

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** February 22, 2024 Contact: Sandra Cristina Roa Florida College Access Network (FCAN) (727) 729-0567 sroa@floridacollegeaccess.org

**Florida College Access Network applauds Miami-Dade's bold educational attainment goal** Collaborative leadership aims for 65 percent of residents to have an associate degree or higher by 2040

The Florida College Access Network (FCAN) celebrates Opportunity Miami's and the Academic Leaders Council's new report, <u>Miami-Dade County 2040 Talent Development Goals</u>, which establishes a 65% postsecondary attainment goal among working-age adults by the year 2040 as a collaborative affirmation of the power of education to change the trajectory of lives and the well-being of communities. The report builds on the state's current goal of ensuring that 60 percent of Florida's working-age adults hold a high-value postsecondary certificate, degree, or training experience by 2030.

Currently, 45.5 percent of Miami-Dade County's residents have at least an associate degree or higher. The new goal strives to improve the overall number of residents getting college degrees or other postsecondary credential in every community.

"We at FCAN applaud the forward-looking leadership of our partners in Miami-Dade working to increase postsecondary attainment, individual prosperity, and economic competitiveness. Miami plays a key role in our state economy, accounting for 12% of our population but more than 15% of our gross state product," said Braulio Colón, FCAN executive director. "The report's recognition that intentional strategies must be implemented to ensure Black and Hispanic/Latino communities reach the 65% attainment goal is plainly spoken and correct."

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## **About Florida College Access Network**

Florida College Access Network (FCAN) is Florida's collaborative network committed to ensuring all Floridians have the opportunity to achieve an education beyond high school and a rewarding career. We envision a Florida working together where education is the pathway to economic mobility for all.

FCAN strives to expand knowledge of research, data, policies, and practices that impact postsecondary access and attainment in Florida. For more information, visit <u>www.floridacollegeaccess.org</u>.

FCAN is a statewide independent organization hosted by the University of South Florida (USF). The statements and positions presented are those of FCAN and are not made on behalf of the USF Board of Trustees or intended in any way to be representative of USF.