



MEDIA ADVISORY

for immediate release

Ocean Reef Community Foundation Helps Bridge the Digital Divide for Homestead Youth

Miami, FL, May 2015

In 2013, 83.8 percent of U.S. households reported computer ownership, with 78.5 percent of all households having a desktop or laptop computer, and 63.6 percent having a handheld computer (US Census). However, only 30% of the students in our Homestead Site youth program have access to a computer and/or internet after school. A recent grant from the Ocean Reef Community Foundation has generously assisted our students across the digital divide by supporting our "Youth Connect" project which will provide 35 Google Chromebooks to our after school programming at our Open House Homestead Site!

"This is a great opportunity for the young people of Homestead to have access to technology that simply wouldn't without the partnership with Ocean Reef Community Foundation," said Touching Miami with Love Homestead Site Director Wanda Ashworth-Valencia. "Young leaders are growing and we need to be sure that our youth are tech savvy so they don't fall behind."

Jason Pittman, Executive Director of Touching Miami with Love says, "With more and more schools requiring homework and remedial work done online the access to computers such as the new Chrome Books provided by the Ocean Reef Community Foundation are an essential piece of our programming."

Through special deals made available to Touching Miami with Love, they were able to purchase a total of 35 Chrome Books instead of just 30 as was expected. Now more students than ever will be able to cross the digital divide.

WHAT: Youth Connect Project

WHERE: Touching Miami with Love: Homestead Site, 1350 SW 4th St * Homestead, FL 33030

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Touching Miami with Love empowers the communities of Overtown and West Homestead with programs and services for children, youth, and adults. The children and youth of these communities need a safe haven from negative influences and a place to develop essential life skills. We are that place.

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www.touchingmiamiwithlove.org