

For Immediate Release:

July 27, 2007

Media Contact:

METRO-MIAMI ACTION PLAN TRUST (MMAP)
Melba Gasque
gasquem@miamidade.gov
305-372-7600 ext. 249 or
Joey Walker
305-372-7600 ext. 239

**METRO-MIAMI ACTION PLAN (MMAP) TRUST'S
COMMUNITY MEETING AND RETREAT
THE COMMUNITY'S CALL TO ACTION**

Metro-Miami Action Plan (MMAP) Trust will host a **COMMUNITY MEETING AND RETREAT – THE COMMUNITY'S CALL TO ACTION** on Saturday, July 28th, 2007 from 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m. There will be a press conference held at 11:00 a.m. at Miami-Dade College's (MDC) Chapman Conference Center to report findings from a public opinion survey of Blacks in Miami-Dade County, conducted in March by the Metropolitan Center at Florida International University.

The Metropolitan Center was commissioned by MMAP to conduct a Thirty-Year Retrospective analysis of the Black community in relation to changes in its demographic, socio-economic characteristics, and education. The study findings serve to exemplify the disparity the currently exists between Blacks and other residents of Miami-Dade County in these and other sectors.

Discussions and workgroups will be held on the following topics: Housing, Economic Development, Criminal Justice, Education, Public Health, and Advocacy Initiatives and Programs. They will be lead by local Government and Community leaders. There will also be discussions the effects of recent budget cuts on the quality of life for our community, especially the Black residents of Miami-Dade County.

The results of the Thirty-Year Retrospective will be revealed at the press conference. Both the community meeting and press conference are free of charge and open to the public.

This is the perfect opportunity for the residents of Miami-Dade County to voice their opinions about what is going on in their neighborhoods. The Community Meeting and Retreat takes place on Saturday July 28th, 2007 at Miami Dade College – Wolfson Campus, The Chapman Center – Building #3, 300 N.E. 2nd Avenue, Miami, Florida 33132. For more information on the Community Retreat, please call MMAP at 305-372-7600.

###

Metro-Miami Action Plan (MMAP) Trust

MMAP is committed to addressing the socio-economic disparity of Miami-Dade County's Black community by advocating and coordinating initiatives and programs for the benefit of the community-at-large.

For more information visit our webpage at <http://www.miamidade.gov/mmap>.

Metropolitan Center, FIU

The Metropolitan Center at Florida International University delivers information and expertise to decision makers, community leaders and citizens as they seek to forge solutions to urban problems. The Center 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. Toward that goal, the Center provides research, training, and technical assistance to governmental and nonprofit organizations in South Florida. The Center provides usable knowledge to inform decision makers on economic development, land use, housing, and public opinion. It also provides organizational management planning and development to strengthen local area organizations' ability to serve their client basis. **For more information, visit their webpage: <http://metropolitan.fiu.edu>**

Media Contact for Metropolitan Center, FIU

Vanessa Brito, Director of Marketing Communications
150 SE 2nd Avenue, Suite 500
Miami, FL 33131
O: 305.349.1255
M: 786.395.9851
E: Vanessa.Brito@fiu.edu