

Dade County (FL) Chapter



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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CONTACT INFORMATION

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**DADE COUNTY (FL) LINKS AND FMU KICK OFF YEAR THREE OF
*LEAN FORWARD WITH MENTORING***



Dr. Cynthia Clarke, Dade County (FL) Links President (seated center, left) and Dr. Roslyn Clark Artis, FMU Interim President (seated center, right) pictured with mentors and FMU student mentees of the *Lean Forward with Mentoring* Program, a partnership between the Dade County (FL) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated and Florida Memorial University



Lean Forward Mentor Attorney James Rowan (left) gives his mentee FMU student Ryan James advice about law schools. Ryan is interested in a career in law.

Lean Forward With Mentoring, add one

MIAMI – The Dade County (FL) Chapter of The Links, Incorporated and Florida Memorial University (FMU) recently kicked off year three of a successful community/school partnership connecting volunteer mentors to student mentees. *Lean Forward with Mentoring* is an innovative initiative designed to connect FMU students, specifically freshman students, to successful business and community mentors who will share their professional expertise and their corporate and civic engagement experiences with students. The program supports the university's goal of retention and its promise to provide needed guidance to students. Approximately 30 FMU students will be mentored over the course of the school year by professional men and women who have volunteered to serve as mentors. Because of the popularity of social media networks, such as Facebook and LinkedIn, one unique feature of the program is that communication between mentors and mentees through social media is highly encouraged. Mentors stress to mentees the importance of appropriate social media postings and the impact postings can eventually have on a student's future career and postsecondary education plans.

Photo Credit: Gregory Reed

ABOUT THE LINKS, INCORPORATED AND THE DADE COUNTY (FL) CHAPTER

The Links, Incorporated, founded in 1946, is one of the oldest and largest volunteer service organizations of women who are committed to enriching, sustaining, and ensuring the culture and economic survival of African Americans and other persons of African ancestry. The Links, Incorporated has a membership of 12,000 professional women in 276 chapters located in 41 states, the District of Columbia and the Commonwealth of the Bahamas. For more information about The Links, Incorporated, please visit www.linksinc.org.

The Dade County (FL) Chapter was chartered on June 1, 1986. Chapter Organizers: Jessie Stinson, DoLores Washington, and Geneva Knowles Woodard. The chapter consists of more than 50 members who have championed initiatives related to fighting childhood obesity, support of children in foster care, and wrap around programs such as Lean Forward with Mentoring. For more information about the Dade County (FL) Chapter, please visit www.dadecountylinksinc.org.