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Quarterly News On How

GFB Is Making A Difference In Our Community

Fall/Winter 2010

GFB Associate Coordinates Banker's Forum

On November 17th, 2010 the Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce's Real Estate Committee hosted their first annual Banker's Forum to address key issues facing community banks. **Erbil Blanco-True**, Director of Community Development, chairs the committee and coordinated the event in partnership with the chamber. The luncheon was held at the Hilton in downtown Miami and attracted over 150 guests who attended to hear renowned experts discuss current banking issues affecting South Florida. Other GFB team members present included **Obdulio Piedra**, Market President; **Mayling Exposito**, Director of Business Banking; **Jason Timmons** and **Iliana Miguel**, Business Banking.



GFB Associates Participate with Habitat for Humanity



On December 1st, 2010, Habitat for Humanity of Greater Miami hosted a home dedication for a low-income family who participated in their homeownership program. **Mirian Vidal** and **Lorraine Noel**, Retail Banking, both serve on the Family Selection Committee and were honored at the home dedication for their excellent work in assisting the family obtain their home. Mirian and Lorraine spend many hours visiting and interviewing needy families to determine which families will participate in the Habitat program.



GFB Sponsors Job Creation Strategies Conference

On December 7th Great Florida Bank sponsored a South Florida Community Development Coalition's event entitled "Innovations in Job Creation Strategies." This event, held at the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta's Miami Branch, featured speakers from around the country who presented innovative strategies in helping low-income communities create new jobs. Guest speakers included representatives from Chicanos Por La Causa, Kahala Franchise Corporation, the Kauffman Foundation's Urban Entrepreneur Partnership and The Beacon Council. **Erbi Blanco-True**, Director of Community Development, assisted in coordinating the event as the chair of the training committee. Other GFB associates present included **Iliana Miguel** and **Paula Campos**, Business Banking.



GFB Associates Donate Toys to Needy Children

On December 14th, several GFB associates participated in a toy distribution at the Miami Rescue Mission Center for Women and Children and the Community Partnership for the Homeless, both homeless shelters in downtown Miami. Many employees donated money to purchase the toys, which were then distributed to needy children at the shelters. **Daniella Trinchet**, Residential Lending, led the donation drive and coordinated the volunteers. Other GFB associates who participated included **David Monter** (Accounting), **Juan Bisbal** (Accounting), **Martha Ramos** (Commercial Loan Operations), **Rachel Selva** (Compliance), and **Yoni Gonzalez** (Retail Banking).



GFB Participates with Hispanic Chamber Toy Drive

The South Florida Hispanic Chamber of Commerce participated in its annual toy drive to benefit low income children in Miami-Dade County. On December 14th several of the chamber's board members, including **Erbi Blanco-True**, Director of Community Development, donated and distributed hundreds of toys to Centro Mater, a child care center in Little Havana which serves needy children from economically disadvantaged families, mostly recent immigrants. GFB is a member of the chamber and has always actively participated in the chamber's events, including their annual toy drive.



South Florida Hispanic
Chamber of Commerce

GFB Completes Successful United Way Campaign

This year, thanks to the generosity of GFB associates, the bank was able to raise over \$17,800 in United Way contributions for 2011. With the bank's match our total was **\$27,867!** On December 17th GFB hosted a holiday luncheon to thank everyone for their United Way contributions.



GFB Associates Feed the Homeless before the Holidays

On December 21st several GFB associates volunteered to feed the homeless at Camillus House, a homeless shelter in downtown Miami. They worked behind the food counter, served water and helped clean up. A special thanks to these dedicated employees who took time off from their personal lives right before the holidays to brighten someone else's life and make a difference!



Clara Alvarez
Daniel Silverman
Erbi Blanco-True
Jason Timmons
Lorraine Noel
Macarena Munoz
Marcela Mateo
Marsha Ann Davidson
Obdulio Piedra
Thais Sanchez



GFB CEO Recognized...



Mehdi Ghomeshi, CEO, was recognized by Miami Dade College in a major marketing campaign entitled "I Am MDC." In this campaign, Miami's most successful alumni are being highlighted throughout the community with large billboards, signs and advertisements. Mehdi's profile is featured on the corner of Bird Road and Douglas Road in Coral Gables.

Miami Dade College has graduated over 1.7 million alumni and is world renowned for serving the community and providing an excellent education to minorities, new immigrants and students of all ages and income levels.

Other alumni featured in this campaign include successful attorneys, doctors, CEO's, executives, entertainers and other community leaders who have made an impact in South Florida.

Congratulations, Mehdi!

