

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **South Dade Children's Resource Network volunteers go door-to-door to prevent child abuse**



*From left to right, Bethel Baptist Church Minister Cortes Lewis, Officer Robin Pinkard, Kids Hope United Executive Director Marlin Livingston, Network Outreach Coordinator Robin Davis, Bethel Baptist Church's Lisa Jolley.*

**MIAMI, Fla.**—More than 20 volunteers from the South Dade Children's Resource Network and its partners took to the streets on Saturday, July 26, for the Network's Door-to-Door Campaign. Network staff as well as volunteers from Kids Hope United, Bethel Baptist Church and the Kendall Station of the Miami-Dade Police reached out to the community by going home to home informing residents of the services the Network offers.

The event kicked off at Bethel Baptist Church, 14440 Lincoln Blvd. in Richmond Heights. Dates for additional Door-to-Door Campaigns in other Network target communities (Goulds, Naranja, Cutler Bay and Perrine) will soon follow.

The South Dade Children's Resource Network is a new service partnership founded by Kids Hope United that gives vulnerable families a single point of access to appropriate, effective, coordinated services. Services are available to qualifying families on a voluntary basis.

The Network offers community-based support and service navigation through an assigned Family Support Specialist who can assist with issues such as housing/homelessness, mental health, substance abuse, child care and emergency assistance funds.

The initiative, funded by The Children's Trust of Miami-Dade County, rolled out services on May 1 to the communities of Cutler Bay, Goulds, Naranja, Perrine and Richmond Heights. Kids Hope United serves as the lead and fiscal agent for the grant.

The Network will accept self-referrals and referrals from the community through the Network Help Desk at 866.547.1232. The Network expects to serve more than 500 children and their families by March 2009.

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*The South Dade Children's Resource Network is funded by The Children's Trust. The Trust is a dedicated source of revenue established by voter referendum to improve the lives of children and families in Miami-Dade County.*

