

SPRING 2008

Our Mission is to educate, motivate, and nurture the ultimate growth and potential within the students we serve to ensure a successful future.

CROP NEWSLETTER

*Barry University & Florida Memorial University
North Dade Consortium- College Reach-Out Program*



The College Reach-Out Program (CROP) was established in 1983 by the [Florida Department of Education](#) to motivate and prepare educationally disadvantaged, low-income students in grades 6 through 12 to pursue and successfully complete a college education. In 1999, Barry University joined Florida Memorial University to form the North Dade County Consortium (NDCC) to offer a joint CROP program.

The NDCC is the first and only Florida CROP program to provide individual, family, and group therapeutic counseling services to its participants. The NDCC's goal is to eliminate barriers to school achievement and facilitate academic and personal success

Through the years, the program has been a proven success.

- During the academic year 2004-2005, 56 of the NDCC 62 high school seniors graduated from high school and 40 of these students went on to college.
- In 2005-2006, 79% of CROP students graduated with a high school diploma, compared to 59% percent of non-CROP students.
- In 2005-2006, 72% of CROP students went on to college, whereas only 57% percent of non-CROP did.

Highlights:

Story of Deeper Learning	2
Meet the staff	4
Wannado City	5
Barry Family	
Enrichment Center	7
How to join CROP	8

Editors: Silvia Reyes and
Cindy George

STORY OF DEEPER LEARNING



We bring you the story of CS a former CROP participant who began the CROP program his first year of high school, successfully completed the program, and is currently attending Barry University as a sophomore.

Could you describe your experience as a CROP student?

CS: My experience was amazing. The counselors were consistent in coming to my school. I looked forward to their visits. They encouraged and supported me through me tough times. I learned coping and study skills, and how to make good decisions for the long term. I always had their support.

It sounds as if your experience was positive. What words would you use to describe it?

CS: Yes, it was enjoyable! I learned so much. Your experience is what you put into it. If you put in 90%, you will get 90%. I put in 100% and got 100% from it.

How did the experience prepare you for college?

CS: It was good to know people with college life experience. The counselors shared tips about admission, choosing classes, and other helpful life skills. The information was valuable; it made it easy when I actually got into college. I knew what to expect and how to deal with things.

What was the most significant part of being in the CROP program and how was it significant?

CS: The scholarship I received from one of Barry's supporters was very significant. It was like my BIG finish after all my hard work. CROP helped me achieve my goal of getting into college and it continues to support me. I am working on finishing college and applying to Law School. CROP was a starting point for me to have a good education, a career, and successful future.

Thought flows in terms of stories

Stories about events, Stories about people, and stories about intentions and achievements.

The best teachers are the best storytellers. We learn in the form of stories.

Frank Smith

STORY OF DEEPER LEARNING

(continued)

Ambition is the path
to success

Persistence is the vehicle
you arrive in.

Bill Bradley

How has CROP contributed to your success as a student?

CS: I learned a lot about myself. I was able to turn negative things in my life into positive things and overcome hard times. I became more persistent in my work. It helped me become aware of my strengths. As a result I am more confident and know that I can be good at any career I choose. I feel as if I have an advantage over students who were not in the program. Being a part of CROP has inspired me to help others, just as I was helped. As a lawyer, I can help those in need, possibly as a defense attorney.

It sounds as if there was both academic and personal growth as being part of CROP?

CS: Yes, definitely. I understand myself so much now, what I am capable of, what I want, and also how to get it.

What advice would you give to present CROP students?

CS: Stick to your goals no matter what the obstacles and stay focused I am an example that YOU can be successful and that anything is possible.

Promise me you'll always
remember:

You're braver than
you believe,

and

stronger than you seem,

and

smarter than you think.

Christopher Robin to Pooh



Group picture of our CROP students at
Hialeah Miami Lakes-Senior High School

WE THANK CS for sharing his story, one that is filled with hope and wisdom.

CS is acknowledged for all his hard work and achievements!

