



BOARD MEETING MINUTES

HELD ON Wednesday, November 5th, 2025 **START TIME** 5:30 PM

AT Provident

CALL TO ORDER BY Rodolfo “Rudy” Bustamante / Meeting Chair + Facilitator

ATTENDANCE Christine Bustamante
Rodolfo “Rudy” Bustamante *
Jacqueline Ceballos *
Jorge Fernandez *
Adalberto “Al” Maulini *
Wilma Nazario *
Marcel Rivas *
Arquimedes Trujillo
Rebeca C. Trujillo *
*BOD

GUESTS:
Alex Valcarcel
Aly Ramos
María E. Ramos
Daylin

REMOTE:
Susanna Goode
Lisete Hermida

ABSENCES Frank Robleto *

QUORUM Yes

READING OF MINUTES No minutes from previous BOD meeting

Rudy Bustamante presented the motion for the minutes to be approved. Wilma Nazario seconded the motion.

>>> **Vote — motion was APPROVED – U**

ORDERS OF BUSINESS

Rodolfo “Rudy” Bustamante — Meeting Chair + Facilitator

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OUT OF FOSTER FOUNDATION

A 501(c)(3) CHARITABLE ORGANIZATION WORKING TO MAKE THE ‘IMPOSSIBLE’ POSSIBLE
FOR OUR COMMUNITY’S FORMER FOSTER YOUTH

- **Old Business — Items for Discussion**

- **2025 Achievements**

- Excalibur Project: Wilma Nazario explained that EYEP has gone from 1 recipient on inception to 8 in 2024; we now have 15 for year 2025-2026.
 - Funding is based on corporate and personal sponsorship.
 - Merlin-SMART Program: created this summer to replace the scholarship agreement with Miami-Dade College Foundation,
 - Providing \$2,000 for books and supplies via 11 grants to college students for a total of \$22,000.
 - Will launch in January 2026.
 - Christine Bustamante and Rebeca C. Trujillo spoke about our participation in the Leadership Miami program with our joint project, “New Beginning Essentials Kits,” with Citrus FCN: has been a surprising accomplishment, requiring hard work.
 - Initially competed the project in the Spring 2025 cohort in a field of 15 nonprofits; weren’t selected then but shifted to the Fall competition (with 4 other nonprofits).
 - Involves the creation of housewarming kits for foster youth transitioning out of foster care.
 - Our wonderful team of volunteers, 2Morrow’s Miami, modified the original plan to make kits customizable to the recipients’ needs.
 - Are building a physical store on Citrus FCN office space to house items.
 - Doing fundraising events and “sweat equity days.”
 - Established “wish list” on Amazon and are working on a way to make the program self-sustaining.
 - BOD members are invited to attend events, especially the Ribbon-Cutting/Closing ceremony on 11/22.
 - Eddie Marti-King was proposed as a guest speaker for our events. Motion to consider him.

— >>> **Vote — motion was APPROVED – U**

- 2025 Gala (extended discussion): Wilma Nazario recapped the impact of October’s “Hope Under The Stars” Gala as one that may not have had the highest attendance but attracted a new set of influential, philanthropic guests who were touched by our mission, cause and work.
 - Jacqueline Ceballos suggested we acknowledge their participation and support via thank you cards or gift baskets.
 - María E. Ramos suggested we send HANDWRITTEN thank you cards to all.
 - Lisette Hermida confirmed how her guests, especially Jorge Luis and Marile Lopez, were visibly impressed.
 - Al Maulini spoke about how the event has positively impacted his guests.

- Wilma Nazario shared guests' comments about the audiovisual presentation, that they could SEE (not only HEAR) about our programs and accomplishments.
- Highlighted guest participation in raffle and live auction.
- Guests are engaged to return to 2026 Gala.
- Less speakers, more videos made for a better presentation, more content and time control.
- Laurie Jennings was emcee extraordinary; felt comfortable.
- Jorge Fernandez said that one of our successes is that we invested most of our event time in promoting/explaining our cause.
- For the first time, our timeline was "on time!"
- Maria E. Ramos suggests that artists should donate their performance to the cause.
- Lissete Hermida inquired about event revenue; Wilma Nazario will have it ready by end of 2025.
- Lissete Hermida shared news that she has been named Chair of the Florida Grand Opera and will be seeking ways to recruit contacts for OOFF.
- Rudy Bustamante spoke about our beginnings when we charged \$75 per ticket... and now we charge \$3000 per table.
- Jorge Fernandez had kudos for OOFF for being able to charge those entrance fees and having people understand why it's worth it.
- Lissete Hermida shared the name of Martica Mirabal, who helps organizations raise funds through fashion. She charges a percentage but has her own clients who follow her events and attend to shop.
- Wilma Nazario shares news that Maria E. Ramos is organizing an event at Jimmy Choo Coral Gables.
- Rudy Bustamante says that we cannot be happy with the status quo.
- Lissete Hermida recommends expanding event sponsorships to fashion stores so they can support the cause. She will learn how to reach out to them.
- Wilma Nazario says that we have come a long way; we were a small group of friends organizing parties and now we have a more structured, focused organization.
- **Al Maulini resigns from BOD**
 - Has joined the Baptist Health Foundation and he will be able to help OOFF compete for grants.
 - Remaining on OOFF BOD is a conflict of interest.
 - Will present OOFF and its programs to the committee.
 - Shall remain "a friend of OOFF."

- **Give Miami Day**
 - Lissete Hermida has been named to The Miami Foundation and has included OOFF as a nonprofit beneficiary for Give Miami Day.
- **New Business — Items for Discussion**
 - **2026 “Hope Under The Stars” Gala**
 - Discussed preferred dates for event
 - First weekend of October; need to coordinate with Trump National
>>> **Vote — motion was APPROVED – U**
- **Closing**
 - **Next Board Meeting** is set for Tuesday, January 20th, 2026, at 6:30 pm.
 - **Meeting Adjourned** at 8:00 pm.

MINUTES prepared/updated by Rebeca C. Trujillo, OOFF Board Secretary, on 01/19/2026