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FOR IMMEDIATE PUBLICATION
PHOTOS ATTACHED

HISPANIC BUSINESS INITIATIVE FUND HOSTS ANNUAL EVENT TO RECOGNIZE SUCCESSFUL BUSINESSES

(ORLANDO, FL) September 10, 2015 – Three local Hispanic-owned businesses were honored today at the Hispanic Business Initiative Fund of Florida’s (HBIF) Success Stories Luncheon. The event is the organization’s annual fundraiser to recognize outstanding entrepreneurs who received technical assistance from the nonprofit organization and have demonstrated success and growth since then.

Approximately 540 Central Florida government, business and community leaders joined the clients and volunteers of HBIF at the event. Orange County Mayor Teresa Jacobs and City of Orlando Mayor Buddy Dyer spoke during the event, as did representatives from OUC, Bank of America, Florida Blue, Orlando Health, Orlando Magic, Univision Orlando, and Walt Disney Parks & Resorts, which sponsored the event.

The entrepreneurs honored at the event were selected based on the growth and economic impact of their business. “Helping Hispanic entrepreneurs to become owners of successful companies is HBIF’s main purpose. We are proud to contribute to their growth,” said Jan Aspuru, HBIF Board Chair. “As we listen to their stories, the level of passion, commitment, hard work and resourcefulness that enabled them to turn their dreams into prospering businesses.”

These were the three Hispanic-owned businesses recognized:

- **4 Pets Mobile (Owners: Joneyra & Johnny Laya)**
Offer mobile pet grooming services, especially convenient for people with several or easily-stressed pets, with mobility problems, or who simply prefer the convenience of having their dogs, cats, birds, and even pigs or horses groomed at their home.
- **Construemax (Owners: Edson Brito III, Edson Brito Jr. & Edson Brito IV)**
Specialized in the restoration of commercial and residential properties with damages caused by water, fire, Storms, smoke or mold. They respond to all different types and sizes of emergencies, from limited damage such as a burnt kitchen to an incident that affected several apartments or buildings. With the skills and tools they possess, they can restore almost anything, from furniture to family photographs. The business also counts on a fleet of vehicles that allows them to serve the I-4 corridor.

- **ECX Electronics Corp. (Owners: Ricardo & Rick Ballester)**

This father and son duo develops electronic control systems for a variety of industries. Their specialty is producing control panels for emergency response vehicles, such as ambulances. They recently began exporting their products to Latin American countries, aided by their Hispanic roots and Spanish language skills.

The 2015 Success Stories Luncheon was made possible thanks to these sponsors' support: **Presenting Sponsor:** OUC - The Reliable One. **Premier Sponsor:** Nissan. **Host Sponsors:** Bank of America, Florida Blue, JP Morgan Chase, Orlando Health, Orlando Magic, Univision Orlando, Walt Disney Parks & Resorts, and Wells Fargo. **Champion Sponsors:** AT&T, Florida Hospital and University of Central Florida. **Honorary Sponsors:** Conrad Santiago & Associates with Ameriprise Financial, Darden, El Osceola Star, Fifth Third Bank and Telemundo Orlando.

About HBIF

The Hispanic Business Initiative Fund of Florida, Inc. (HBIF) is the leading Hispanic nonprofit economic development organization in Florida specializing in providing free and bilingual business development to entrepreneurs trying to establish or expand their business. For more than 24 years HBIF has promoted the Hispanic entrepreneur, offering programs and creating partnerships to advance economic development and foster job creation. HBIF is headquartered in Orlando and has offices in Miami, Tampa and Kissimmee. For more information, visit www.HBIFFlorida.org.

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****ADDITIONAL PHOTOS AND VIDEO AVAILABLE UPON REQUEST****