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## MISSION STATEMENT:

To serve, educate and inspire people through student, family and financial wellness services in partnership with our communities.

## GET INVOLVED:

If you would like to know more about how to donate and/or volunteer, please contact us at:

**(305) 442-8306**  
**info@branchesfl.org**

Follow us @branchesfl



## A Message from the CEO

### A Photo ID: Security, Identity and Access

Have you heard? A Miami-Dade Community ID is now available for residents of our community who for a range of reasons are without an unexpired form of photo identification. With the approval of the County Commission and the support of the County police department, Branches is the designated community organization to issue IDs in Miami-Dade County.

What we are doing is a form of welcoming and valuing everyone no matter what has happened to them. Jorge Cortes volunteers in the ID program with us and said, "Identity is extremely important in our world. With a valid ID, people can live a more secure and safe life." With the issuance of each ID, people's lives are being changed for the better.

Many residents, including citizens, do not meet the necessary requirements to receive a driver's license or state-issued identification, which makes proving their identity for numerous day-to-day activities a challenge. The Miami-Dade Community ID makes it easier for them to identify themselves to law enforcement, schools, health centers, city departments, and social service agencies. This ID can be used at several locations and county departments including Miami-Dade Public Libraries, Parks & Rec, Water and Sewer Department, Animal Services, Cultural Affairs and many more.

We are holding ID events all over our community in partnership with the county libraries and local nonprofit organizations. To date, we have hosted 10 events and served over 1,400 of our neighbors. We are so grateful to our funders, The Miami Foundation and the Shepard Broad Foundation, and for the overall support from Mayor Daniella Levine-Cava and Commissioner Eileen Higgins who have been champions for this incredible program.

If you know anyone who is interested and would like to learn more and/or make an appointment for a Miami-Dade Community ID, please visit **MiamiID.org**

With Hope & Gratitude,

**Brent McLaughlin**  
President & CEO



Above: Mayor Daniella Levine Cava and Commissioner Eileen Higgins at a recent Community ID event.  
Left: Branches staff and volunteers provide check-in and orientation.

# Thanksgiving Recap

Celebrating 22 Years of Branches' Thanksgiving Meal Delivery!

A HUGE Thank You to our Premier Thanksgiving Day Sponsors for their generous support and making this special day possible:



Thanks to the efforts of our amazing donors and volunteers, Branches provided over 5,300 meals to individuals in need this past Thanksgiving Season! Over 1,000 volunteers helped cook, package and deliver meals on Thanksgiving morning throughout Miami-Dade and Broward Counties from our 7 sites: Branches Florida City, Coral Gables Congregational Church, First United Methodist Church (UMC) of Coral Gables, First UMC of Miami, Branches Lakeview, Miramar UMC and Plantation UMC.

Due to the generosity of hundreds of caring individuals, we were able to make a lasting impact in the lives of thousands of people in need. Along with a delicious Thanksgiving meal, clients also received a very important resource pamphlet containing information about Branches programs, and emergency and public benefit services.

**Thank You to Amerant, Annie & Tom Tannehill, Aramark, City National Bank, First Horizon, Mercedes-Benz of Coral Gables & Cutler Bay, South Miami Hospital, The Tonkinson Foundation and United Healthcare for serving as *Thanksgiving Site Sponsors*. Thank you also to BB Americas, LUXE Properties, Peterson's Harley-Davidson, Tina & Robert Furniss-Roe and Sharyn & Robert Ladner who served as *Thanksgiving Sponsors*. Many thanks to our in-kind donors First UMC of Miami, Peace UMC, Poinciana UMC, Redlands UMC, GOYA Foods of Florida and United Way Miami for their dedicated support. We are so thankful to all our partners for making this incredible Meal Delivery a reality!**



Volunteers slicing up some delicious pumpkin pies.



Meals being assembled at Branches Lakeview!



Volunteer drivers get loaded up with meals and are off to deliver!



Branches students enjoy a meal on Thanksgiving Day.

