ALLIANCE MISSION

As the primary economic development organization for Greater Fort Lauderdale/ Broward County, we focus on creating, attracting, expanding and retaining high-wage jobs and capital investment in high value targeted industries, developing more vibrant communities, and improving the quality of life for our area’s citizens.

We provide leadership and excellence in delivering economic development services for our clients, prospects, investors and partners.

The Four Foundations of our economic development services:

- Marketing and Promoting Broward County
- Managing Expansion, Relocation and Retention Projects
- Conducting and Providing Market Research & Business Intelligence
- Securing and Enhancing Private/Public Leadership & Investment

VALUES STATEMENT

Our core values include social responsibility and a dedication to building healthy and competitive communities; creation of wealth for individuals, businesses and communities; cooperation and collaboration in our business dealings; and the promotion of diversity, tolerance and equality.
2014-15 was another outstanding year for the Alliance and for Broward County’s economy. We take pride in sharing accomplishments of this past year in this annual report to the community.

We continued our efforts to recruit companies in targeted industries including aviation, life sciences, global logistics, technology, high-tech manufacturing and headquarters operations. The Alliance is pleased to announce the relocation and expansion during the past year of 24 companies, the creation of 1,432 high value jobs, the retention of 1,313 jobs and more than $116 million in capital investment in Broward County. This will add to the total economic impact to Broward County, where during the past nine years, the Alliance, working with Broward County, CareerSource Broward and our local municipalities, helped businesses create or retain more than 22,000 direct jobs that are estimated to have generated through direct, indirect and induced effects total employment of more than 48,000 jobs resulting in $1.8 billion in annual personal income and $9.8 billion in annual economic impact.

The CEO Council continued its award-winning “Life. Less taxing.” advertising campaign, promoting Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County as a choice location for businesses looking to relocate or expand. The focus of the campaign was on national/international targeted real estate, site selection and corporate real estate decision maker publications. In addition, the CEO Council embarked on a study with a renowned economic development consulting firm to guide the Alliance’s marketing efforts over the next five years. The plan, Target 2020, will be rolled out in the 2016 fiscal year.

There were a number of other projects in which the Alliance collaborated with its partners and members to grow Broward County’s economy. One was the Port Everglades Advocacy Team (PEAT), under the leadership of CEO Council member Terry Stiles, which had a very high-impact and busy year. PEAT is a joint project of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, Broward Workshop, Port Everglades, the Port Everglades Association and others. Their efforts helped Port Everglades to receive word that after nineteen years, it had a Final Chief’s Report from the Army Corps of Engineers, which was needed to move forward with port expansion efforts. Other examples of collaboration included the work on TechGateway.org, Six Pillars, supporting our K-20 education system, Life Sciences South Florida, hosting key decision makers during the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show, establishing the Alliance 501(c)(3) Foundation and continuing to expand the Alliance’s Platinum City permitting excellence program.

The Alliance also continued to assist local companies through its BRAVO (Business Retention and Visitation Outreach) program. More than 175 companies were visited this year, with the Alliance providing assistance finding access to capital, workforce training opportunities, permitting issues and site location.

These are just a few examples of the work of the Alliance to grow jobs, increase capital investment and improve the local tax base. We thank our members and partners for their outstanding support of our many activities and successes this past year.
**EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE**

Mike Moore, Chairman of the Board
Penny Shaffer, Vice Chair
Florida Blue
Scott Verner, Secretary
Nipro Diagnostics
Bill White, Treasurer
Compass Office Solutions, LLC
Ben Wesley, Past Chairman
FPL
Bob Swindell, President/CEO
Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance
Heidi Davis Knapik
GUNSTER
Nelson Fernandez
ANF Group
Ray Ferrero, Jr.
Nova Southeastern University
Mason Jackson
CareerSource Broward
Commissioner Chip LaMarca
Broward County
Lonnie Maier
FPL FiberNet
Jean McIntyre
iBERIABANK
Carlos Molinet
Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau
Dr. Jennifer O’Flannery Anderson
Nova Southeastern University
Laurel Oswald
Cushman & Wakefield
Mayor Jack Seiler
City of Fort Lauderdale
Barry Somerstein, of Counsel
Greenspoon Marder Law
Michael Stamm
City of Pembroke Pines

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Anthony Abbate, Florida Atlantic University
Toula Amanna, Flashback Diner
J. David Armstrong, Jr., Broward College
Josie Bacalla, Hispanic Unity of Florida
Bob Benson, Crowe Horwath, LLP
William Berger, Greenspoon Marder Law
Basil Bernard, Apricot Office Interiors
Julie Berry, Stiles
Sandra Birdsong, City National Bank
Mary Blasi, City of Coconut Creek
Marcos Borras, Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six
Ashley Boxer, Memorial Healthcare System
Jennifer Bramley, City of Coral Springs
Cressman Bronson, PNC Bank
Kathleen Cannon, United Way of Broward County
Charles Caulkins, Fisher & Phillips LLP / Broward Workshop
Steven Cernak, Port Everglades
Guy Desautels, Citrix Systems, Inc.
Melanie Dickinson, South Florida Business Journal
Kathy Decker, City of Port Everglades
Kent George, Broward County Aviation
Jesse Gonzalez, Florida East Coast Industries
Ric Green, Greater Pompano Beach Chamber of Commerce
Bertha Henry, Broward County
Frank Herhold, Stiles - Marina Investments Group
Anne Hotte, Broward County Council of Chambers
Thomas Irwin, HEICO Corporation
Brian Johnson, Broward County Small Business Advisory Board
Raymond Jones, Port Everglades Association
Kathy Koch, Ambit Advertising and Public Relations
Jarette Levian, BBX Capital
Dan Lindblade, Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce
Greg Marino, Kaplan Higher Education Group
Stewart Martin, Marsh & McLennan Agency
Sandy-Michael McDonald, Broward County Office of Economic & Small Business Development
Pat McKay, Templeton & Company, LLP
Debra (D.K.) Mink, Sunnyvale Corporation/Mink & Mink Inc.
James Murley, South Florida Regional Planning Council
Peggy Nordeen, Starmark International
Arlene Pecora, Signature Grand
Chris Pizzo, Patriot National, Inc.
Dr. Avis Proctor, Broward College
Phil Purcell, Marine Industries Association of South Florida
Karen Reese, City of Fort Lauderdale
David Reid, JM Family Enterprises
Laurie Rich Levinson, School Board of Broward County
Leo Rodriguez, Emerson
Patricia Rosello, Baptist Health South Florida
Juliet Roulhac, Florida Power & Light
Tim Rubin, Kaufman Rossin
Robert Runcie, Broward County Public Schools
Richard Salamon, City of Sunrise
Rosana Santos Calambichis, Big Chef
Patrick Sargent, Regions Bank
Kelley Shanley, Broward Center for the Performing Arts
Dr. Germaine Smith-Baugh, Urban League of Broward County
Erick Strati, Wells Fargo
Greg Stuart, Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization
Peter Tuffo, Suffolk Construction
Charles Webster, Broward County Public Schools
Robert White, GUNSTER
Kathleen Woods-Richardson, City of Miramar
Ana Zeinieh, City of Coral Springs
### PAST CHAIRS

