Josie Bacallao Hispanic Unity of Florida

Josie Bacallao is President & CEO of Hispanic Unity of Florida (HUF) an organization dedicated to guiding individuals on their journey toward their American dream. HUF is a 35-year old nonprofit serving 17,000 individuals from more than 25 countries every year in four languages. The agency's key program areas are: Education, Economic Development and Civic Engagement. Prior to this, Josie was Vice President/Marketing Director for the Sun-Sentinel Company and worked for The Miami Herald/el Nuevo Herald as their VP/Marketing for more than 25 years.

Hispanic Unity was recognized in 2016 with the **Affiliate of the Year Award** from the **National Council of La Raza (NCLR)** and in 20015 the agency was recognized with the **Southeast Affiliate of the Year Award**. NCLR is the largest Latino advocacy and civil rights organization in the country.

Josie is a board member of CareerSource, Greater Ft Lauderdale Alliance, BB&T Advisory Board and Nonprofit Executive Alliance of Broward. She has also served as Past Chair of the Board of the Broward Public Library Foundation and was Vice-Chair of Holy Cross Hospital among many others.

Josie has been honored with the **Silver Medallion from NCCJ**; she was named to the **Broward County Women's Hall of Fame** and received United Way of Broward County's Human **Services Professional Award**. Most recently, Legal Aid and Service of Broward County bestowed the **Russell E. Carlisle Advocacy Award** on Josie and three other community leaders for their work in creating pro bono immigration clinics. Josie also received one of the most meaningful awards of her career, **The Jim Moran Foundation Award**, for her work leading a nonprofit. In 2015, the Hon. Mario Diaz-Balart recognized Josie and her contributions during Women's History Month. His comments were added to the March 26, 2015 **Congressional Record**.

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