## A special THANK YOU to our incredible Food Drive Partners!

Palmer Trinity Private School, Palmetto Bay Academy, Shops at Merrick Park, BankUnited, Bobbi Meyers, Cornerstone UMC, Kendall UMC Day School, Coastal Construction, Regions Bank and Unity on the Bay.

# Under the Tree Toy Shops

Empowering Parents, Spreading Joy!



Branches is proud to have hosted its Under the Tree Toy Shops! Eight years ago, we decided to open up on-site Toy Shops to allow our students' parents to select new toys for their children and purchase them at drastically reduced prices, 90% off! Parents enjoy holiday music and treats as they shop for their children and then each present is wrapped for them by Branches' volunteers and staff. The Toy Shops empower our parents instilling pride and joy to be able to give gifts they purchase themselves and give to their kids on Christmas morning.

Each of Branches' 3 locations hosted a day long Toy Shop this past December and thanks to the incredible generosity of our donors, Branches collected over 1,000 toys and dozens of gift cards. We also provided a new Branches sweatshirt and a gift card to all our youth. In addition, we gifted each of our 47 college students with a party at GameTime, a long-sleeved Branches shirt plus a gift card. All left over toys were divided up among the sites for the year-round Branches Bucks Rewards Stores for our students. It was truly another amazing Christmas!



**THANK YOU to all our generous donors for supporting Branches' programs!**

All other donors from the current Fiscal Year (7/1/22-2/6/23) are listed at [branchesfl.org/our-stories](https://branchesfl.org/our-stories) under Newsletters

Trish & Dan Bell • Florida Annual Conference UMC • The Children's Trust • United Way Miami • The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation • The Miami Foundation • Volunteer Florida • FIU Board of Trustees • Helen's Hope Foundation • Peacock Foundation, Inc. • Comcast NBCUniversal • EFSP • United Healthcare • IRS • Miami-Dade County OMB • Villa Family Foundation • The Kirk Foundation • Aetna CVS Health • The Templeton Family Foundation • Linda Corey • Shepard Broad Foundation

# Thank You, Branches Donors & Stakeholders!

List includes contributions received by Branches from July 1, 2022 to February 6, 2023. If you sent a contribution during this period and do not see your name on the list, please contact us at (305) 442-8306 x1005.

## **\$100,000 and up**

**Trish & Dan Bell**  
**Florida Annual Conference UMC**  
**The Children's Trust**  
**The Frederick A. DeLuca Foundation**  
**The Miami Foundation**  
**United Way Miami**  
**Volunteer Florida**

## **Between \$30,000 and \$99,999**

Comcast NBCUniversal  
Emergency Food & Shelter Program  
FIU Board of Trustees  
Helen's Hope Foundation  
Internal Revenue Service  
Miami-Dade County - OMB  
Peacock Foundation, Inc.  
The Kirk Foundation  
United Healthcare  
Villa Family Foundation

## **Between \$10,000 and \$29,999**

Aetna Better Health of Florida  
Agape  
Amerant Bank  
Anonymous  
Aramark  
Bank of America Charitable Foundation  
Linda Corey  
HSBC Bank USA, N.A.  
Kelly Foundation  
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Shepard Broad Foundation  
The Batchelor Foundation, Inc.  
The Dunsbaugh-Dalton Foundation  
The Templeton Family Foundation  
Truist Financial Corporation  
Unity on the Bay  
Jocelyn Watkins

## **Between \$5,000 and \$9,999**

Ashcroft Capital  
Bradesco BAC Florida Bank  
Catalyst Pharmaceuticals  
City National Bank of Florida  
Commissioner Sally A. Heyman's Office  
(District 4)  
Kathy & Scott Howard

Elizabeth & Timothy J. Iszler  
Law Offices of Alan Goldfarb, PA  
Matthew Daniel Foundation  
Publix Super Markets Charities  
Tara Templeton  
The Boeing Company  
The UPS Foundation  
VITAS Healthcare