Following is a list of the Past Chairs of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance and its predecessor organizations (The Broward Alliance, Broward Economic Development Council Inc., Broward Economic Development Board and Broward’s Committee of 100, Inc.). Thanks to each of these community leaders for their service and their dedication to making Broward County a stronger and more diverse economy.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Years</th>
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<td>J. Tatum</td>
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<td>Gary Arenson</td>
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<td>George W. Church</td>
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<td>Jerry Ingate</td>
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<td>Dr. Wilhelmena Mack</td>
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<td>Ron Greenstein</td>
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<td>A. Paul Anderson</td>
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<td>Lonnie H. Maier</td>
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<td>Larry J. Behar</td>
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<td>Howard Greenberg</td>
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<td>John Ruffin, Jr.</td>
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<td>Kathy Koch</td>
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<td>Gerard Litrento</td>
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<td>2013-14</td>
<td>Ben Wesley</td>
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The Alliance expresses deep appreciation to our Council leaders and volunteers for their hard work and dedication during 2014-15! Following is a summary of the roles and some of the work of each Council.

**CEO COUNCIL**

**Chair:** Ray Ferrero, Jr.  
Nova Southeastern University

**Vice-Chair:** Keith Koenig  
City Furniture

*Responsible for marketing and promoting the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County brand as a premier location for corporate headquarters and international regional headquarters, and monitoring the area’s national external rankings/perceptions in comparison to its primary competitors to ensure continued favorability as a business location.*

- **Chief Executive**  
- **CoreNet Global’s The LEADER**  
- **Florida Trend**  
- **Global Trade**  
- **Inc.**  
- **Site Selection**

Presented at the CoreNet Global 2014 North American Summit in Washington, DC. CoreNet Global is the world’s leading association of corporate real estate executives and workplace professionals, service providers and economic developers with more than 8,000 members including 70 percent of the Fortune 100 and Forbes Global 2000.

Served as a Platinum Host City sponsor for the Area Development Consultants Forum in Fort Lauderdale. Other Platinum sponsors included Florida Power & Light and Enterprise Florida. The Council provided a welcome brunch cruise for the consultants and Area Development leadership aboard JM Family’s Gallant Lady mega-yacht, courtesy of CEO Council member Colin Brown.

Continued the “Life. Less taxing.” advertising campaign through highly visible digital media applications on targeted national/international websites such as Area Development, Business Facilities, Chief Executive, Inc., and Site Selection. Additionally, promoted Greater Fort Lauderdale as a premier headquarters location through print advertising and achieved feature articles and key editorial commentary in targeted leading national/international and state publications read by site selection consultants and corporate real estate executives, including:

- **Area Development**  
- **Business Facilities**

Hosted, with Enterprise Florida and FPL’s Office of Economic Development, the Corporate Real Estate Executive Leaders Council meeting held at Kaplan University’s Fort Lauderdale headquarters. The group is an invitation-only organization that includes the heads of corporate real estate for such notable companies as Oracle, Coca-Cola Refreshments, Kaplan, McKesson, Ernst & Young, Tyco, Ford, Wells Fargo, Barclays, Iron Mountain, Fidelity and Google.

Announced that Charter Schools USA will create 73 new jobs at an average salary of approximately $60,000 along with retaining 188 existing Florida jobs and investing $1 million in capital to relocate its headquarters in Fort Lauderdale, where it will lease over 43,000 square feet of space at the Radice II office building located at 800 Corporate Drive. State and local incentives approved by Florida and the City of Fort Lauderdale totaled $365,000 using the performance-based Qualified Target Industry Tax Refund program.

Sponsored and participated in the Site Selector’s Guild Annual Conference in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The conference focused on national trends and the competitiveness of state programs. Other sponsors included Florida Power & Light’s Office of Economic Development.

Participated in the Janus Forum economic development meeting at Amelia Island. The Forum is an opportunity to meet with leading site selection consultants and corporate real estate executives and provided an intimate setting to discuss the reasons companies should consider Greater Fort Lauderdale and its booming economy and positive business climate.

Engaged the assistance of renowned economic development firm, Boyette Strategic Advisors, in the development of a new strategic and tactical marketing plan. The “Target 2020” plan focuses on targeted sectors for the Alliance to expand its focus in addition to corporate headquarters recruitment over the next five years, as well as strategic and tactical marketing recommendations to ensure success in the targeting of those sectors.

Welcomed new Alliance-assisted technology headquarters, SATO Global Solutions and presented a signed framed print of Guy Harvey’s “Nosin’ Around” at its grand opening ceremony. In addition to senior company executives, Enterprise Florida CEO and Florida Secretary of Commerce Bill Johnson and the Alliance’s CEO Bob Swindell spoke at the ceremony.
GOVERNOR COUNCIL

Chair: Lonnie Maier
FPL Fibernet

Vice Chair: Melanie Dickinson
South Florida Business Journal

Identifies, studies, discusses and creates solutions to issues and opportunities that will advance Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County’s competitive advantage in attracting and growing capital investment and quality jobs.

Governor Council meetings over the year included visits, behind-the-scenes tours and special guest speakers at the following venues:

- Axis Space
- Banyan Air
- Living Color Aquariums
- Broward College Medical Simulation Lab
- Girls Club Art Gallery

The Council’s Permitting Action Team, chaired by Mason Jackson, President/CEO, CareerSource Broward, continued to promote the Platinum Cities permitting excellence process encouraging Broward communities to make the permitting and inspections process more business-friendly and competitive with other regions. Two new cities came on board this year with the assistance of David Rosenof, President of the Broward League of Cities and Parkland Commissioner. The 20 cities that have now adopted formal permitting excellence processes are (in order of adoption): Tamarac, Davie, Oakland Park, Fort Lauderdale, Miramar, Coconut Creek, Plantation, Cooper City, Deerfield Beach, Coral Springs, Hollywood, Dania Beach, Pompano Beach, Margate, Lauderdale, Wilton Manors, Pembroke Pines, Sunrise, Parkland and Hallandale Beach. The team is continuing to focus on and promote implementation of a county-wide centralized ePermits online permitting process.

The Port Everglades Advocacy Team, a joint group of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, Broward Workshop and Port Everglades Association, under the leadership of CEO Council member Terry Stiles, Chairman & CEO, Stiles, had a high-impact and busy year. After 19 years, Port Everglades received a Final Chief’s Report from the Army Corps of Engineers, which was needed to move forward with port expansion efforts. A celebratory press conference was held with Congresswomen Debbie Wasserman Shultz, Frederica Wilson and Lois Frankel. Broward County Mayor Tim Ryan served as master of ceremonies. Speeches included Eric Roth, Premier Beverages and a member of the Port Everglades Advocacy Team, Florida Representative George Moraitis who led efforts in Tallahassee, and Port Director Steve Cernak who announced that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had set aside $1.2 million from this budget year to help fund the next phase of the dredging project.

