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Media Contact: Lexie Savedge, [lexie@saltermitchellpr.com](mailto:lexie@saltermitchellpr.com), Cell: 813-482-5506

**Dr. Jose L. Dotres Honored with 2025 Impact Advocate Award**  
*Miami-Dade Schools Superintendent Recognized for Transformative Leadership  
and Active Advocacy for Florida's Youth*

**TALLAHASSEE, FL – March 27, 2025** – Children's Week Florida™ proudly announces Dr. Jose L. Dotres, Superintendent of Miami-Dade County Public Schools (M-DCPS), as the recipient of the 2025 Impact Advocate Award. This prestigious award recognizes individuals who are actively making significant contributions to improving the well-being of Florida's children, teens and families through dedicated advocacy and leadership.

Dr. Dotres is a trailblazing educator and champion for all children. He is committed to ensuring all students have access to high-quality education and essential resources. As the leader of the nation's third-largest school district, serving more than 330,000 students, he has helped shape policies that support literacy, teacher retention, mental health services and STEM education for underserved populations.

With firsthand experience as a former English Language Learner, Dr. Dotres understands the challenges many kids face. His leadership has driven policy changes that support equitable opportunities, ensuring students and families have the support services they need to succeed. His advocacy extends beyond Miami-Dade, as he has testified before the Florida Legislature on critical issues such as early childhood education and literacy interventions.

"Dr. Dotres is making such an impact in South Florida and throughout the state by speaking on issues that impact our youth," said Erin Smeltzer, President and CEO of the Children's Forum. "His leadership and passion for the future of Florida's children, particularly in underserved communities, is inspiring. It's clear that his legacy will be defined by the work he's done, and I look forward to seeing what else he has in store for his career."

Dr. Dotres joins last year's inaugural recipient, James R. Haj of the Children's Trust, in being recognized for outstanding efforts to support children and families in Miami-Dade County.



The Impact Advocate Award will be presented at the Annual Children's Week Florida Advocacy Dinner and Awards Ceremony on Monday, April 14, where state leaders, policymakers and child advocates gather to celebrate those shaping the future for Florida's youth.

For more information about Children's Week Florida™, please visit [childrensweek.org](http://childrensweek.org) or call 850-487-6300.

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**About Children's Week Florida™:** Children's Week Florida™ is the largest annual event held in the state that celebrates its commitment to children, youth, and advocates. The event, held each year at the Capitol during the legislative session, seeks to elevate the diverse needs of Florida's children and youth to our state leaders while acknowledging their achievements.