating.

Sprawled across Florida International University, the Talent Development Network was launched in April 2015 that allows employers to post internships opportunities for students of the Academic Leaders Council institutions on a single online platform.

“The Academic Leaders Council institutions are the University of Miami, St. Thomas University, Miami-Dade Public Schools, Miami Dade College, Florida Memorial University, and Barry University,” said 3,000 students are registered, 350 interns posted and more than 500 students placed in internships, according to an activities overview statement released by the Board of Directors at the event.

The University president Mark Rosenberg stressed the importance of the Talent Development Network, adding that internships are the “vehicle to a better economy.”

“Roughly 65% of students get an internship stay with their company, and nearly 50% grow into a permanent career of $12,000 to $13,000,” he said before emphasizing that the most important thing the business community can do in this regard is offer paid internships.

Many students need to be working to pay for their education, Dr. Rosenberg said, and if internships are unpaid, students won’t be able to take them.

One Community One Goal plans to create 75,096 new jobs for the overall economy and 27,000 new jobs for seven target industries over a five-year span.

The target industries are aviation, banking and finance, creative design, hospitality and tourism, life sciences and health care, technology, and trade and logistics.

In Miami-Dade County, the total number of all new jobs increased by more than 113,482 between 2012 and 2016, early allowing us to exceed our five-year One Community One Goal target in year four,” said the One Community One Goal Annual Report.

Employment within the target industries increased by 44,858 jobs from 2012 to 2016, far surpassing the five-year goal of 17,343 jobs by year four.


Based on data from Economic Modeling Specialists Inc. (EMSI) shared by the Beacon Council in its One Community One Goal - Year 4 Progress Report, the average wage this year among those who work in the seven targeted industries is $62,488 and the average for all other county business sectors is $60,553.

This is compared to 2015 wages in the targeted industries of $55,310, with $55,321 for all sectors.

Basking and finance, creative design, hospitality and tourism sectors experienced double-digit gains, driving the average wage increase by jobs among all seven targeted industries at 13%, the progress report said.

Since 2012, technology and innovation sector saw an increase of 28%, with the aviation sector seeing a 16% increase.

“Miami is the No. 1 job-creating region in the U.S.,” said Miami-Dade County Mayor Carlos Gimenez, adding that the metropolitan area is down to 5.5% this year.