The project is anticipated to create an estimated 4,700 total construction jobs and nearly 1,500 permanent direct jobs locally. The estimated cost is $374 million, which will be paid with Port Everglades revenue generated through port user fees, federal appropriations and state grants. No local tax dollars will be used for this project since Port Everglades is self-funded by an enterprise fund. In the past year, the advocacy team has traveled to Tallahassee under the leadership of Mayor Tim Ryan and Commissioner Chip LaMarca, successfully supporting a transportation bill which was approved by the House Transportation and Port Subcommittee, providing an increase from $15 million to $25 million to benefit all Florida ports.

The E²B² Action Team also worked with the Sun Sentinel, Broward College and Broward County Public Schools to publish a special section in the Sun Sentinel highlighting the achievements of every local public high school and one outstanding senior from each school in a feature titled, “Saluting Educational Excellence in Broward County Public Schools.” In addition, in a similar partnership between the Alliance and the Sun Sentinel, a full-page ad congratulated the BCPS Class of 2015 for its high achievements including Ivy League college acceptances as well as extraordinary class statistics.
**LEADERSHIP COUNCIL**

Chair: Heidi Davis Knapik  
GUNSTER

Promotes increased public/private sector collaboration and leadership for economic development policies and investments which enhance Broward County’s economic competitiveness.

Monitored and helped advocate for economic development program legislation during the 2015 Florida legislative session.

Met at **Axis Space**, Scott Garvis, President of Dale Carnegie, South Florida conducted a team building exercise. A tour of the innovative co-location downtown office space followed the meeting.

Met at the **Metropolitan Planning Organization**. MPO Executive Director Gregory Stuart shared the MPO vision for transportation projects for Broward County and South Florida in front of a packed crowd.

Met at the **Funky Buddha Brewery**, Anne Sallee, former Mayor of **Oakland Park** and Director of the Broward Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association was joined by Sr. VP, **Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau,** Carlos Molinet, for an update on the tourism industry in Broward.

Met at the law offices of **Greenspoon Marder Law,** hosting United States Congresswoman Lois Frankel for an update on most recent action from Congress and her focus moving forward.

Met at the law offices of **GUNSTER** and heard the latest results from the statewide **United Way ALICE Report,** focusing on the challenges of the working poor, or, the Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed.

The Leadership Council spent much of the year planning a **Leadership Trip to visit Austin, Texas**, in early 2016. The team will fly on member airline, **JetBlue.** The Austin area does an outstanding job promoting their region and the team’s goal is to study, learn and share best practices in the following areas: Health Care, Education, Transportation and Logistics, Business Best Practices and Quality of Life.
**Met at ArtServe.** The Council was addressed by a panel consisting of Jaye Abbate, CEO of ArtServe, Jim Hammond of the Puppet Network and Jody Leshinsky, Assistant Director of Broward Cultural Division. The panel spoke about the creative economy, the importance of Art and the Economy, and the Broward 100 year Celebration “Duende.”

**Met at the law offices of GUNSTER.** The Council was given an update on the state of Broward County by Broward County Administrator Bertha Henry.

The Council’s International Action Team (IAT), had a busy year, attending and supporting the following activities:

- **Quebec-Florida Chamber of Commerce** opened its first office in South Florida and chose a Greater Fort Lauderdale location to better serve its Canadian-American business members.

- International Client Manager and IAT members visited with the **Consul General of Japan - Shinji Nagashima**, to discuss his agenda and future collaborations with the Greater Fort Lauderdale region.

- **Azul**, Brazilian low-cost airline, announced a new non-stop flight route between Sao Paulo and Fort Lauderdale. Azul was established by Brazilian-born David Neeleman, founder of JetBlue Airways and it is now the third largest air carrier in Brazil.

- The **German Consul General, Juergen Borsch**, has held several meetings in Broward to discuss future collaborations with the German American Business Chamber and the Alliance. The Consul General also recognized the Alliance and other partners for contributions to the Consulate’s mission. The team arranged a visit of Port Everglades for Mr. Borsch and Mr. Uwe Beckmeyer, German Parliamentary State Secretary at the Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy.

- **The German Consul General Adolfo Barattolo**, other members of the Italian consulate and Broward County Public Schools Superintendent Robert Runcie to discuss the consulate’s interest in establishing a Memorandum of Understanding with the Broward School System whereby Italian would be taught in a few schools throughout the county.

- **The Ambassador of the Republic of Macedonia to the United States, His Excellency Vasko Naumovski** visited the Alliance to discuss business trade and opportunities for collaboration between Broward County and Macedonia.

- **Consul General of Canada for Florida, Puerto Rico and the US Virgin Islands, Roxanne Dubé** visited Broward County.

- The new Executive Director of the **French American Chamber of Commerce, Pascale Villet**, visited with the Alliance to discuss French company inquiries for investments in South Florida.

- Members of the IAT met in Pompano Beach to attend the ribbon cutting of the new **Daher-Socata headquarters and service center** for operations of its airplane business unit in the U.S. The new 32,000 square foot hangar facility will enable Daher to reaffirm its significant presence in North America.

- **The Alliance attended Florida Chamber International Days** in Tallahassee. This was an opportunity for the Florida Chamber of Commerce and Florida’s international business community to come together and hear from top international trade experts about trends and the significance of international trade for Florida’s economy and businesses in general.
The Alliance hosted two Bi-National Chamber events to discuss the creation of a Bi-National Chamber Steering Committee designed to prepare a calendar of joint events in Broward County. Representatives from the Brazil, France, Germany, Norway, Quebec, Sweden, Switzerland and United Kingdom chambers met to discuss membership cross pollination, business development opportunities, events of combined interest and proposed locations.

The Alliance promoted, supported and participated in the inaugural Florida International Trade and Cultural Expo, which supports the Broward County Commission’s strategic goal to position Broward County as a leader in international trade. The three-day convention includes workshops, cultural events, an exhibition hall, luncheons and evening events for international businesses and communities.

Promarine USA, a leading Venezuelan boat builder, relocated to the U.S., opening a 4,000 sq. ft. facility in Dania Beach. Promarine plans to showcase two of its new models at the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show.

Duvekot, a Pompano Beach business accelerator facility which specializes in helping Brazilian companies navigate the U.S. market, has assisted 50 companies from the Brazilian state of Santa Catarina to launch U.S. operations, creating jobs in Florida and strengthening ties with the state’s largest trade partner. The company won a three-year contract from Sebrae, Brazil’s small business administration, for the expansion project. The company plans to create at least 60 jobs and raise a minimum of $9 million for the first 50 companies within five years.

ENTREPRENEURSHIP COUNCIL

Chair: Jean McIntyre
IBERIABANK
Promotes, grows, and accelerates the success of entrepreneurs in Broward County. The focus is on those entrepreneurs in Broward County’s established and emerging clusters, informing the business community of the growing opportunities for entrepreneurs.

