



In support of the Friends of the Miami Marine Stadium's magnificent efforts and accomplishments in establishing historic status, upcoming restoration, and future use of the Miami Marine Stadium, the following programmatic use for the facility is proposed:

Team Row, a Miami-based organization dedicated to the growth of the sport of rowing and its benefits throughout the community, is a member organization of USRowing, the sports national governing body, and a member of its Task Force on Affordability, Accessibility, and Diversity. We at Team Row propose to utilize the Marine Stadium as a venue to conduct community-based rowing programs during non-peak hours (Monday through Friday). Such use would not only serve the demand for sports opportunities and youth development in many of the Downtown/Little Havana/Coconut Grove neighborhoods, but will also not interfere with weekend activity and events at the Stadium.

Recently, Team Row projects have included Corporate Teambuilding Workshops, neighborhood outreach at local events, community service hour opportunities and career day presentations for high-school students, summer camps, curriculum-based after school programs, and much more.

Team Row's outreach partner for its community-based projects is Adults Mankind Organization, Inc., a leader in providing social services to the residents of Miami-Dade County for over 20 years.

Amongst Team Row's current projects is an after school program funded by The Children's Trust. This curriculum based-program not only focuses on the sport of rowing, but uses it as a vehicle to bring prosperity to children's lives.

Recently this program was recognized by the Foundation for Rowing Education and its Row4All outreach initiative. Row4All works with clubs and organizations across the country to support rowing programs for youth who are often overlooked by traditional rowing programs – children who are ethnically diverse, economically challenged, physically disabled, or otherwise under-served.

We all know that in today's environment of technological gadgets and gizmos, engaging teens

in programs that incorporate physical activity is not an easy task. Team Row has not only begun to engage its participants in exercise and fitness, but it has gone a step further. We have incorporated into our outreach rowing programs components such as literacy, critical thinking, and social skills building. Our goal is not only to improve the physical well being of our participants, but to enhance their overall academic performance and self-esteem.

Our young participants engage in an array of activities, ranging from organized exercise workouts to journaling. Guest speakers also provide interactive discussions that open their eyes and minds to new concepts and a wealth of knowledge. Our participants realize just how valuable they can be in their own community.

The target population for our youth development programs contrasts from that of traditional rowing programs. Outreaching to the general population allows Team Row to bring the greatness of the sport together with the uniqueness of our city to young residents who may not otherwise have the ability to experience it.

Over the past two summers, Team Row conducted very successful summer camps, with nearly 70 young participants each year. Just this past summer, the Team Row Summer Camp received local accolades. The camp was selected as Program Spotlight by The Children's Trust, and then was featured on the CBS4 local news as a highlight program within the community. While we are both honored and humbled to receive this type of attention, more rewarding is the positive impact made on our young residents.

In just the last couple of years, many Team Row participants have offered beautiful testimonies, while yearning for more instruction and experiences. In keeping with its mission of growing such a remarkable sport and its benefits to the community, we at Team Row would embody the opportunity to do so over an ideal and safe body of water for rowing and from the ideal monument for water sports in our community, the Miami Marine Stadium.

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