



To: Maria Alberro Jiménez, Interim City Manager

From: Brendaly Rodríguez, Recruitment and Outreach Manager, HCHS

305-243-1392

Date: March 5, 2009

Subject: Personal Appearance Request for March 10 City Commissioners meeting

I hereby request to be able to attend the City Commissioners meeting of March 10, 2009. I would like to present to City Commissioners and others information about the **Hispanic Community Health Study-Study of Latinos (HCHS-SOL)**, currently underway in sectors of Coral Gables in its first year, recruiting adult participants from their households for the next 3 years.

In a groundbreaking study that will make a significant contribution to the nation's health, the **University of Miami**, as one of 4 sites in the country, will conduct the largest long-term study of health and disease in Hispanic/Latino populations living the United States recruiting at total of 16,000 participants (4,000 per site). **Multifaceted bilingual outreach and media activities** will be in place to enlist community support and provide education that is culturally and linguistically relevant to the community about the study. Participants will receive a letter of invitation from randomly selected households in the study territory.

Study participants aged 18-74 years will undergo an extensive clinical exam and assessments to determine baseline risk factors. Annual follow-up interviews will be conducted in subsequent years. Interviews and examinations will be used to better understand health differences between Hispanic sub-groups. Study results will be disseminated through scientific journals and also conveyed to the communities involved in the study in order to **improve public health at the local level**.

As Recruitment and Outreach Manager, my objective is to inform the community at large, residents of the study area, and invite interested individuals and organizations to be a member of the Community Advisory Committee for the local Miami Field Center site.