MEET THE STAFF



STORIES DEFINE:

Who we are.

Where we have come from.

Where we are going and

What we care about!

Stories give life!"

Dana Atchley

Jim Rudes: Jim is from Brooklyn, New York and loves it because "it's a place where people tell it like it is". He, however, considers Miami, Florida to be home. His favorite food is chicken soup because it reminds him of his mother's caring ways, especially when he was sick as a child. Yoga, sports, and music are his hobbies.

Silvia Reyes: Silvia was born in Ecuador, but considers Miami, Florida to be home. She finds the water to be relaxing and inspiring. Her favorite food is Italian, but she loves French Fries! She enjoys writing poetry, photography, karate and most of all being a mom to Marcus, her 5-year-old son.

Cindy George: Cindy was born and raised in the British Virgin Islands and considers there to be home. She enjoys swimming, playing the piano, and playing tennis. The beach is her favorite place as it brings her peace her peace and tranquility. Her favorite snack is cornflakes and she likes seafood.

Laura Keene: A big part of Laura's heart will always be in her hometown of Gaithersburg, MD, but she has made Miami Beach, Florida home. She loves spicy foods, especially Mexican and enjoys reading, yoga, and music. The Potomac River in Maryland is the essence of beauty and nature to her.

Christina Lampo: Christina enjoys shopping, hanging out with friends and family and watching movies. She loves all Italian food and finds the beach relaxing and fun. Her home is Lancaster, PA.

Rosealee Hossack: Rosealee describes herself as "a homebody", enjoys reading, talking to friends, and watching TV. Her favorite food is chicken and she considers Jamaica her home.

Faye Rodney: Faye was raised in Freeport, Grand Bahama Island in the Bahamas, but she considers Miramar, Florida to be home. Her hobbies are dancing, reading, and traveling. A bright sunny day and the Grand Canyon are significant to Faye because they reflect God's Majesty.

Darlene Brown: Darlene's favorite food is broccoli and cheese. She enjoys reading, listening to music, and movies. Home for her is where her heart is and she likes the country of Costa Rica for its beautiful waterfalls and quiet atmosphere.

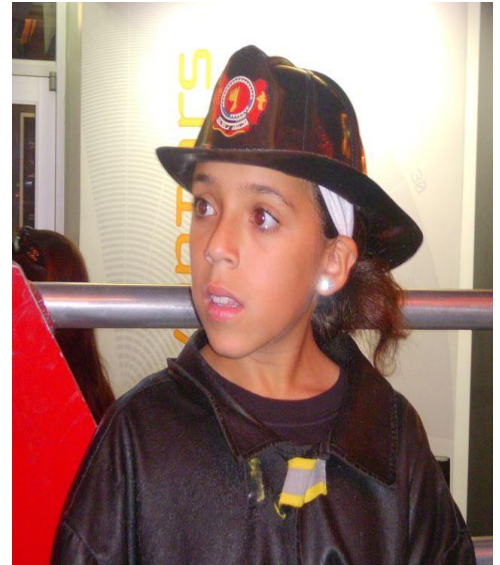


Wannado City®

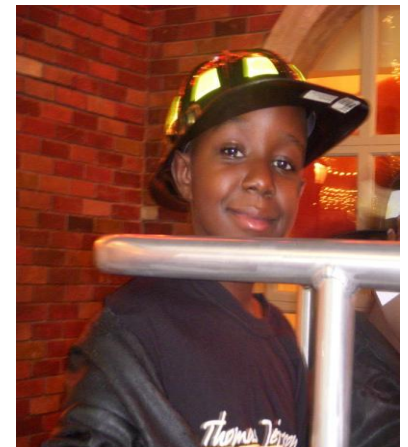
“Our Greatest Natural Resource Is Our Children.”

Walt Disney

On Friday, December 14, 2007 over 35 of our CROP youth transported their imaginations into a world of their own where they took on roles as a doctor, firefighter, chef, judge, actor, news reporter, and a host of other professions at **Wannado City®**.