## **Between \$1,000 and \$4,999**

Amazon  
Ambetter from Sunshine Health  
Kim & Daniel Armstrong  
Banyan Health Systems  
Molly & Charles Baumberger  
BB Americas Bank  
Bean Automotive Group  
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Crowe, LLP  
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Florida Power & Light  
Tina & Robert Furniss-Roe  
Greater Miami Chamber of Commerce  
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Homestead Hospital  
Steve & Robin Houlberg  
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Sharyn & Robert Ladner  
Chris & David Lane  
LUXE Properties  
Mandarin UMC  
Mercedes-Benz of Coral Gables  
Mercedes-Benz of Cutler Bay  
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Port of Miami  
Regions Bank- Coral Gables  
Gloria Romero Roses  
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Sidley Austin LLP  
South Miami Hospital  
Mr. Thomas Tannehill  
The Darrell R. Windle Charitable Fund  
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Kim & Raymundo Torres  
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## **Between \$500 and \$999**

Lee Lennon & Luis Amaral de Freitas  
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Gladys & William Duquette  
Ned Ferrarone  
Dianne Fischer  
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Nathan Mandler  
Sandy Milledge  
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Floencia & Fernando Olivera  
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Debbie & Robert Onsgard  
Palmer Trinity Private School, Inc.  
PEO Chapter A  
Pi Nu Chapter, Omega Psi Phi Fraternity  
Isabelle & Russell Pike  
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Laurie A. Zapletal

## **Between \$200 and \$499**

Amaka Amalu-Anderson  
AmazonSmile Foundation  
Cindy & Greg Ault  
Rebecca & Daniel Casamayor  
Hedy Collver  
Charlton Copeland  
Mr. Jorge Andres Cortes  
Margaret Cross  
Crowe Foundation  
First United Methodist Church Miami  
Peggy Gaines  
Ms. Claudia A. Grillo  
Mr. Linda & William Ho  
Iglesia Cristiana El Deseado de las  
Naciones  
Impact Deposits Corp  
Helmut and Miriam Jockel

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## **Between \$200 and \$499 continued**

Kendall UM Church  
M Yasmina McCarty  
Brent McLaughlin  
Miss Connie Migeot  
Yvette Ostolaza  
Luis Pagan  
Sarah Pattison  
Plantation UMC  
Plantation UMC Women  
Mr. Alan J Richards  
Barbara Romani  
Nidia Ruiz  
Susan Rutrough  
Jill Steiner Sanko  
David John Smith  
TD Bank- Bird Pointe  
Jeannie Vilato

## **Up to \$199**

Dellene Acampa  
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First UMC Homestead Women  
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William Fogarty  
Sally Ann & Edward H. Herb Ford  
FUMC United Methodist Women  
Marylen Gaab  
Rosa Galvez  
Maria Galvez  
Nataly Garcia  
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## **Up to \$199 continued**

Marc Pierre C.  
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Marlon Villagra  
Christina & TJ Villamil  
Jonathan Walker  
Mary Susan & Philip Susan Ward

Nancy & Robert D. Watts  
Cynthia Weems  
Mrs. Patricia I. Williams  
Dr. Sandra C Williamson  
Mrs. Joyce Windhorst  
Holly Woodbury

## **Gifts in Memory of**

- Bill McLaughlin from Shirley Lanxon
- Catherine Riley from Annetta Schilbach
- Dr. & Hon. Nnamdi Okafor from Amaka Amalu-Anderson
- Ernie & Dottie from Kathleen Ballard
- James Prieto from Maribel Prieto
- Kathryn Becker from Debbie & Robert Onsgard and Kathy Shoenfelt
- Mark Acheson from Sarah Pattison
- Mimi from Rhonda Ballard Hardin
- Muzaffar Anvery from Nick Khan
- Nancy C. Sawallis from Nancy & Thomas Sawallis
- Rick Nelson from Kara Hamilton-Nelson
- Winona "Nonie" (Kerr) Cowie from Gloria Romero Roses