Met at National Jets, where the Council learned about the multi-generational, family-owned fixed base operator company and toured the facility. The company and subsidiaries are privately owned by the original family, employing 108 staff members.

Discussed small business assistance growth in Broward County with Herb Parlato, Economic Development Specialist with the Broward County Office of Economic and Small Business Development. Parlato has over 14 years experience in economic development and municipal service.

Attended the 2015 FAU Business Plan Competition, where participating teams in the competition have the opportunity to meet and network with experienced venture capital principals, early stage angel investors, successful entrepreneurs, and senior business leaders who judge for the competition. Teams compete for start-up funding and other resources.

Met at Bailey Contemporary Art (BaCA) and discussed the “Sociable City – On and Off-Line” with Sharon McCormick, VP of Marketing for the Redevelopment Management Associates, and Terra Spero, Co-Founder and CEO of RealTime Marketing Group.

The Council learned about SUP-X “The StartUp Expo, the premier annual conference bringing together startup and early-stage entrepreneurs, angel and VC investors and related service providers from throughout North America. In addition, the Council learned about Broward County Public Schools’ Digital 5 Program.
PARTNER COUNCIL

Chair: Michael Stamm
City of Pembroke Pines

Brings together the best and brightest economic development minds to work on common initiatives, leverage resources and share market intelligence in order to sustain a strong and responsive economic development system. Members of the Partner Council include representatives from Broward County and its municipalities, chambers of commerce, redevelopment agencies, local business assistance organizations and Alliance staff.

Continues to promote the Alliance’s platinum permitting program to municipalities not yet participating, and to have a dialogue about other components which would make the program more robust, including moving to the county-wide ePermits system currently being developed.

Continues to serve as a platform for discussing current trends and themes in the business community and looking for ways to meet the needs of businesses.

Following are examples of some of the meetings conducted by this group:

Met at the City of Margate Calypso Cove Aquatic Center and heard an overview of programs from the CEO of the Leadership Broward Foundation.

Was hosted by the Small Business Development Center-Fort Lauderdale where Rafael Cruz, Director of the SBDC gave an overview of the Center. Rafael discussed how the SBDC-Fort Lauderdale provides assistance to small businesses and aspiring entrepreneurs throughout Broward County.

Heard from Broward County Commissioner Dale Holness regarding the Florida International Trade and Cultural Expo (FITCE), the Zambrano Foundation and the Minority Business Development Agency.

Met at the City of Hollywood’s Garfield Community Center and heard from a panel on local infrastructure projects, in partnership with the Florida Department of Transportation. The panel included FDOT’s Jeremy Upchurch, Freight Coordinator; Jennifer Fierman, Complete Streets Coordinator and Jordan Rockwell, Transit Demand Coordinator.

Was hosted by the City of Fort Lauderdale at the City of Fort Lauderdale Community Redevelopment Area (CRA) Center. Jenni Morejon, Deputy Director of the Department of Sustainable Development, welcomed everyone and provided updates regarding the city’s current and future economic development efforts including The Wave Streetcar and making the city more pedestrian friendly.

Met at the City of North Lauderdale. Mayor Jack Brady welcomed the Council. The Council was given an overview of Broward County’s Local Business Tax and the important role it plays in the county’s economic development efforts, as well as a presentation on CareerSource Broward’s Workforce Solutions for Business.

Met at the City of Coral Springs. The Council learned about Broward College’s efforts to create the infrastructure necessary to develop customized training solutions to new and existing Broward County companies.
ALLIANCE MEMBERS

CEO COUNCIL ($50,000)

- AutoNation
  Mike Jackson
- Baptist Health South Florida
  Patricia Rosello
- City Furniture
  Keith Koenig – Vice Chair
- Emerson
  Leo Rodriguez
- Florida Blue
  Penny Shaffer
- FPL
  Juliet M. Roulhac
- Huizenga Holdings, Inc.
  H. Wayne Huizenga
- JM Family Enterprises, Inc.
  Colin Brown
- Kaplan Higher Education
  Andrew Rosen
- Nipro Diagnostics, Inc.
  Scott Verner
- Nova Southeastern University
  Ray Ferrero, Jr - Chair
- Patriot National, Inc.
  Steven Mariano
- Rick Case Automotive Group
  Rick & Rita Case
- Stiles
  Terry Stiles
- Sun Sentinel Co.
  Howard Greenberg
- Wells Fargo
  Joe Atkinson
- Zimmerman
  Jordan Zimmerman

GOVERNOR COUNCIL ($25,000)

- Broward College
- Broward County Office of Economic and Small Business Development
- Broward County Public Schools
- CareerSource Broward
- City of Coconut Creek
- City of Coral Springs
- City of Fort Lauderdale
- City of Hollywood
- City of Miramar
- City of Sunrise
- Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau
- Hyatt Regency Pier Sixty-Six
- JetBlue
- Kaufman Rossin
  Signature Grand
- South Florida Business Journal
- Starmark International

LEADERSHIP COUNCIL ($10,000)

- All Aboard Florida / FECI / FECR
- Ambit Advertising and Public Relations
- ANF Group, Inc.
- Bank of America Merrill Lynch
- BankUnited
- BB&T South Florida Region
- BBX Capital
- Becker & Poliakoff, P.A.
- Broward Center for the Performing Arts
- Broward Health
- Broward Metropolitan Planning Organization (MPO)
- Citrix
- City of Hallandale Beach
- Crowe Horwath, LLP
- Daszkal Bolton LLP
- Fifth Third Bank
- Florida Atlantic University
- Galleria at Fort Lauderdale, a JLL Property
- Greenspoon Marder Law
- Gulfstream Park Racing & Casino
- GUNSTER
- HEICO Corporation
- J.P. Morgan Chase
- McGladrey
- Memorial Healthcare System
- Peak 10
- PNC Bank
- Regions Bank
- SATO Global Solutions
- SeaLand
- South Florida Business & Wealth Magazine
- SunTrust
- SUP-X: The StartUp Expo
- TD Bank
- Town of Davie
- United Way of Broward County
CORPORATE COUNCIL ($5,000)

