



## **MIAMI CLIMATE 365 LAUNCHES COUNTY-WIDE INITIATIVE**

### ***A Community Based 'Miami Climate Week' Will Anchor Efforts***

**Miami, FL – December 18, 2024** – [Miami Climate 365](#) (MC365), a new year-round initiative focused on strengthening community resilience and advancing practical solutions to environmental challenges across Miami-Dade County, today announced its intent to foster cross-sector collaboration and unify efforts around a shared vision to safeguard the region's resources and economic vitality.

The signature annual event of the MC365 initiative will be **Miami Climate Week**, a week-long series of events from March 23 – 29, 2025 kicked off by a solutions-focused climate conference.

"We see a significant potential to align the diverse strengths of existing organizations under a collective vision, which will lead to a more coordinated and effective approach to addressing environmental challenges and securing resources, said David Duckenfield, program director of [Miami Climate 365](#). "The growing severity of climate shocks and stresses demands coordinated action to protect our communities and environment".

Building on the momentum of South Florida's designation as a U.S. Department of Commerce Climate-Ready Tech Hub—led by Miami-Dade County and achieved with Knight Foundation's support and others through collaborations among local industries and governments, tech entrepreneurs, and climate scientists—Knight provided the initial funding to launch the MC365 initiative. These funds will help accelerate this work by engaging residents and fostering community participation in innovative, locally driven solutions that strengthen climate resilience and create economic opportunities.

"This investment reflects our vision to drive economic opportunity and community-led innovation for climate solutions," said Marta Vicedo, Knight's Director in Miami. "By inspiring residents and fostering collaboration, we can create a sustainable and inclusive future for Miami."

The MC365 initiative aims to unify stakeholders across Miami-Dade County in a shared effort to highlight individuals, programs, and organizations already driving impactful solutions that strengthen the region's sustainability in areas like water and air quality. The initiative will focus on practical actions such as urban greening projects, community workshops, and other hands-on activities, to bring policies to life and encourage residents, organizations, and leaders to take active, results-oriented roles in securing a resilient and prosperous future for Miami.

"I am thrilled to welcome Miami Climate 365 to our vibrant community. This initiative is pivotal for advancing the important work of addressing climate change and fostering sustainable innovation. Miami-Dade is on the frontlines of the global climate challenge, and I am committed to building a more resilient, equitable, and future ready community," said Miami-Dade County Mayor Daniella Levine Cava. "Miami Climate Week 2025 will bring together visionaries, advocates, community leaders and residents who share our determination to protect and preserve our environment for future generations. Let's seize this opportunity to drive impactful action and lead by example!"



Over the past several months, a task force has convened to conceptualize this new initiative, including: Irvans Augustin, Executive Director at the Urban Impact Lab, Michael Berkowitz, Executive Director of the Climate Resilience Institute at the University of Miami, Michele Burger, Director, Climate Conference, David Duckenfield, Program Director, Miami Climate 365, Francesca de Quesada Covey, Chief Innovation and Economic Development Officer, Miami-Dade County and Regional Innovation Officer, ClimateReady Tech Hub, Jordan de Leon, COO, Urban Impact Lab and Jen Posner, Director of Programs at the Climate Resilience Institute at UM.

"We're excited to work with Miami Climate 365 as it launches its bold effort to unite ideas and organizations that protect our environment," said Rachel Silverstein. "This initiative will enhance and expand the impact of our work at Miami Waterkeeper. By aligning the community's goals around a strong call to action, we can achieve remarkable results together".

**Miami Climate Week** will be the marquee event of Miami Climate 365, featuring community activations across the County focused on engaging residents, driving awareness and probing solutions for climate related challenges. The opening Climate Conference will be a solutions-focused event designed for the attendees to interact with and learn from experts whose ideas and actions are critical to addressing our collective future around the realities of a changing climate. The weeklong activities of Miami Climate Week will highlight innovations in climate solutions, foster broad connections and conversations, and inspire both leaders and residents to continue driving progress.

"I am excited about Miami Climate 365, Miami Climate Week 2025 and the climate conference, because I know that Miami has both a lot to teach (as well as to learn!) about combating the impacts of climate change. This initiative will help us focus our efforts in ways that impact South Florida and beyond, said Michael Berkowitz from the UM Climate Resilience Institute. "The opening climate conference will provide a forum for national and global leaders to have critical discussions in a place and at a time where the stakes couldn't be higher."

A central focus of the overall Miami Climate 365 effort is to drive sustained collaboration, resource sharing, and strategic guidance to ensure that Miami-Dade County not only adapts to climate change but also benefits from emerging trends.

#### **About [Miami Climate 365](#)**

Miami Climate 365 (MC365) is a year-round initiative focused on strengthening community-driven efforts to address environmental challenges across Miami-Dade County. This results-oriented collaboration seeks to unite stakeholders around a shared vision for tackling local issues like water and air quality, while actively engaging residents in practical solutions. Miami Climate Week serves as the flagship event of the MC365 initiative, showcasing progress and inspiring action.

#### **About Miami Climate Week**

Miami Climate Week is the signature event of the Miami Climate 365 initiative, designed to inspire and mobilize community-driven climate action across Miami-Dade County. This annual event brings together leaders from the public, private, and nonprofit sectors, along with residents, to collaborate on innovative solutions to the region's most pressing climate challenges. Through engaging workshops and community activities, Miami Climate Week fosters cross-sectoral partnerships and builds a shared vision for a sustainable and resilient future. It underscores the commitment to year-round action and long-term impact.

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