

*Celebrating*

# The First Anniversary



Robert Weisman  
Governmental Center

Tuesday  
November 10, 2015

# PROCLAMATION

OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS  
OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA



## DECLARING AUGUST 1 - NOVEMBER 10, 2015 AS MBK MALE MENTOR RECRUITMENT PERIOD

WHEREAS, in September 2014, President Obama issued a challenge to cities, towns, counties and tribes across the country to become "My Brother's Keeper (MBK) Communities," and;

WHEREAS, the MBK Community Challenge encourages communities to implement a coherent cradle-to-college-and-career strategy for improving the life outcomes of all young people to ensure that they can reach their full potential, regardless of who they are, where they come from, or the circumstances into which they are born, and;

WHEREAS, the six milestones of the MBK Community Challenge are ensuring all children enter school cognitively, physically, socially and emotionally ready; read at grade level by 3rd grade; graduate from high school; complete post-secondary education or training; are employed when out of school; and remain safe from violent crime, and;

WHEREAS, then-Mayor Priscilla Taylor accepted the president's MBK Community Challenge on behalf of Palm Beach County and convened a local action summit on November 3, 2014, forming the PBC My Brother's Keeper Task Force, and;

WHEREAS, the MBK Task Force formed a network or coalition of public and private entities that work together to improve life outcomes for boys and young men of color through internal agency policy review, mentoring, education and employment opportunities, and;

WHEREAS, the MBK Network launched its Local Action Plan which outlines strategy to conduct policy review and recruit 100 male mentors in 100 days from August through November of each year.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT PROCLAIMED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, assembled in regular session this seventh day of July 2015, that August 1 - November 10, 2015, in Palm Beach County, is hereby proclaimed

### *MBK Male Mentor Recruitment Period*

BE IT FURTHER PROCLAIMED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF PALM BEACH COUNTY, FLORIDA, that this proclamation is duly sealed, ribboned and executed by the members of this Board. The foregoing proclamation was sponsored by Commissioner Priscilla A. Taylor, and upon unanimous consent of the Board, the Mayor declared the proclamation duly enacted.

ATTEST:

Sharon R. Bock,  
Clerk & Comptroller

*Sharon R. Bock*



*Shelley Vana*  
Mayor Shelley Vana

*Mary Lou Berger*  
Vice Mayor Mary Lou Berger

*Hal R. Valeche*  
Commissioner Hal R. Valeche

*Paulette Burdick*  
Commissioner Paulette Burdick

*Steven L. Abrams*  
Commissioner Steven L. Abrams

*Melissa McKinley*  
Commissioner Melissa McKinley

*Priscilla A. Taylor*  
Commissioner Priscilla A. Taylor

As and Constituting the Board of County Commissioners of Palm Beach County, Florida

# Message From PBC Commissioner

*Priscilla A. Taylor*



Thank you for your commitment to our local My Brother's Keeper Initiative and to the boys and young men of color in our community. Together, we will make a difference in the lives of our kids and improve the quality of life for our families and communities.

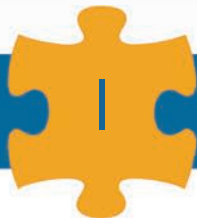
We have accomplished a lot in a short period of time, but there is still much to do. We look forward to keeping you engaged in this movement. We hope that you will continue to bring great ideas that will create improved educational and economic opportunities to our future leaders.

Sincerely,

*Priscilla A. Taylor*  
County Commissioner  
District 7

*"It's easier to build strong children than to repair broken men."*

Fredrick Douglas



# MBK Community Challenge



In September 2014, President Obama issued a challenge to cities, towns, counties and tribes across the Country to become “My Brother’s Keeper Communities”. This challenge represents a call to action for all members of our communities, and mayors in particular, as they often sit at the intersection of many of the vital forces and structural components needed to enact sustainable change through policy, programs, and partnerships.

The My Brother’s Keeper (MBK) Community Challenge encourages communities to implement a coherent cradle-to-college-and-career strategy for improving the life outcomes of all young people to ensure that they can reach their full potential, regardless of who they are, where they come from, or the circumstances into which they are born. Nearly 200 mayors, tribal leaders, and county executives across 43 states and the District of Columbia have accepted the MBK Community Challenge.