Advantage Services
AeroTurbine
AmTrust Bank, a division of New York Community Bank
BlackBerry
Blanca Commercial Real Estate, Inc.
Burr & Forman LLP
Cherry Bekaert LLP
Citibank
City National Bank
City of Dania Beach
City of Deerfield Beach
City of Pembroke Pines
City of Pompano Beach
City of Tamarac
Comcast Business
Compass Office Solutions, LLC
CSX Transportation
Cushman & Wakefield
Dale Carnegie
Deloitte
DeVry University
Duke Realty
Ernst & Young, LLP
Florida Restaurant & Lodging Association/Broward Chapter
Florida Trend Magazine
GALLERYone Fort Lauderdale
A DoubleTree Suites by Hilton
Genesis Automation, Inc.
GrayRobinson, P.A.
HSBC Bank USA, N.A.
iBERIABANK
IMC
Marsh & McLennan Agency
Mercantil Commercebank
Miller Construction Company
Moss & Associates
Museum of Discovery & Science
National Jets, Inc.
Panza, Maurer & Maynard, P.A.
Riverside Hotel, Las Olas Company
Republic Services
Seaside National Bank & Trust
Sheltair
Sonesta Fort Lauderdale Hotel
South Florida Symphony Orchestra, Inc.
Sterns Weaver Miller Weissler Alhadeff & Sitterson, P.A.
Suffolk Construction Company
Sunnyvale Corporation
Transwestern – 110 Tower
Tripp Scott, P.A.
Ultimate Software
Valley National Bank
Verizon Wireless

ENTREPRENEURSHIP COUNCIL ($2,500)

123 LumpSum
Aerotek
Apricot Office Interiors
ArtServe
Avison Young
Berkowitz Pollack Brant Advisors and Accountants
Big Chef
Bolton Medical
Butters Realty & Management
Capital Bank
CBRE
Crown Center Executive Suites

COI access
Colliers International
ComRes, Inc.
Continental Real Estate Companies
Cymbal Development
Dan Perez Films
DPR Construction
Flashback Diner
Furman Insurance
G4S Secure Solutions USA
GDKN
Greenberg Traurig
Guy Harvey Ocean Foundation
Holland & Knight
IDI Gazeley
JLL
LaRocca & Associates, Inc.
MGM General Contracting, Inc.
MSI Consulting
NAI Rauch Weaver
National Wi-Fi Innovation Center
OIC of South Florida
Orange Bowl Committee
Paladin Global Partners

Paramount Broadcasting
Communication, LLC
Propulsion Technologies International LLC
Riviera Point Development Group
Sagoma Construction Services Inc.
SCA Group LLC.
Setnor Byer Insurance & Risk
Steven Greenwald Design, Inc.
Templeton & Company, LLP
Tewes Design Group
The Jim Moran Institute for Global Entrepreneurship, FSU

ASSOCIATES ($1,000)

Advanced Roofing, Inc.
Auto Tech and Body, Inc.
Behar Law Group
Broward Public Library Foundation
Cadillac Championship / PGA TOUR
DWV Investments, Inc.

Finn Partners
Florida Atlantic Research & Development Authority
Florida Property Management Services, Inc.
Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce
HABCO Manufacturing
HITT Contracting, Inc.
Hyatt Place Fort Lauderdale 17th Street
Leadership Broward Foundation
Macken Companies
Marine Industries Association of South Florida

M. Hanson & Company
Morris Southeast Group
Quality Manufacturing Association (QMA)
Tower Club
The Alliance’s Partner Council meets regularly to discuss business climate issues, share best practices and seek data and information that can drive process and systematic improvements for economic development success in Broward County. Following are the members of the Partner Council (Alliance members indicated in bold):

17th Street Causeway Alliance
Broward County Housing Authority
**Broward County Office of Economic and Small Business Development**
Broward County Public Schools
**Broward Cultural Affairs Division**
Broward SCORE
Broward Technical Colleges
Broward Workshop
Builders Association of South Florida
**CareerSource Broward**
City of Coconut Creek
City of Cooper City
**City of Coral Springs**
City of Coral Springs Community Redevelopment Agency
City of Dania Beach
City of Deerfield Beach
City of Fort Lauderdale
City of Hallandale Beach
**City of Hollywood**
City of Lauderdale Lakes
City of Lauderhill
City of Lauderhill Community Redevelopment Agency
City of Lighthouse Point
City of Margate
**City of Miramar**
City of North Lauderdale
City of Oakland Park
**City of Pembroke Pines**
City of Plantation
**City of Pompano Beach**
City of Sunrise
City of Tamarac
City of West Park
City of Wilton Manors
Coconut Creek Chamber of Commerce
Community Redevelopment Associates of Florida, Inc.
Coral Springs Chamber of Commerce
Dania Beach Community Redevelopment Agency
Davie Community Redevelopment Agency
Davie/Cooper City Chamber of Commerce
Deerfield Beach Chamber of Commerce
Downtown Development Authority of Fort Lauderdale
Enterprise Development Corporation
**Florida Atlantic Research and Development Authority**
Florida First Capital Finance Corporation
**Fort Lauderdale – Hollywood International Airport**
**Broward County**
Greater Dania Beach Chamber of Commerce
Greater Fort Lauderdale Chamber of Commerce
Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention & Visitors Bureau
Greater Hollywood Chamber of Commerce
Greater Plantation Chamber of Commerce
Greater Pompano Beach Chamber of Commerce
Greater Sunrise Chamber of Commerce
Hallandale Beach Chamber of Commerce
**Hallandale Beach Community Redevelopment Agency**
Lauderdale Lakes Community Redevelopment Agency
Lauderhill Regional Chamber of Commerce
**Leadership Broward Foundation**
Lighthouse Point Chamber of Commerce
Margate Chamber of Commerce
Margate Community Redevelopment Agency
MetroBroward Economic Development Corporation
**Marine Industries Association of South Florida**
Miramar- Pembroke Pines Regional Chamber of Commerce
NAIOP South Florida
Oakland Park Community Redevelopment Agency
Office of the Governor
Parkland Chamber of Commerce
**Port Everglades, Broward County**
SBDC Fort Lauderdale
South Florida Manufacturers Association
South Florida Regional Planning Council
South Florida Technology Alliance
Tamarac Chamber of Commerce
**Town of Davie**
Town of Southwest Ranches
U.S. Small Business Administration
Urban Land Institute SE Florida/Caribbean
Urban League of Broward County
Weston Area Chamber of Commerce
The Alliance staff provides assistance with business relocation or expansion and site selection; incentive programs and information; market research; and serves as a liaison for workforce development between CareerSource Broward, educational institutions and the business community.

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**The Alliance staff provides assistance with business relocation or expansion and site selection; incentive programs and information; market research; and serves as a liaison for workforce development between CareerSource Broward, educational institutions and the business community.**
From 2007 to 2015, the Alliance, working with its members, Broward County and other partners helped create or retain more than 22,000 direct jobs that are estimated to generate through direct, indirect and induced effects total employment of more than 48,000 jobs in Broward County, $1.8 billion in annual personal income and $9.8 billion in annual economic impact in Broward County.

During fiscal year 2014 - 2015, the Alliance teamed with its members, Broward County and other partners to deliver more positive results. Following are the FY 2014 - 2015 results at the time of publication.

