



STEVEN J. GREEN  
SCHOOL OF  
INTERNATIONAL  
& PUBIC AFFAIRS



## MESSAGE FROM OUR DIRECTOR

**Dr. Howard Frank**  
*Director*

The Jorge M. Perez Metropolitan Center (JPMC) opened its doors in 1997 in downtown Miami as a three-year experiment with seed money from the Provost's Office. The expectation was that its research, training, and technical assistance would inform decision-making, and improve practice in the public, private, and nonprofit sectors throughout South Florida.

Our recipe is nonpartisan, data-driven analysis grounded in a rich understanding of the communities we serve. The experiment has succeeded, and the JPMC has grown in stature and outreach to become the region's foremost urban thank tank.

Our success is grounded in an amazingly talented and hard working staff. The work of our full-time employees has garnered respect from a wide cross-section of policy makers. The JPMC's work is made possible by our graduate and undergraduate research assistants. I am extremely proud of the JPMC's research and take satisfaction in our status as a training ground for future leaders. This reflects FIU's Carnegie status as a research intensive institution with a commitment to community engagement.

The JPMC's success would not be possible without the strong, support of the Steven J. Green School, FIU, and the community. On behalf of my colleagues, I send our deepest appreciation while looking forward to another 25 years.



## ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AND HOUSING POLICY

The JPMC provides cutting-edge research on the state of the economy and housing markets in Florida counties and municipalities. Our housing studies focus on the demand and supply factors impacting the availability of affordable housing. Recent studies include:

- Broward County Affordable Housing Needs Assessment (2022)
- Habitat for Humanity: Impact of Homeownership Study (2022)
- Palm Beach County Affordable Housing Needs Assessment (2021)
- Miami Affordable Housing Master Plan (2020)
- Miami-Dade County Affordable Housing Blueprint (2019)

Our economic development studies include data-driven assessments of cities and a platform for community economic development policies including planning strategies, implementation plans, benchmarking, and stakeholder engagement. Previous studies include:

- Fort Myers Community Economic Development Strategy (2021)
- Small Business Big Impact (2020)
- Economic Impact of the Nonprofit Sector in Miami-Dade (2020)
- Make it Miami (2019)
- Healthy West Kendall (2019)
- Broward County Commercial Linkage Fee Nexus Study (2019)



## PERFORMANCE MANAGEMENT, EVALUATION AND SURVEY RESEARCH

The Center provides quantitative and qualitative research solutions like multilingual surveys, focus groups, one-on-one interviews and secret shops to give our public and private sector clients the necessary feedback on customer and resident satisfaction. The JPMC also conducts performance evaluations to help clients gauge the process and outcomes of their programs. Studies include:

- 211 Helpline Quality Assurance Shops (2011-ongoing)
- Resilient 305: The Miami Building Prosperity Collaborative (2022)
- Investing in West Kendall's Recovery & Future: Business Survey Results (2021)
- UnidosUS Labor Market Summary Report (2020)
- Miami Lakes Special Needs Blueprint (2020)
- Census 2020: Perspectives form Hard-to-Enumerate Communities in Broward County
- Census 2020: Perspectives form Hard-to-Enumerate Communities in Miami-Dade
- Annual Hurricane Preparedness and Mitigation Poll (2006)



## TRAINING

The Center provides customized training solutions to our clients by combining best practices from academics and industry leaders who bring a wealth of experience from the public, private and non-profit sectors. We offer trainings at our facility in Miramar as well as onsite at the sponsoring organization or other locations. Our programs offer an affordable and flexible option for investing in professional development for all levels of employees and workforce. Training programs include: leadership, problem-solving, conflict resolution, team building, diversity and inclusion, ethics, etc. Recent clients include cities in Broward County like West Park and Miramar.



## APPLIED ECONOMIC AND DEMOGRAPHIC RESEARCH

The JPMC is a U.S. Census Information Center which interprets, disseminates and analyzes demographic and economic data. We assist our clients in turning data and research into action with our deep understanding of information sources, statistical analysis and data presentation of reports and dashboards that combine GIS-mapping, data visualizations, and infographics. The JPMC is also at the forefront of equity and disparity research with the following research studies:

- State of Black Broward (2022)
- The State of Hispanic & Immigrant Broward (2022)
- City of Boynton Beach Community Needs Assessment (2021)
- The Status of Women in Broward County Report (2021)
- Status of Women in Miami-Dade County reports (2016-ongoing)

The JPMC also produces policy briefings and infographics on topics such as labor force participation, gas prices, veterans, gun safety, mental health, and so on.

The Center is also at the forefront of research on Covid-19's effect on society and the economy with four policy briefings and the COVID-19 Economic Recovery Index© interactive dashboard.

For more information, visit:  
**[metropolitan.fiu.edu](https://metropolitan.fiu.edu)**

