

Media Release

FIU Metropolitan Center to Launch Data Center

Miami (December 7, 2006)- The FIU Metropolitan Center will open a Data Center, where experts will be able to obtain that latest statistical information about specific projects that Metropolitan Center has conducted. The compiled data sets will be made available in a timely fashion so that it may be used by governmental, non-profit, and private entities.

With the use of exclusive data from sources such as the U.S. Census Bureau, RealQuest, and the U.S. Bureau of Economic and Business Research (BEBR), data is compiled, organized, and analyzed by expert research staff and principal investigators at the Metropolitan Center.

The Metropolitan Center will launch a report outlining a broad range of variables throughout Miami-Dade County. Variables include a demographic, household composition and income, linguistic group, and special-needs population breakdown by countywide political districts at all levels.

“This is one of the most important projects undertaken by the Metropolitan Center,” says Dr. Dario Moreno, Director of the Metropolitan Center. “While we are just beginning with very simple demographic data we will soon be uploading significant economic data on the website that will be of great assistance to our community.”

The Metropolitan Center Data Center will offer the opportunity to better understand communities and the specific challenges they face. In its effort to forge solutions to the challenges posed to urban areas, especially South Florida, the Metropolitan Center hopes their Data Center will provide the ammunition necessary to help governmental and non-governmental agencies, alike, confront these challenges and develop policy that is innovative as they seek to improve their communities.

“This is a tremendous accomplishment for the Metropolitan Center,” says Rick Rodriguez Pina, Chairman of the Center’s Advisory Board. “The Metropolitan Center is now in a position to offer government and business leaders access to unique data customized (such as market research studies, surveys, etc.) to help them make the best decisions for those they serve.”

The **Metropolitan Center at Florida International University** is engaged in the study of the demographics, economics and politics of South Florida. The overall goal of the Center, as an “applied research” institute, is to provide decision-makers with the best possible information to forge solutions to the problems confronting South Florida’s urban areas. The Center provides research, training, and technical assistance to governmental, private, and nonprofit institutions throughout the State of Florida. The Metropolitan Center provides usable knowledge to inform decision-makers on economic development, land use, housing and public opinion. The Metropolitan Center is committed to improving the process in which government and businesses respond to their needs. It also provides market research, organizational management planning, and development to strengthen local area organizations’ ability to serve their client base and maintain their integrity.

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