### Business Development

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>YTD*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Number of New Value-Added Jobs</td>
<td>1,400</td>
<td>1,432</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jobs Retained</td>
<td>1,300</td>
<td>1,313</td>
</tr>
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</table>

### Capital Investment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>YTD*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domestic</td>
<td>$75.0M</td>
<td>$101.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International</td>
<td>$10.0M</td>
<td>$14.8M</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Leads, Projects & Corporate Visits

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>YTD*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Domestic Leads</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>258</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>International Leads</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>101</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Active Projects</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Corporate Visits</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>177</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Private Sector Investment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Goal</th>
<th>YTD*</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Public/Private Mix</td>
<td>$1.00:$1.55</td>
<td>$1.00:$1.91</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Private Sector Dollars</td>
<td>$1,649,200</td>
<td>$2,037,648</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Broward County Revenue</td>
<td>$1,063,650</td>
<td>$1,063,650</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*As of publication date

The Alliance wishes to especially thank its private sector partners for their investment in the work of the Alliance in 2014-15! This investment, when combined with the investment of Broward County and the municipal partners who invested in the Alliance including Coconut Creek, Coral Springs, Dania Beach, Davie, Deerfield Beach, Fort Lauderdale, Hollywood, Miramar, Pembroke Pines, Pompano Beach, Sunrise, Tamarac and the Hallandale Beach Community Redevelopment Agency, allowed us to expand our marketing outreach efforts and grow our pipeline of relocation and expansion prospects.
The Alliance works with numerous South Florida business and community leaders to take a regional approach to economic development. Following are examples of regional initiatives undertaken in 2014-2015:

**Life Sciences South Florida (LifeSciencesSF.org)**

This initiative is focused on establishing an industry cluster in South Florida focused on life sciences, biotechnology, pharmaceuticals, diagnostics, and information technology. The initiative links the elements of the innovation ecosystem: research, entrepreneurship, venture capital, and life sciences companies, with a goal toward increasing research density and accelerating research commercialization. Additionally, the life sciences and biotechnology workforce required to support economic innovation is being strengthened by enhancing K-20 STEM education and talent development in the region.

**Six Pillars (SixPillarsBroward.org)**

A broad coalition of Greater Fort Lauderdale business, civic, government leaders and residents are working together to implement Broward’s Six Pillars strategic plan, which was developed in 2012. Six Pillars is a statewide initiative developed by the Florida Chamber Foundation, with a goal of helping communities throughout the state prosper and create high paying jobs by developing and implementing local visioning processes through the year 2030.

**South Florida: Your Global Business Connection (SOFLGlobalConnection.org)**

A joint effort among the Alliance, Miami-Dade Beacon Council, Business Development Board of Palm Beach County and Enterprise Florida to market South Florida as a choice location for business. Marketing brochures and DVDs are provided in five languages (English, French, German, Italian and Spanish) and a website, hosted by Nova Southeastern University, provides visitors from around the world a portal into South Florida’s economic development organizations. Additional information is being provided on the Alliance website in Portuguese and Indonesian.

**Southeast Florida Regional Partnership – Seven50 (Seven50.org)**

The Southeast Florida Regional Partnership is a voluntary, broad-based collaboration of more than 200 public, private, and civic stakeholders from the Southeast Florida region of Monroe, Miami-Dade, Broward, Palm Beach, Martin, St. Lucie and Indian River counties. The Partnership leverages resources and coordinates strategic long-term planning to drive competitiveness and prosperity for the region.

**Tech Gateway (TechGateway.org)**

A marketing campaign, with goals over the next 10 years for Broward County and South Florida to double the number of technology companies, be recognized as a world-class technology cluster and have a reputation for world-class university technical facilities and programs. The objective of this initiative is to recruit, attract and grow a high level tech workforce at the same time South Florida is enhancing its reputation as a technology hub. A new website (TechGateway.org) highlights South Florida technology companies on an interactive map. A social media and online advertising campaign is also being developed to attract business from identified industry sectors and to promote tech opportunities locally, regionally, and virally.

