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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## CHANGING THE LIVES OF MIAMI-DADE COUNTY'S YOUTH OFFENDERS

**(MIAMI, February 18, 2016)** - CareerSource South Florida awarded Miami-Dade Parks and Recreation and Open Spaces Department \$100,000 to serve youth ages 15-17 referred from Miami- Dade County Juvenile Services Department to its Fit2Lead Internship Program, a prevention / intervention program specifically designed as a productive alternative to delinquent behavior.

The purpose of the hands-on training and education program is to decrease juvenile delinquency in high crime neighborhoods by providing participants with an opportunity to learn and develop leadership qualities and life skills in a safe and supportive environment, while earning a paycheck. Curriculum includes health and wellness, nutrition, life skills, and experiences based on the foundation of improving the mind, body and spirit. This experience, education and training can lead to a career path.

Through CareerSource South Florida's investment, the Fit2Lead Internship Program will provide each intern 340 hours of paid practical work experience during after school hours; mentored by park staff in various work settings that include afterschool programming, summer camps, Youth Enrichment and Sports (YES), disability services, aquatics, park operations, Natural Areas Management, and Eco-Adventures.

### **About CareerSource South Florida**

CareerSource South Florida is a public-private partnership and integral partnership and integral partner in Miami-Dade's economic plan that initiates state and federally funded workforce development and training policies for Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. CareerSource South Florida's services and resources are available to everyone at no cost through a network of Career Centers located throughout the Region.

Learn more about the Fit2Lead Program by contacting Youth Programs at 305-594-7615 ext. 243 or by visiting [www.careersourcesfl.com](http://www.careersourcesfl.com).

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