## The Six Goals Of The MBK Community Challenge Are Ensuring All:

- 1 Children enter school cognitively, physically, socially, and emotionally ready
- 2 Children read at grade level by third grade
- 3 Youth graduate from high school
- 4 Youth complete post-secondary education or training
- 5 Youth out of school are employed
- 6 Youth remain safe from violent crime



# Mission • Core Beliefs • Goals

## My Brother's Keeper Network

### Mission

The My Brother's Keeper Network (MBKN) is a coalition of public and private entities that work together to improve life outcomes for boys and young men of color through internal agency policy review, mentoring, education and employment opportunities.

### Core Beliefs

#### Three Core Beliefs Guide The My Brother's Keeper Network:

**First:** There are dedicated leaders and organizations that are successfully changing the life outcomes for boys and young men of color. However, they are lacking the infrastructure, support and resources to sustain their work and the scale of their impact.

**Second:** Long-term success requires a coordinated movement of leaders and organizations working to advance shared MBK goals.

**Third:** Boys and young men of color live within a system that was previously designed to discriminate based on race. We need to address this issue with a race-based solution that is strategic and targeted.

#### Based on these core beliefs, MBK will undertake the following interconnected strategies:

- ✚ Mentor Recruitment
- ✚ Strategic Communications
- ✚ Network Building
- ✚ Capacity Building

In taking this step, MBK intends to play a role that is currently unfilled in the broader landscape of organization participants who are engaged in seeking the advancement of boys and young men of color. MBK sees its role as furthering the collective efforts of its partner organizations. MBK is designed to provide coordination, resources and support to other entities who are working to achieve the MBK goals. It will complement, but not duplicate, the work performed by existing groups (i.e. child and youth symposium workgroups and the Superintendent's Task Force, etc.) that are working towards the same goals.

### Goals

- ✚ To create a network of agencies that are working together to achieve shared goals (MBK goals)
- ✚ To assist network agencies in assessing current program policies and practices that focus on improving outcomes for boys of color, in determining their effectiveness and provide recommendations, resources, and strategies for improvement
- ✚ To create a sustained initiative that increases the number of male mentors and structured activities that promote the achievement of MBK goals
- ✚ To promote systemic changes in order to improve the community's attitudes and practices toward boys and young men of color, and to strategically allocate public and private resources to enhance their education and economic opportunities



# Guest Speaker

## *Trabian Shorters*



Trabian Shorters is the founder and CEO of BMe, a growing network of all races and genders committed to building better communities across the U.S. He began the initiative while serving as Vice President of the Knight Foundation. With the full blessing of his board and CEO, and with a generous donation from the foundation, Trabian left Knight Foundation on July 1, 2013, to grow the BMe Community. Trabian has a long history in building innovative networks for the public good.

Trabian was one of the authors of AmeriCorps, as well as a founder of an innovative nonprofit technology support network which was backed by both AOL and Microsoft in 1999. He went on to be the Director of Ashoka-US, which funds and networks outstanding social entrepreneurs. Finally, he joined the Knight Foundation, wherein he managed a \$300M portfolio for six years and led Knight's groundbreaking Community Information Challenge.

Based upon the research of Daniel Kahneman, Chip Heath, Jonah Sachs, Monique Sternin and Jonah Berger; Trabian devised a community engagement and transformation theory called "Asset-Framing" and through the Knight Foundation he worked with social impact design firm, Context Partners, and marketing giant, Ogilvy & Mather, to apply it regarding black males of Baltimore, Detroit, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.

