

## **Summary of Coronavirus Pandemic Response Program**

## The GMCVB's ongoing response to the Coronavirus is built on a three-prong approach:

- 1. **Educate:** Engage all our stakeholders and arm them with the latest information and resources to make informed decisions; amplify messaging of governmental entities on latest measures;
- 2. **Mitigate:** Adjust sales, marketing, PR activities in a sensitive and responsible fashion; Help maintain business levels where appropriate to blunt the impact to the industry and employees; Identified resources through partners such as the Greater Miami and the Beaches Hotel Association and agencies such as the United Way, South Florida Workforce, etc.
- 3. **Stimulate:** Deploy a properly timed, comprehensive, yet flexible business recovery plan to help restore business activity as industry segments resume normal operations. This is calibrated on an ongoing basis to align with any updated executive orders regarding openings and closures.

## Key Activities and Programs:

- Legislative Action (March 6) With support of Miami Beach, successfully defeated legislation that would have severely limited County funding used by the GMCVB for tourism promotion. That represents app. 75% of the GMCVB budget and allows us to leverage the City investment which is app. 19% of the GMCVB budget.
- **Organizational Adjustments (April 4)** Implemented staffing reductions (10%), salary reductions (up to 25%) and suspended sales incentives to allow us to redirect resources to our pre-recovery and recovery programs.
- Pre-Recovery and Recovery Programs:
  - Coronavirus Information Center (March 2) Established a portal for ongoing updates and advisories for our visitors, meeting planners and other partners.
  - ✓ GMCVB / City of Miami Beach Hotel Forum / Toolkit (March 9) Worked with the City and the Health department to update hotels and developed new signage and collateral materials as part of a toolkit for hotels to use prior to shut down.
  - MiamiEats (March 19) Program to help restaurants and their employees by showcasing those that are offering take-out and delivery and supporting front-line responders through the Miami Beach-based Meals for Heroes initiative.
  - Essential Lodging Program (March 22) Developed and maintained an up-to-date database of hotels that were open for essential lodgers to assist front-line and first responders; worked with emergency operation managers to facilitate process.
  - ✓ Industry Help Program (March 25) List of all available relief programs and recovery efforts, including our partnership with United Way Operation Helping Hands, FIU Hospitality School, GMBHA and others.
  - MiamiSalutes (March 27) Secured and showcased special offers from the hospitality industry and others to recognize the heroic efforts of our front line and first responders.
  - ✓ VirtualMiami (March 30) Portal dedicated to showcasing local virtual events, webcams, videos, and downloadable backgrounds for remote meetings to keep destination top of mind.
  - Miami Beach Resource Center Support (April 28) Repurposed GMCVB staff to help support Miami Beach efforts to connect with small business to determine operational status and educate on available assistance resources.
  - ✓ Destination Pledge (May) working closely with the MBCC, hotel association, airport, transportation, and restaurant partners, helped develop a destination wide pledge to help instill customer confidence in the destination's commitment to new protocols; leveraging MB Standard program
  - ✓ Miami Shines (June 1) Our main tourism recovery campaign platform showcasing the *shine* of our people, places, neighborhoods and experiences. Primarily targeting local, regional and drive markets as well as meeting planners. Includes traditional, digital, social media along with videos in English, Spanish, Creole showcased via #MiamiShines. Efforts also includes a dedicated effort showcasing exclusive Miami Beach offers via www.MiamiShines.com/MiamiBeach.
  - Miami Shines Video Series (June 8<sup>th</sup>) To further support our Miami Shines recovery campaign, the GMCVB is developing a series of video spotlights of individuals and small business inhospitality that are "shining" examples of inspiration.

Concurrent to the above efforts, the GMCVB Convention Sales team has been in constant engagement with Meeting Planners and working closely with the MBCC to rebook any cancellations and has now restarted physical site visit for new meeting and convention in 2021 and beyond.

For a more detailed recap of the GMCVB's ongoing efforts during the pandemic, please review the GMCVB Tourism Recovery Presentation (ppt) and the GMCVB Coronavirus Flash report.

