



# PRESS RELEASE

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## MEDIA CONTACT:

Marian M. Smith

Tel. 305.594.7615 Ext. 374

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

## **CareerSource South Florida awards \$250,000 to launch TechHire and Digital Learning Center**

**MIAMI – November 7, 2016** – CareerSource South Florida today announced that it has awarded \$250,000 to Big Brothers Big Sisters of Miami (BBBS) to help launch the first CareerSource TechHire Center in South Florida, which will feature a Digital Learning Center to help those served by BBBS of Miami prepare to earn high-paying technology jobs.

The Digital Learning Center is equipped with computers, printers, a smartboard, televisions, projectors, servers, high-speed routers and switches, and computer software programs, and is located at the organization's new headquarters at the Carnival Center for Excellence at 550 NW LeJeune Road. The facility is expected to serve approximately 180 youths and 100 adults during its inaugural year, with a goal to grow and serve more than 500 individuals by the end of its second year.

The White House's designation of Miami-Dade County as one of only two "TechHire" communities in Florida spurred CareerSource South Florida to donate the funds to BBBS of Miami. TechHire, launched one year ago by President Barack Obama, is a multi-sector national initiative to create a pipeline of Americans with technology skills via universities and community colleges, as well as coding boot camps and high-quality online courses.

"Empowering the residents of Miami-Dade County with essential information technology skills not only makes the residents competitive for the global market workplace but improves the economic vitality of the community," said CareerSource South Florida Executive Director Rick Beasley. "We are thrilled to partner with Big Brothers Big Sisters of Miami to tackle the community's digital literacy gap."

"With demand growing for technology jobs, educating our community and preparing them to enter this workforce is critical," said Gale Nelson, President of Big Brothers Big Sisters of Miami. "We are grateful to CareerSource South Florida for making our work towards this mission possible with such a significant investment."

### **About CareerSource South Florida**

CareerSource South Florida is a public-private partnership that establishes state and federally funded workforce development and training policies for Miami-Dade and Monroe counties. CareerSource South Florida's services and resources are available to everyone at no cost through a network of centers located throughout the region.

For more information on CareerSource South Florida, including valuable resources for businesses and job seekers, please visit [www.careersourcesfl.com](http://www.careersourcesfl.com) or call 305-594-7615.

### **About Big Brothers Big Sisters of Miami**

Big Brothers Big Sisters is a donor- and volunteer- supported organization that transforms the lives of at-risk children through supportive adult mentor relationships. For more information, visit <http://www.wementor.org/> or call 305-644-0066.

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