Wannado City® is an entertainment and educational park with a court house, fire, police and newspaper station, fashion house, hospital, and television studio, all designed to inspire youth to live out their dreams.



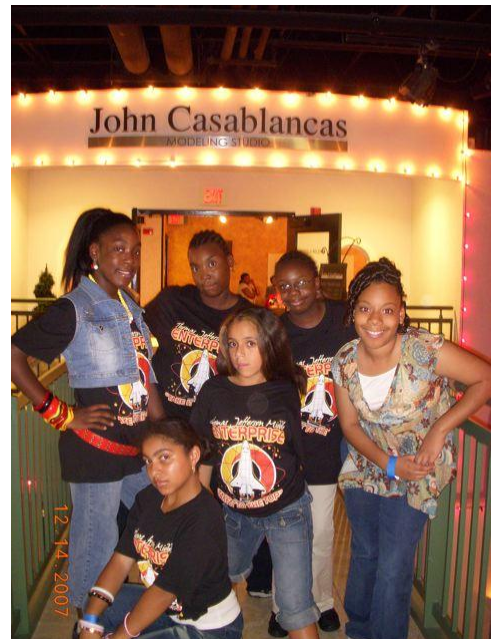
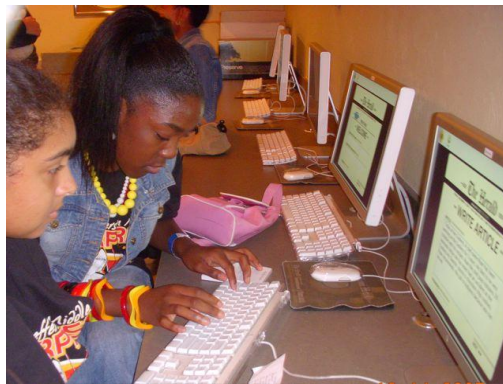
There is always one moment
in childhood, when the door
opens and lets the future in.
Deepak Chopra

Wannado City®

Each youth received a check for **Wongas™**, the city's official currency. They enjoyed the option of setting up a bank account, spending their "cash" at the various entertainment options, or earning more at the several career options offered.



Wannado City® provided our CROP participants the opportunity to have FUN, while building strong decision-making skills and fiscal responsibility in the process.



Barry Family Enrichment Center

The Counseling Department of Barry University recognizes that the family is an integral part of a student's development, whether academic, personal, or career.

The **Barry Family Enrichment Center** within the Counseling Department at Barry University offers **free counseling services** for CROP students and their families.

Counseling services focus on enhancing students' strengths and resources while addressing factors outside of school that impact the students' abilities to pursue a college education.



**For more information contact us at the
Barry Family Enrichment Center 305-899-3726**

Services are offered to clients from preschool through late adulthood.

Services include individual, family, marital, couples, and group counseling.

Workshops and training tailored to individual needs are also available.

The center is open Monday through Thursday from 3:00 P.M. to 10:00 P.M.

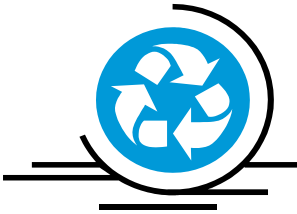
Appointments are made by Contacting:

The Barry Family Enrichment Center at (305) 899-3726.

**College Reach-Out Program
North Dade
County Consortium**

**For More information on
how to join our CROP
Team
Contact us at:**

**Barry University
Counseling Department
11300 NE 2nd Avenue
Powers Building
Suite 154
Miami Shores, FL 33161
Phone: 305-899-3614
Fax: 305-899-4793**



**Florida Memorial University
15800 NW 42nd Avenue
Miami Gardens, FL 33054
Phone: 305-626-3747
Fax: 305-626-3106**



**Whatever you can do, or dream you can, begin it.
Boldness has Genius, Power and Magic in it.
Begin it now.**

Goethe