



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

OIC of Broward County, Inc. Expands in South Florida with new name becoming OIC of South Florida!

Opportunities Industrialization Center of Broward County (OICB) receives \$1.2 million dollar grant from the Department of Labor to expand service to Miami-Dade County and becomes OIC of South Florida.

Ft. Lauderdale, Florida – Dec 3, 2012 – Opportunities **Industrialization Center of Broward County (OICB)**, a non-profit workforce development, training and job placement center received notification from the Department of Labor (DOL) that Hilda L. Solis, Secretary of Labor had announced OIC as one of only 18 non-profit organizations to receive funding for the fifth generation of the Reintegration of Ex-Offender (RExO) – Adult grant. With the expansion into Miami-Dade, OIC has taken on a new name and new opportunities for the community. OIC of Broward County will now be known as **OIC of South Florida**.

OIC has a long history in South Florida providing employment-focused services, including occupational training that leads to industry recognized credentials in demand industries. This 1.2 million dollar grant will help OIC re-establish its presence in Miami-Dade mirroring the well-established and highly successful model they have been using in Broward County since 2001 as well as other programs for the target community over the last 11 years. The program will develop the participant's skills and provide employment opportunities, in order to break the cycle of recidivism. Additional services including mentoring and assistance connecting to supportive services such as housing, substance abuse programs, and mental health treatment will be part of this program.

“Our new name, **OIC of South Florida**, now fully represents the community we serve,” states Newton B. Sanon, President and CEO of OIC. “It allows us to provide the services that help keep recidivism low in the places it counts, our neighborhoods. This in turn reduces crime and increases self-sufficiency of our populace.”

Opportunities Industrialization Center of South Florida (OIC-SFL) will be working very closely with partner organizations in Miami-Dade, providing the support and training needed within the community to - *Give a Hand Up, Not a Hand Out*.

About Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC) of South Florida

Opportunities Industrialization Center (OIC) of South Florida is a leader in workforce education and assimilation into the community at large for Broward and Dade Counties and was instrumental in securing the 2008 National Honor of Hope Award. OIC of South Florida has been recognized as the leader in community education for developing job skills and employment readiness for the under-served in our community. Reaching out to the unemployed, under-employed, persons with transgressions and at risk youth, OIC of South Florida makes a difference where it counts; in our community and with our business leaders to develop employment readiness, green jobs training and life skills training. OIC of South Florida believes and lives by the motto of “Helping People Help Themselves”.

For more information, please visit <http://oicofsouthflorida.org/>.

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