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BE STRONG INTERNATIONAL MONTHLY NEWSLETTER VOL.21 NOVEMBER 2024

**GIVE MIAMI DAY 2024**

HEALING OUR COMMUNITY,  
ONE HEART SKILL AT A TIME

▶ **SAVE THE DATE**

**11.21.24**

EARLY GIVING STARTS ON SUNDAY, NOV. 17TH

Be Strong International

bestrongintl.org | @bestrongintl

### ONE WEEK UNTIL GIVE MIAMI DAY: HELP US MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

We're thrilled to announce that Give Miami Day is just one week away—the largest giving event in Miami!

On November 21st, YOU have the chance to make a lasting impact on the lives of children in our community!

When you support Be Strong International, you're helping us provide essential resources to children and youth who face loneliness and isolation. Together, we can address their emotional needs, strengthen connections, and empower them to thrive.

Please donate TODAY or donate on Give Miami Day! Early giving starts November 17th

[DONATE TODAY!](#)

[DONATE ON GIVE MIAMI DAY!](#)

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

**BLACK FRIDAY Sale**

**\$24.99**

SAVE \$5

**SOCIAL YAKS**

Offer valid 11/01/24 - 12/03/24

#### MAKE THIS HOLIDAY SEASON MEMORABLE WITH SOCIAL YAKS!

**\$5 Off for Limited Time Only! Give the Gift of Love and Connection!**

Whether you're on a family trip, gathering with friends, or spending cozy nights in, Social Yaks is the perfect way to connect and spark meaningful conversations.

From **November 1st to December 3rd**, enjoy **\$5 off each deck** — just in time for your Holiday adventures! Use Social Yaks for laughter, bonding, and new memories with your loved ones.

All proceeds go to Be Strong International's youth and families' programs.

[SHOP TO SUPPORT TODAY!](#)

### WE'RE IN THE NEWS



#### BE STRONG WAY: A NEW SYMBOL OF HOPE AND EMPOWERMENT IN PALMETTO BAY

**Community Leaders and Be Strong International Celebrate the Unveiling of a Street Dedicated to Resilience and Transformation**

It was a historic day as we unveiled 'Be Strong Way' in Palmetto Bay a street that now symbolizes hope and empowerment for our community. We were deeply honored to celebrate this milestone with Miami-Dade Mayor Daniella Levine Cava, Palmetto Bay Mayor Karyn Cunningham, and our inspiring CEO, Michelle Shirley. This recognition underscores Be Strong International's commitment to transforming lives through education, support, and resilience-building at every step.

Thank you to Miami Community Newspapers and Miami-Dade County Public Schools for helping spread the word.

[READ MORE](#)



#### EMPOWERING LIVES: A CONVERSATION WITH ARLENE PETERSON OF THE WOW CENTER ON THE BE STRONG SHOW

Our CEO and Chief Heart Officer, Michelle Shirley, sits down with **Arlene Peterson**, Executive Director of the WOW Center, for an inspiring and heartfelt conversation. She spoke with sincerity and thoughtfulness about the vital work the WOW Center does — offering support, guidance, and encouragement to adults with developmental disabilities. Arlene also

WATCH VIDEO

### THE BE STRONG SHOW

shared exciting plans for the Center's future. During their chat—and while playing Social Yaks—the conversation deepened, offering the audience a glimpse into Arlene's personal life and journey. Hosted in partnership with Miami's Community Newspapers.



### BUILDING COMMUNITY IMPACT: LEADERSHIP MIAMI ON THE BE STRONG SHOW

Learn more about Ozzy Martinez and William C. Diaz-Rousselot insights into the Leadership Miami program and more!

Check out The Be Strong Show featuring William C. Diaz-Rousselot, Chair of Leadership Miami, and Ozzy Martinez, a proud alumnus and member of Maximize Miami. They shared incredible insights into the Leadership Miami program and the powerful impact of getting involved with nonprofits and their causes. Thanks to their unwavering commitment and initiative, we successfully distributed 2,000 bookbags to youth in our community! Leadership Miami, hosted by The Greater Miami Chamber, continues to create lasting change in the lives of professionals, nonprofits, and the community. Hosted in partnership with Miami's Community Newspapers.

WATCH VIDEO

### THE BE STRONG SHOW



### BREAKING BARRIERS: LESLY SIMON ON WOMEN'S IMPACT IN THE AUTOMOTIVE INDUSTRY

Lesly shares her heartfelt story in our latest episode!

Our CEO and Chief Heart Officer, Michelle Shirley, welcomes Lesly Simon, Community Engagement Director of South Dade Automotive Group. Lesly shares her experiences as a woman in the automotive industry, discussing how she's breaking barriers and creating meaningful community impact. The conversation is filled with insights on leadership, community involvement, and the evolving role of women in traditionally male-dominated fields. With deep questions, laughter, and a game of Social Yaks, this empowering episode is both inspiring and enjoyable.

WATCH VIDEO

### THE BE STRONG SHOW

## TESTIMONIALS



### GET INTO THE SOCIAL YAKS EXPERIENCE!

Hear What Our Community Has to Say about Social Yaks!

Our Social Yaks sessions have become a powerful and popular platform for sharing stories and building connections within our community. Through engaging and heartfelt conversations, participants are opening up about their personal experiences, offering insights, and inspiring one another. These testimonials reveal the impact of coming together to discuss meaningful topics, fostering a supportive environment where everyone feels heard. Each session brings unique perspectives that enrich our community and deepen our bonds. Don't miss the chance to read the latest testimonials from our Social Yaks participants – their stories might resonate with you!