In addition to the above initiatives, the Alliance works with a number of other regional organizations on strategic planning initiatives and business climate projects such as iCoast, CIO Council, IT Palooza, Gold Coast Venture Capital Association, Mobile Technology Consortium and the Technology Foundation of the Americas.
An impressive group of national, out-of-state and local companies relocated and expanded in Broward County during FY 2014-2015, taking advantage of our strategic location, talented and well-educated workforce, favorable tax and business climate, and other amenities.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>COMPANY</th>
<th>CITY</th>
<th>TYPE OF FACILITY</th>
<th>SQ.FT. OF PROJECT</th>
<th>DIRECT CAPITAL INVESTMENT</th>
<th>JOBS CREATED</th>
<th>JOBS RETAINED</th>
<th>PRODUCT/SERVICE</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Choice Aerospace</td>
<td>Miramar</td>
<td>Aviation maintenance, repair and overhaul</td>
<td>37,500</td>
<td>$4,500,000</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>FAA/EASA approved repair station specializing in the repair of crew seats, PSU's pneumatics, O2, cargo systems, and waste systems</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Aero Accessories</td>
<td>Miramar</td>
<td>Aviation maintenance, repair and overhaul</td>
<td>27,500</td>
<td>$2,200,000</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>Provides repair solutions for fuel, hydraulic &amp; electro-mechanical components</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Allied General Industries, LLC</td>
<td>Pembroke Pines</td>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>69,000</td>
<td>$6,400,000</td>
<td>33</td>
<td></td>
<td>Brazilian company expanding manufacturing into the U.S. for domestic markets. Company develops and manufactures office supplies</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charter Schools USA</td>
<td>Fort Lauderdale</td>
<td>Office</td>
<td>40,092</td>
<td>$1,000,000</td>
<td>73</td>
<td>188</td>
<td>Charter School operator and management company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chiquita</td>
<td>Dania Beach</td>
<td>Office</td>
<td>19,000</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td>80</td>
<td></td>
<td>Headquarters for leading banana grower/distributor/wholesaler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ComCare</td>
<td>Plantation</td>
<td>Office</td>
<td>18,000</td>
<td>$500,000</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>Headquarters for comprehensive healthcare provider/specialty pharmacy</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>DPR Labeling LLC</td>
<td>Sunrise</td>
<td>Office/Manufacturing</td>
<td>2,478</td>
<td>$350,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Italian company manufactures labeling equipment such as label reminders, printers, label dispensers, slitters, etc.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Florida Fabrication Specialists Yacht &amp; Luxury, LLC</td>
<td>Dania Beach</td>
<td>Office/Manufacturing</td>
<td>3,000</td>
<td>$120,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Italian company manufactures high end parts for mega yachts. American branch of Italian company Fabbri Fiore</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hoerbiger Corporation of America, Inc.</td>
<td>Coral Springs</td>
<td>Office/Manufacturing</td>
<td>245,000</td>
<td>$56,600,000</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>357</td>
<td>Major manufacturer of compression systems for the natural gas industry. This location will also serve as the North American Headquarters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JKG Group</td>
<td>Deerfield Beach</td>
<td>Office</td>
<td>87,600</td>
<td>$2,100,000</td>
<td>85</td>
<td></td>
<td>Marketing support services company</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>JL Audio</td>
<td>Miramar</td>
<td>Office/Manufacturing</td>
<td>156,384</td>
<td>$9,400,000</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>294</td>
<td>HQ of US manufacturer of car, marine and home audio components</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Kapco Global</td>
<td>Tamarac</td>
<td>Distribution</td>
<td>50,000</td>
<td>$762,000</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>Aviation parts distributor with a portfolio supporting over 400,000 aerospace parts</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Polenghi</td>
<td>Deerfield Beach</td>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>24,047</td>
<td>$3,666,000</td>
<td>17</td>
<td></td>
<td>Italian company manufactures organic lemon juice containers for consumption</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>COMPANY</td>
<td>CITY</td>
<td>TYPE OF FACILITY</td>
<td>SQ.FT. OF PROJECT</td>
<td>DIRECT CAPITAL INVESTMENT</td>
<td>JOBS CREATED</td>
<td>JOBS RETAINED</td>
<td>PRODUCT/SERVICE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>-------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------</td>
<td>------------------</td>
<td>-------------------</td>
<td>---------------------------</td>
<td>--------------</td>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>-------------------------------------------------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pro Marine Boats USA</td>
<td>Dania Beach</td>
<td>Office/Manufacturing</td>
<td>4,000</td>
<td>$150,000</td>
<td>2</td>
<td></td>
<td>Venezuelan pleasure boat company establishing its American headquarters for the manufacture and sale of pleasure boats ranging from 30 to 46 feet</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renegade Furniture</td>
<td>Hollywood</td>
<td>Office</td>
<td>20,000</td>
<td>$2,250,000</td>
<td>20</td>
<td></td>
<td>Headquarters for large furniture wholesaler</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>RWC Group LLC</td>
<td>Pompano Beach</td>
<td>Office/Manufacturing</td>
<td>40,000</td>
<td>$3,087,000</td>
<td>54</td>
<td></td>
<td>Importer, manufacturer and assembler of firearms</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SATO Global Solutions, LLC</td>
<td>Fort Lauderdale</td>
<td>Office</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>$4,200,000</td>
<td>35</td>
<td></td>
<td>Computer systems design services</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sitel</td>
<td>Pompano Beach</td>
<td>Office</td>
<td>87,000</td>
<td>$2,300,000</td>
<td>350</td>
<td></td>
<td>Customer service center</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Strategic Brands Inc.</td>
<td>Pompano Beach</td>
<td>Office/Manufacturing</td>
<td>21,000</td>
<td>$2,300,000</td>
<td>10</td>
<td></td>
<td>Upscale cabinet hardware manufacturer</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SUNERA</td>
<td>Miramar</td>
<td>Office</td>
<td>2,000</td>
<td>$300,000</td>
<td>32</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>Leading provider of risk-based consulting including internal audit, IT audit, information security, corporate governance &amp; regulatory compliance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Syntac Coated Products</td>
<td>Deerfield Beach</td>
<td>Manufacturing</td>
<td>32,000</td>
<td>$3,708,000</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Designs and manufactures pressure sensitive adhesive products for the medical industry</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total Quality Logistics</td>
<td>Dania Beach</td>
<td>Office</td>
<td>50,484</td>
<td>$600,000</td>
<td>60</td>
<td></td>
<td>Freight brokerage firm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Uniform Advantage</td>
<td>Fort Lauderdale</td>
<td>Office</td>
<td>60,000</td>
<td>$7,459,000</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>Headquarters for company that develops and manufactures uniforms for businesses and hospitals</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wetherill Associates, Inc.</td>
<td>Miramar</td>
<td>Office/Distribution</td>
<td>36,000</td>
<td>$4,400,000</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>61</td>
<td>Develops and distributes after-market parts worldwide for the automotive industry</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
With 32,400 private sector jobs added in 2014, Broward County had the 2nd largest year-over-year percentage employment increase among all 32 metropolitan divisions in the U.S. The jobs were spread across a variety of industries, regional and Latin American headquarters and in various occupations such as professional and business services, aviation, global logistics, construction, leisure and hospitality, education and health care, and financial services.

The Alliance continued to assist local companies through our BRAVO (Business Retention and Visitation Outreach) program. 177 Broward County companies were visited by the Alliance in 2014-15, as we assisted with access to capital, workforce training opportunities, permitting and site location assistance.

The Alliance’s award-winning “Life. Less taxing.” television commercial, promoting Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County as a great place for businesses to relocate or expand, appeared on websites and other electronic media links of national/international targeted real estate, site selection and corporate real estate decision maker publications.

Charter Schools USA announced the relocation and expansion of its national corporate headquarters in Fort Lauderdale. The project will result in the addition of 73 new jobs at an average salary of approximately $60,000 along with 188 retained Florida jobs and a $1 million capital investment.

The Alliance was named 2014 Bronze Excellence in Economic Development Award honoree by the International Economic Development Council, and recognized for its “Life, Less taxing.” advertising campaign.

Alliance CEO Bob Swindell served as Chair of the Florida Economic Development Council.

JKG Group, Inc., a world-class marketing support services company, announced the relocation of its national corporate headquarters and production facility to Deerfield Beach. The project will result in the relocation of 85 existing jobs at an average salary of approximately $61,176 and a $2.1 million capital investment.

The Port Everglades Advocacy Team, a joint group of the Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance, Broward Workshop and Port Everglades Association, under the leadership of CEO Council member Terry Stiles, had a high-impact and busy year.

After 19 years, Port Everglades received word that they had a Final Chief’s Report from the Army Corps of Engineers, which was needed to move forward with port expansion efforts. A celebratory press conference was held with Congresswomen Debbie Wasserman Shultz, Frederica Wilson and Lois Frankel. Broward County Mayor Tim Ryan served as master of ceremonies. Speakers included Eric Roth, Premier Beverages and a member of the Port Everglades Advocacy Team, Florida Representative George Moraits who led efforts in Tallahassee and Port Director Steve Cernak who announced that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers had set aside $1.2 million from this budget year to help fund the next phase of the dredging project. The project is anticipated to create an estimated 4,700 total construction jobs and nearly 1,500 permanent direct jobs locally. The estimated cost is $374 million, which will be paid with Port Everglades revenue generated through port user fees, federal appropriations and state grants. No local tax dollars will be used for this project because Port Everglades is self-funded by an enterprise fund.

In the past year, the team has traveled to Tallahassee under the leadership of Mayor Tim Ryan and Commissioner Chip LaMarca, successfully supporting a transportation bill which was approved by the House Transportation and Port Subcommittee, providing an increase from $15 million to $25 million to benefit all Florida ports.
Alliance leadership and staff members participated in several national/international events that provided exposure to targeted industry companies and business location decision makers. Events included: Area Development Consultants Forum in Fort Lauderdale; Corporate Real Estate Executive Leaders Council in Fort Lauderdale; MEDICA 2014, the largest medical trade fair worldwide, in Dusseldorf, Germany; CoreNet Global’s North America Summit in Washington, D.C.; International Site Selector’s Guild annual meeting in Puerto Rico; the Janus Forum economic development meeting held at Amelia Island; Aviation events - MRO Americas in Miami, the Paris Airshow, and the ISTAT international aviation conference in Phoenix.