## **Gifts in Honor of**

- Alan, Sr. from Mr. Alan J Richards
- All staff and children of Branches from Jamie Sutta and Mrs. Carmen Victoria Irizarry
- Dave and Betty Lou from Amanda Ashby Huggins
- Eva Sanko – CSALT from Jill Steiner Sanko
- Glenn & Linda Ashby from Amanda Ashby Huggins
- Isabelle Pike from Sarah Pattison and Mark Towbridge
- Laurie Kahn from Dr. Sally B. Philips
- Megan Beddow from Johanna M. Ralsten-Cox
- Pastor Ginger Medley from Jeannine Sue & Alfredo Sarmiento
- Kim Torres from Robin Norell

## **In-Kind Donations**

- Audrey Otero – 1 Queen size mattress and box spring
- Comcast NBCUniversal - 41 new Dell Chromebooks for Micro-Business program
- Costa Farms - 400 plants
- Emily & Kristopher E. Aungst - 2 large bags of Legos
- Eric & Lauren Winter - Six drawer dresser with changing table attachment, Media Console, Small toy piano, 8 Halloween costumes, 3 dresses and 1 jacket
- Garden Bros Circus - 60 tickets to Nuclear Circus for Branches Lakeview
- Goya Foods of Florida - 3 cases of coconut water, 4 cases of cereal, 3 cases of paella mix, 3 cases of evaporated milk, 4 cases of incaparina, 4 cases of cookies
- Jeannette Coto-Dou - 250 paper plates, 600 pieces of cutlery, 200 cups, 150 to-go containers, 300 paper bowls, 24 large paper towel rolls for Branches South Miami
- Karla and Scott Richey - 100 boxes of Organic Plantain Chips
- Kathy & Scott Howard - 1 executive desk set with desk, credenza, drawers and a high shelf unit
- Macdonald Cleaners - women's blouses, men's dress shirts, and a men's jacket
- Margaret Cross - 3 new Children's books and stuffed Puffin toy
- Maureen Percy - 4 bags of clothing
- Miami HEAT - 22 tickets to the Miami Heat vs. Toronto Raptors game 10/24/2022 for Branches Florida City
- Michelle Mele - baby clothes, baby swing, baby bouncer, play pen, diapers, and baby musical toy.
- Office Express Supplies - 12 boxes of Hand Sanitizers, 72 cases of Lysol Wipes, 20 cases of Soft soap, 28 cases of Wipes
- Patricia & Marshall Brodie - 5 bottles of Enfamil and 3 large tins of By Heart Powder infant formula

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## In-Kind Donations continued

- Sarah Pattison - 1 Walmart Gift Card for \$25
- Silver Palm UMC - 25 boxes of Children's books, activity kits, games, art supplies and more
- United Healthcare - 200 back packs, 200 water bottles, 200 oral hygiene kits, 375 school kits, and 300 rain ponchos for Branches Florida City
- Zeta Tau Alpha Miami Alumnae - 150 fifty assorted sandwiches and snacks

## In-Kind Donations Back-to-School

- AmeriHealth Caritas Florida - 500 pens, pencils, sharpeners, pencil pouches, erasers and 6 inch rulers
- Bank United Kendall - 2 extra large boxes of school supplies
- Homestead Hospital - 12 large boxes of School Supplies
- Regions Bank- Coral Gables - 5 boxes of assorted school supplies
- Simply Healthcare Plans - 48 backpacks and 300 hundred duo tang folders
- Southern Glazer's Wine & Spirits - school supplies
- The Templeton Family Foundation - 85 SWISSGEAR backpacks

