



Ready Set Connect!

The game that helps people engage and build social empathy, while supporting others!

MONTHLY SPOTLIGHT: SOCIAL YAKS IS BUZZING!

Social Yaks is taking South Florida by storm! This exciting card game is helping families as well as organizations connect and build stronger relationships. Whether played by strangers, colleagues, friends, or family members, Social Yaks is the perfect game to get to know others in a deeper way! Players have experienced endless laughs, heartfelt feelings, while creating lasting memories. There is no limit to the healthy connections that you can build in your home or workplace!

Thank you to our stakeholders, supporters, community partners, schools, and business leaders that have joined us in experiencing the firsthand joy of playing Social Yaks! A special thank you to Amigos for Kids, Big Brothers Big Sisters of Miami, Branches, Inc., John A. Ferguson Senior High School, ChamberSOUTH, and MCCI, Inc. for your support.

[WATCH TESTIMONIALS](#)

When you purchase Social Yaks, all proceeds will directly benefit youth and families in South Florida through supporting the expansion of programs and services that serve low-income communities in Miami-Dade and Broward Counties. Get yours today!

[SHOP TO SUPPORT!](#)

Be Strong in the Community

We Make Every

- [Voice Count](#)
- [Relationship Count](#)
- [Contribution Count](#)

Meet **LISA GREER**, President of the Board of Directors for Be Strong International

Lisa believes that building healthy relationships and thriving families will lead to stronger communities. In this video she shares her journey of how she got involved, and how others can make an impact in the community.



[WATCH HER INSPIRATIONAL TESTIMONIAL](#)



WE ARE IN THE NEWS!



[CLICK TO SEE FULL SERIES](#)

BE STRONG SHOW SERIES

A Heartfelt Series Hosted by Be Strong International CEO, Michelle Shirley

Thanks to the support of our friends at Miami's Community Newspapers, watch as Michelle Shirley, interview special guests and discuss all things relationships, leadership, community, and more! Our latest guests include: Brittnie Bassant, President/CEO of ChambersOUTH, Juan Camargo and Oscar Diaz, from Be Strong International.

Tune in on September 21st to welcome special guest Felipe F. Basulto, Market President - Retail in South Florida for TD Bank.

NEW \$100K GRANT FROM THE STATE OF FLORIDA

Funds Will Support Expansion of Youth Programs in South Florida

With the initiative of Senator Ana Maria Rodriguez, Representative Vance Aloupis, and approved by Governor Ron DeSantis, these funds will be used to teach youth in Miami-Dade County skills needed to obtain holistic wellbeing through the program Project H.O.P.E. (Healthy Outcomes through Prevention Education). Through this program, youth ages 10 to 18, will learn character building skills...

[READ MORE](#)



SENATOR ANA MARIA RODRIGUEZ, VICTOR LOPEZ, DISTRICT SECRETARY AND MICHELLE SHIRLEY

FEATURED ARTICLE

SOCIAL EMPATHY BRINGING COMMUNITIES TOGETHER

The mission of bringing communities together is more vital today than ever before. The building block to unifying our communities begins with what is called social empathy. Social empathy is the ability to understand people by perceiving or experiencing their life situations and, as a result, gaining insight into structural inequalities and disparities. As author Elizabeth A. Segal states in her book "Social Empathy,"

Click below to read more on the importance of Social Empathy.

[READ MORE](#)



WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO!



MARRIAGE MATTERS RECEIVES NATIONAL AWARD

Excellence for Data Submission "The Captain's Data Award 2022"

Be Strong International's Marriage Matters Program was recently granted the 2022 Captain's Data Award, presented by the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services Healthy Marriage & Responsible Fatherhood initiative. During the National Annual Propel Conference, with a fun Star Trek Theme, BSI was honored for excellent performance and flawless data collection from September 30, 2021, through June 30, 2022.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

BLOCK PARTY BACK-TO-SCHOOL COMMUNITY FAIR

Coming Together To Support Youth and Families of South Miami-Dade

In this once-in-a-year opportunity, over 70 community organizations and businesses came together to organize this event, where there were 1,902 attendees and over 1,750 bookbags with hundreds of school supplies distributed to students. Community partners also provided health services, employment assistance, basic needs support, games, activities, prizes, entertainment, and much more, all completely free of cost! Take a look at some of these sweet moments captured during the event!



[VIEW GALLERY](#)



[VIEW GALLERY](#)

JOHN A. FERGUSON SENIOR HIGH SCHOOL GETS SOCIAL!

Team Building For Faculty And Staff

John A. Ferguson Senior High School, the largest public school in Miami-Dade County, participated in Social Yaks Team Building before welcoming students back to school in August. Laughter filled the room as their leadership team built healthy connections with new and tenured faculty and staff. Among the group were teachers, counselors, administrators and coaches. Check out the images in our gallery!

NONPROFIT ENGAGES STAFF WITH SOCIAL YAKS!

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Miami Staff Breaks The Ice And Go Deeper!

Big Brother Big Sisters of Miami hosted an ice breaker event with our Social Yaks game. During the experience they learned more about each other and it brought team-building to the next level. There were so thrilled with the game that they purchased 100 units for everyone at the staff meeting to continue the journey and share with others.

[VIEW GALLERY](#)



[VIEW THE EXPERIENCE!](#)

SOCIAL EMPATHY IN HIGH PLACES

Executive Women from Diverse Backgrounds Engaged For The First Time With Social Yaks

Professionals from diverse backgrounds (private, public, corporate sectors, entrepreneurs) from Miami-Dade County played Social Yaks, hosted by Yanyn San Luis, Founder + CEO of The WIN Woman. The unfolded interaction and deep empathy to one another, was astonishing while embracing their differences.

[WHAT'S COMING UP!](#)



REGISTER TODAY!

FREE MARRIAGE MATTERS SEMINAR

Join Us To Know More On How To Keep The Spark Live On Sept. 23rd!

Do you want to rekindle the flame and communicate better with your spouse? Then this FREE seminar is for you!

Join this FREE seminar to hear from our panel of marriage experts and learn the best tools to take your marriage to the next level! Meet Tom Kellis, renowned marriage coach and guide, Dr. Eduardo Padilla Berdugo, family medicine expert and Dr. Annette Williamson, expert in coaching couples in Miami-Dade.

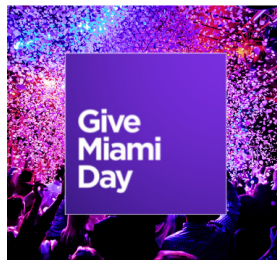
Spaces are limited, register today to save your seats.

JOIN OUR FOOD DRIVE ON OCTOBER 13TH!

Come Help Make A Difference Our Community!

Don't miss out on an opportunity to give back to your community! Our next monthly food drive is on Thursday, Oct. 13th. Thanks to our collaboration with Farm Share Florida, The Office of Commissioner Kionne McGhee District 9, and Miami-Dade County, every month we're able to feed up to 500 households. First come, first serve!

VOLUNTEER NOW!



GIVE MIAMI DAY RETURNS ON NOV. 17TH!

Mark Your Calendar And Support BSI!

Give Miami Day 2022 is one of the largest annual giving events in the nation. On this day, you make a philanthropic impact by supporting our community's local nonprofits.

In honor of Be Strong International's 30th anniversary, this Give Miami Day, please donate and support our cause, to continue moving youth and families from brokenness to wholeness through high-impact community programs, such as food drives, back to school supplies drives and mental health services to underserved communities in South Miami-Dade.

STAY UP TO DATE!



FOLLOW US ON INSTAGRAM