The Alliance continued to promote its “Platinum Cities” permitting excellence program to companies considering Broward County as a business location. The program was established to encourage Broward communities to make the permitting and inspections process more business friendly and competitive with other regions. Twenty Broward County cities have now been named “Platinum Cities.” The Alliance’s Permitting Action Team also continued to work with Broward County regarding implementing a county-wide centralized “ePermits” permitting process.

For 2015, the Alliance had the largest number of private member organizations in its history, an effort spearheaded by the Membership Development Department.

SATO Global Solutions, a foreign direct investment project from Japan, established its newly created global software subsidiary headquarters in Fort Lauderdale. The project includes 35 new jobs with an average wage of more than $87,798 (200% of the private sector average wage in Broward County), and a capital investment of $4.2 million. The Alliance competed for this project with Silicon Valley, Austin, Manhattan, and Miami.

The Alliance continued to take a leadership role in the Broward Six Pillars strategic visioning process. More than 350 community leaders and volunteers participated in the strategic planning effort, working together to make Broward County more competitive and to create high paying jobs through the year 2030. The Six Pillars Broward local planning and implementation process is being managed by Ron Drew, Alliance Senior Vice President of Marketing and Communications.

SealLand announced that it would locate its corporate headquarters in Miramar, creating 65 jobs and making a capital investment of $350,000. SealLand is a regional, containerized shipping company dedicated to the intra-Americas market.

The Alliance, Greater Fort Lauderdale Convention and Visitors Bureau, Broward County Office of Economic and Small Business Development, Marine Industries Association of South Florida and Starmark International hosted a luncheon of influential business leaders, media, consuls general and potential business location decision makers on the first day of the Fort Lauderdale International Boat Show. This was the first time this group had worked together during the Boat Show event. The Boat Show also donated a prime location booth where this same group welcomed those in attendance to learn why Greater Fort Lauderdale is a prime destination for both business and visitors.

Syntac Coated Products, a leader in custom-designed and manufactured pressure sensitive adhesive products announced it would expand its offices and manufacturing operations in Deerfield Beach, creating 20 jobs and investing $3.7 million. The company considered several factors in its selection of Deerfield Beach, including access to international airports, proximity to universities and a strong pool of employees.

OSM Aviation, Inc., a provider of flight crew employment and crew management services, announced it would expand its Fort Lauderdale operations with the hire of an additional 58 cabin crew members. This added to 108 crew members hired in the previous year.

Deerfield Beach-based Playwire Media announced plans to double its staff from 50 to 100. The company’s family of digital entertainment websites is one of the largest in the world.

**Magic Leap, Inc.** completed a $542 million Series B financing. The company will use the proceeds to accelerate product development, release software development tools, expand its content ecosystem, and commercialize its proprietary mobile wearable system. Financing was led by Google Inc.

Greater Fort Lauderdale was chosen as one of “America’s Best Cities for Global Trade” by *Global Trade* magazine. Fort Lauderdale was also selected one of the “Best for Export Assistance & Trade Missions,” and Fort Everglades was noted as one of the top “20 Ports We Love,” according to the magazine.

**Fassmer Service America,** a U.S. subsidiary of a German manufacturer of lifeboats and life-saving equipment for the maritime industry, relocated to a new 16,500-square-foot headquarters in Lauderhill.

Communications technology company **Harris Corp.** opened a new office in Sunrise with 41 software development engineers for tactical radios.

The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance redesigned and upgraded two of its major online assets and community resources: GFLAlliance.org, the online home of the Alliance, and GreaterFortLauderdaleProperties.com, the Alliance’s sites and buildings database of commercial properties in Broward County.

The **State of Florida** passed New York to become the nation’s third most populous state, according to the U.S. Census Bureau.

The Alliance launched a comprehensive economic development strategic and tactical planning project designed to identify targeted business sectors and build on a Headquarters Recruitment Strategy completed in 2009. **Boyette Strategic Advisors** (BSA), an economic development and public policy consulting firm that worked with the Alliance in development of the headquarters strategy, was engaged to conduct the new study. The completed study, titled **Target 2020,** will guide economic development efforts in the Greater Fort Lauderdale/Broward County area over the next five years. This project includes a thorough assessment of the area’s unique assets, which were obtained through both qualitative and quantitative research; a determination of the targeted business sectors that are the best fit for the area; and development of strategic and tactical recommendations.

The Alliance’s Mid-Year Luncheon, presented by FPL, featured a keynote address by **Florida Secretary of Commerce and President/CEO of Enterprise Florida, Inc.,** Bill Johnson. He gave an update on the current state of Florida’s economy and the work being done to attract new high wage jobs to Florida.

The **Kauffman Foundation,** a Missouri-based nonprofit studying trends in entrepreneurial activity, ranked the Miami-Fort Lauderdale area No. 2 on its list for startup business activity.

**GA Telesis,** one of the world’s largest commercial aerospace firms, announced the relocation of the GA Telesis Composite Repair Group from **Arizona to Fort Lauderdale.**

**Sitel,** a leading global customer care provider, announced that it is establishing a new customer experience center and would hire 350 full-time employees in Pompano Beach.

**Chiquita Brands International, Inc.** announced it was moving the headquarters of its banana division to Dania Beach from Charlotte, North Carolina. Approximately 70 to 90 jobs will be relocated and the company will take over 19,000 square feet of space at the DCOTA building in the City of Dania Beach.

**Hoerbiger** announced it will open a new North American manufacturing facility in Coral Springs and **create 420 new jobs.** The state-of-the-art plant in Coral Springs will feature the latest production engineering innovations and generate a $56.6 million capital investment in the region. The company will also **retain 357 employees** in Broward County.

The Greater Fort Lauderdale Alliance launched a 501(c)(3) non-profit foundation and announced its first major gift, **$25,000 from the Bank of America Foundation.** The purpose of the Alliance Foundation is to **provide an opportunity for business and community leaders to support specialized initiatives in the areas of education, job creation, workforce and economic development.** This includes building the community’s entrepreneurial ecosystem, supporting the **Six Pillars Broward County** long-range vision plan, and funding education and research projects to identify and close workforce skills gaps. This may be done through a tax-deductible charitable contribution.

**1st Choice Aerospace** announced the creation of 40 new jobs in Miramar. The company specializes in repairing pneumatics, crew seats, O2, fuel, cargo, and waste systems for commercial, cargo, and military aircrafts. 1st Choice Aerospace also plans to make a capital investment of more than $4 million in the local community.
BUSINESS IS BOOMING IN BROWARD!

Port Everglades Chief's Report Announcement

SATO Global Solutions Ribbon Cutting

Rick Case Kia Ribbon Cutting

SeaLand Grand Opening

Kellstrom Ribbon Cutting

GA Telesis Jobs Announcement