## In-Kind Donations Halloween

- Annie Tannehill - Halloween costumes
- Bilzin Sumberg - Halloween costumes
- Claudia Capdesuner - 3 Halloween Costumes
- Coral Gables Congregational United Church of Christ - Halloween costumes
- Delta Upsilon Sigma chapter of Sigma Gamma Rho Sorority - Halloween costumes
- Desiree Fernandez & Spencer Winlaw - Halloween costumes
- Elayne Norweb - 23 Halloween Costumes
- Felix Varela Senior High School - Halloween costumes
- First UMC Coral Gables - Halloween costumes
- Katherine Suarez - 1 Halloween Costume
- Kayla Hernandez - 3 Halloween Costumes
- Kiwanis Club of Homestead-South Dade - 40 superhero capes and masks
- Miami Lakes Athletic Club - 1 extra large box of Halloween Costumes
- Miami Vineyard Community Church - 30 NASCAR tickets
- Mrs. Jeannette Coto-Dou - 60 Halloween treat bags for South Miami students
- Palmer Trinity Private School - 1 large box of Halloween Costumes, three large boxes of Winter clothing, and a Car Seat
- Pradere - Halloween costumes
- Scott Wagner - 2 Halloween Costumes
- Sidley Austin LLP - Twenty-Five small treat bags
- South Miami-Dade Cultural Arts Center - Halloween costumes

## In-Kind Donations Thanksgiving

- BankUnited - Two large boxes of assorted food items
- Bobbi Meyers - Seven bags of assorted food items
- Coastal Construction - Five large boxes of assorted food items.
- Cornerstone Church - One large box of assorted food items.
- Goya Foods of Florida - Thirty cases of Green Beans worth \$718.50
- Kendall UMC Day School - One large box of assorted food items.
- Miami HEAT - 5 Thanksgiving meal vouchers
- Miami Marlins Community Foundation - 30 Turkeys
- Palmer Trinity Private School, Inc. - Over 500 pounds of food items
- Palmetto Bay Academy - 7 large boxes of assorted food items
- Regions Bank- Coral Gables - 9 large boxes of assorted food items
- Shops at Merrick Park Retail - 20 large boxes of assorted food items.
- Sigma Beta Tau Chapter - University of Miami School of Nursing and Health Studies - 5 large boxes of food, a \$200 gift card to Aldi and a \$300 gift card to Walmart
- United Way Miami - 3,000 2022 Thanksgiving Meal Insert flyers
- Unity on the Bay - 10 large boxes of assorted food items.
- William Daniel White - 4 cans of Yams

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## In-Kind Donations Under-the-Tree Toy Shops

- Annie Tannehill - 5 large boxes of toys
- Bryn & Paul Natland - 2 large bags of toys
- Cornerstone Church - 4 toys
- Crowe, LLP - 1 bag of toys
- First UMC Coral Gables - 2 very large boxes of toys
- Gabriela Torres - 4 boxes of toys
- Homestead Hospital - 20 cases of Coffee
- Jeannette Coto-Dou - 14 Toys
- Kendall UMC - 30 toys
- LUXE Properties - 1 large box of toys
- Miami Lakes UMC - 5 very large boxes of toys
- Miami Women's Panhellenic - 38 toys
- One More Child - 2 large yard bags full of wrapped toys
- Patti & Rick Morgan - 43 \$50 Visa gift cards and 40 toys
- Tammy & John Reilly - 1 Barbie Doll, 1 Barbie Dollhouse, and 1 Wireless Headphones
- Tim Bartram Nine backpacks- 9 backpacks and 4 large bags of toys
- Victoria & Jason Randolph - Over 250 toys
- Voices for Children Foundation - Toys to fill up 2 cars
- Westminster Christian School - 500 toys

**Branches' MLK Day of Service 2023 was another huge success!**  
**Thank you to all the staff and volunteers who served on this special day.**





# Branches

Trish & Dan Bell Family  
Empowerment Centers

11500 NW 12th Ave, Miami, FL 33168 | [branchesfl.org](http://branchesfl.org)

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## BLACK TIE & BLUE JEANS *gala & auction*



# SATURDAY

# 04.29.23

# 6:30 P.M.

scan here  
for tickets

