



Memorandum

Date: August 14, 2024

To: Mayor Christi Fraga
Vice Mayor Oscar Puig-Corve
Councilwoman Digna Cabral
Councilwoman Maureen Porras

From: Councilman Rafael Pineyro

Subject: **Albizu Presentation**

Introduction

Albizu University (AU)

Dr. Carlos Albizu established Albizu University (AU) in 1966 with a theory of education premised on his philosophy that “knowledge that is based solely on logic and reason may become dehumanizing and is not at the service of humanity. Education that is guided by love emphasizes social welfare more than it does individual competition”. Albizu University (AU) is the first professional school of psychology established in the United States and the Caribbean. The AU Miami Campus, in the city of Doral, opened in 1980.

WHAT THEY OFFER

The university prepares psychologists, speech and language pathologists, and counselors, most being bi-cultural and bi-lingual. AU is accredited by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education; its clinical psychology programs are accredited by the American Psychological Association (APA); and the Master of Science in Speech and Language Pathology program is accredited by the Council on Academic Accreditation (CAA) of the American Speech-Language-Hearing Association (ASHA). The onsite Goodman Center (psychological services center) provides individual, family psychological services; speech and language therapy services; and

telehealth flexible services. Assistance in payment for services is available; fees are based on a sliding scale according to proof of household income.

DIVERSITY

At Albizu University, they welcome and respect diversity. Our programs are designed for students of all cultural and ethnic backgrounds and provide a rich exposure to culturally diverse populations through both academic training and applied experiences. Our university is ranked by the National Science Foundation (NSF) among the top five U.S. universities in conferring doctoral degrees to Hispanic students.

CITY OF DORAL PRESENTATION

The presentation slides will include:

- *Who we are* – AU leadership, background, offerings, and demographics are presented.
- *Where we are* – AU is in the City of Doral's "back yard" and how we would like to collaborate with the City. We are convenient and in an area that proffers many opportunities for our students.
- *What we do* – AU engages with the external community, community leaders, and key initiatives...and is aligned with the City of Doral's concentrations of Human Trafficking and Domestic Violence. AU has invited and included the Mayor of Doral, and Councilman in a most recent community and alumni event. AU has a fully operational clinic for mental health services, under the supervision of licensed professionals. AU has expert faculty educating communities on mental health awareness, via earned media opportunities. AU thanks the Mayor, Councilman, and Council.