# Program

## Invocation

## Pledge of Allegiance

## Welcome

**Priscilla A. Taylor**  
District 7 County Commissioner

## Brief Overview and Accomplishments

**James Green**  
Director of Outreach and Community Programming  
Palm Beach County Youth Services Department

## Recognition of Volunteers and Mentors

**Gary Graham**  
Director of United Way Mentoring Center

**Jaene Miranda**  
CEO, Boys and Girls Club of PBC

## Keynote Speaker

**Trabian Shorters**  
CEO of BMe

## Next Steps

**James Green**  
Director of Outreach and Community Programming  
Palm Beach County Youth Services Department

## Closing Remarks

**Tammy Fields**  
Director  
Palm Beach County Youth Services Department



# Caring Communities Initiative

The vision for the following initiatives were derived from MBK committee meetings and by the Outreach and Community Programming planning team.

Details on the planning and implementation of these initiatives will be discussed during the committee meetings.

The Caring Communities Initiative is a strategic mentoring model that engages local businesses, churches, community-based organizations, governmental entities, fraternities and sororities, neighborhood associations and community stakeholders.

Palm Beach County will work with the Children's Services Council and the United Way Mentoring Center to identify a lead mentoring agency to coordinate mentoring services for youth who live in a targeted geographical area. This lead mentoring agency will not only recruit mentors and solicit resources from these community partners but also work with them to achieve the MBK goals and milestones.





# MBK Initiatives

## School-Based Mentoring Initiative

Palm Beach County, in conjunction with the School District, Children's Services Council and United Way Mentoring Center will establish learning communities to explore evidence-based school mentoring models and determine which program would be most effective in our schools. The Mentoring Center will develop a process to screen, train and appropriately place individuals who signed up as group mentors at schools who have adopted this mentoring program. Each school will select a staff member to help coordinate this effort. This initiative will focus primarily on middle and high school students who need academic and behavioral support.

## Neighborhood Reading Initiative

The Palm Beach County Youth Services Department (YSD) will work with the Children's Services Council and the Literacy Coalition to provide weekend reading programs within targeted neighborhoods for low-income families during the summer months. These programs will offer resources and support to elementary students in second and third grade. Certified reading teachers will be paid stipends to implement this program. They will also provide coaching for parents, teaching them strategies to increase their kids reading comprehension.

## Real Black Men Read

**(An Initiative Sponsored by the Coalition of Black Student Achievement & Superintendent's Task Force)**

YSD will work with the School District and community-based organizations to coordinate a reading initiative that encourages Black men to read to elementary school students. Black male mentors will visit targeted elementary schools on a weekly basis to read to students. The school district will provide all reading materials and other resources as needed. The community-based organization will coordinate with male mentors to provide training and other supports that are needed

## Summer Internship

YSD will coordinate with municipalities, for-profit businesses, and other entities to promote employment and volunteer opportunities for boys and young men of color. YSD will work with CareerSource of Palm Beach County to provide stipends for youth. YSD will also create opportunities for employment with summer camp sites and Youth Empowerment Centers.

## College Access Initiative

YSD will work with the local college access network, Palm Beach State College and a local consortium to remove barriers that prevent youth from transitioning to post secondary education. Mentors and volunteers will provide ACT and SAT prep courses and host workshops to support youth who are going through this transition. This initiative will also work proactively to prepare students for their transition to post secondary education or training. Resources will be provided through the YSD to support these efforts.



# MBK Accomplishments to Date



Established a website and community calendar for MBK Network agencies

Completed and submitted a Local Action Plan and worked with committees to outline vision for the Network

Recruited over 100 volunteers to participate in MBK Initiative and United Way Mentoring Center

Increased awareness about the Initiative and recruited over 200 public and private partners

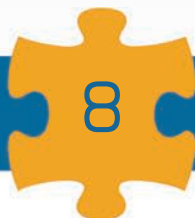
Increased awareness about local data as it relates to the MBK milestones

Provided training and instruction for community members, mentors and families

Promoted local initiatives targeting youth and provided resources to support them

Hosted a summer spelling bee for youth to encourage learning and increase vocabulary and prevent summer slide

Gathered data, identified agencies and began the process for Policy Review to address systemic racial disparities in our education and criminal justice system





# *Pledge to Youth*

Your dreams matter

Your goals matter

Your lives matter

***You Are Someone Who Matters!***

We love you

We care about you

and we are committed  
to creating opportunities

for you to live a happy  
and prosperous life.



# MBK Community Partners

