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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

“\$350,000 IN SCHOLARSHIPS AWARDED FOR COLLEGE BOUND STUDENTS”

(Miami, September 5, 2012) – The South Florida Workforce Investment Board (SFWIB) is committed to bridging the skills gap in the region by awarding \$350,000 in scholarships to participants in Take Stock in Children (TSIC) and 5,000 Role Models of Excellence.

Take Stock in Children and 5,000 Role Models are lauded for providing youth from low-income families with the opportunity and tools necessary to achieve excellence in all facets of their lives. These efforts extend beyond college. Most of their activities involve mentoring, early intervention, case management, and participating in social events.

Upon graduation from high school and successfully fulfilling their obligation to the programs, students are awarded a fully-paid college tuition scholarship. “South Florida Workforce is essentially establishing the framework for our young people to compete in today’s global and increasingly high-tech economy by affording them the opportunity to pursue an education and increase their future earning potential,” said Rick Beasley, executive director for the South Florida Workforce Investment Board.

ABOUT TAKE STOCK IN CHILDREN

Take Stock in Children was established in 1995 as a non-profit organization in Florida that provides a unique opportunity for deserving students from economically disadvantage families, many are which from minority families, to escape the cycle of poverty through education. They offer students college scholarships, volunteer mentors, and hope for a better life. Their comprehensive services start in middle school and continue in high school and throughout their transitioning into college.

ABOUT 5,000 ROLE MODELS OF EXCELLENCE

5,000 Role Models of Excellence’s mission is to intervene in the lives of at-risk boys in an effort to provide them with alternatives that will help steer them away from a life of crime and violence. The program serves 82 schools, which include 16 elementary, 34 middle and 32 senior high Miami-Dade County Public Schools. Most of the students enter the program in middle school and continue activities throughout their high school and post-secondary education.

ABOUT SOUTH FLORIDA WORKFORCE INVESTMENT BOARD

South Florida Workforce is a public-private partnership that establishes state and federally funded workforce development and training policies for Miami-Dade and Monroe counties.

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South Florida Workforce's services and resources are available to everyone at no cost through a network of career centers located throughout the region. For more information on SFWIB Youth Programs, call 305-594-7615 or visit www.southfloridaworkforce.com.

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