WATCH TESTIMONIALS



## WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO



### THANK YOU MIXER RECAP!

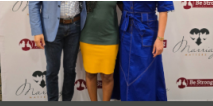
This was an exceptional event, characterized by an atmosphere of joy and appreciation. We extend our sincere gratitude to Miami Heat and Burnie and our gracious MC, Nathalia Tasama, Miss Region Andina Universe, for their presence, which significantly enhanced the evening. To our esteemed donors and sponsors, your unwavering support was instrumental in the success of this gathering, we made this for you! The memories created during this event are truly invaluable.

VIEW GALLERY




### MARRIAGE MATTERS SEMINAR 2024

The Marriage Matters seminar night was a truly heartwarming occasion, brimming with loving couples and poignant moments. Attendees were captivated as our esteemed



guest speakers, Judith John, Jaime, and Liliana Garcia, shared their invaluable wisdom and heartfelt insights, creating an atmosphere that resonated deeply with every couple present. Excitement filled the air as thrilling prizes were awarded, encouraging lively participation and getting everyone out of their seats to celebrate together. It was an unforgettable event that fostered connection and joy among all who attended.

[VIEW GALLERY](#)




**SERVING THE COMMUNITY: OCTOBER'S FOOD DRIVE**

The Be Strong team remains dedicated to our mission with our monthly food drives, and our latest event was a remarkable success! We were thrilled to distribute free, nutritious food packages to over 500 families in need, ensuring that they have access to healthy meals and essential nourishment.

Our heartfelt gratitude goes out to Farm Share FL, whose generous support provided the food that sustains our community during these challenging times. We also want to recognize our AMAZING volunteers, whose hard work and commitment are the driving force behind this initiative. Their enthusiasm and compassion shine brightly, making a significant difference in the lives of those we serve. Together, we are building a stronger, more supportive community!

[VIEW GALLERY](#)




**EXCITING DAY WITH OUR AFTER SCHOOL KIDS!**

Before stepping into the Miami Dolphins stadium, our Be Strong after-school kids enjoyed an incredible tailgate experience, setting the stage for a day full of excitement! *Thanks to the Miami Dolphins and Football Unites*, they had the chance to take part in classic tailgate fun, with music, food, and games, mingling with Dolphins fans and feeling the buzz of game day. The tailgate gave our kids a true taste of the pre-game atmosphere, filling them with energy and Dolphins pride before cheering on their team in the stadium. Huge thanks to Football Unites and the Miami Dolphins for making these unforgettable moments possible!

[VIEW POST](#)




**BUILDING CONNECTIONS AND INSPIRING LEADERS**

**Social Yaks at Miami Dade College Kendall and Homestead Campuses**

Exciting times at both MDC Kendall and Homestead Campuses! Our Social Yaks sessions brought together SAS students who connected through engaging discussions, meaningful exchanges, and lots of laughs. The teams at both campuses dived deep into conversations, bonding and building community along the way. It's inspiring to see the next generation of leaders exploring the power of communication, collaboration, and connection. Thank you to everyone who made these sessions unforgettable!

[VIEW POST](#)

**POSITIVE WORKPLACE CULTURE**



**DIVE INTO OUR QUARTERLY TEAM BUILDING SESSION**

Recently, the Be Strong team stepped into *The Great Escape Room*, where the energy was high, and the memories created were unforgettable! Between tackling exciting challenges and collaborating as a team, each manager shared insights into their programs, giving us all a renewed appreciation for our mission and the impact we're achieving together. From solving mind-bending puzzles to bonding as a team, this retreat offered the perfect mix of fun, learning, and connection. Here's to the moments that made this retreat truly one to remember.

[WATCH VIDEO](#)

**WHAT'S COMING UP!**



**GIVE MIAMI DAY IS ALMOST HERE!**

On November 21st, you have a powerful opportunity to make a difference in the lives of children in our community!

**Donate today or pledge your support for Give Miami Day!**

**Save the Date: 11.21.24**

**Early Giving Starts: 11.17.24**

[MORE INFORMATION](#)



### ATTENTION BROWARD PARENTS: FAMILY STRENGTHENING PROGRAM AVAILABLE FOR FREE!

Struggling to connect with your teen(s)? We're here to help!

Join our Family Strengthening Program and discover the tools to build stronger, healthier relationships with your children. Our FREE services include:

- Parenting Workshops
- Positive Interactions
- Counseling & Coaching
- Parent Support & Education

[LEARN MORE](#)



### DECEMBER HOLIDAY FOOD & TOY DRIVE: VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Join us this December for our special Holiday food and toy drive in collaboration with Farm Share FL and Global Empowerment Mission (GEM)! We'll be at Demps Park on December 12th, the second Thursday of the month, helping to serve up to 500 families with nutritious food packages and spreading a little extra cheer for the season. If you're looking to give back, we'd love your help as a volunteer. Know someone who could benefit? Invite them to join us for this joyful event!

[VOLUNTEER HERE!](#)

## JOIN OUR TEAM!

Available Positions at Be Strong International

### JOIN OUR TEAM WE'RE HIRING!

- View all available positions at Be Strong International

### FAMILY & MARRIAGE DIVISION

- Community Connector

### YOUTH DIVISION

- Certified Teacher - BSASC
- Site Instructor - BSASC
- Site Supervisor - BSASC

### PARENTING DIVISION

- Success Coach - Pembroke Pines
- Success Coach - Palmetto Bay

## STAY UP TO DATE!



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Our mailing address is:  
9730 E Hibiscus Street, Suite B Palmetto Bay, FL 33157

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