



Enhancing the quality of life in Central Palm Beach County through education, economic development, and leadership initiatives.

To Whom It May Concern,

Keiser University is extremely important to our community because the active participation of the University progresses the momentum of the Central Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce's economic climate.

The Central Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce is a not-for-profit, 501c6, regional chamber that encompasses one-third of Palm Beach County. We are a regional chamber with a footprint that covers the eastern areas along the beaches to the western regions where the sugar cane economy prospers, our Chamber is the nexus of the emerging and established businesses in Palm Beach County. Over the years, Keiser University has been engaged with the Chamber, but in the past two years Keiser has become an active board member, specifically through the advocacy of President Kimberly Lea. Kimberly has sponsored many of our Economic Luncheons, and served on the panel this past fall at our Workforce Readiness forum. Keiser was also instrumental at helping us launch our Young Entrepreneurs Academy Program by hosting us at their Flagship Residential location at the onset year.

Because of Keiser's active membership, the Chamber is able to understand the latest currents of our local economy in regards to the needs and interests in the job market. By including many of their faculty and exceptional students Keiser has established a valuable and active participation in the Chamber and therefore in the business community. For example, at our Sports and Tourism Economic Luncheon, Keiser University brought three students majoring in that field to introduce themselves to the local community, and get a unique on the job experience. Keiser truly prepares students in the class and out of the class, for the students are clearly job ready upon graduation.

Keiser University's awareness of what our Palm Beach County community needs in the realm of workforce has become essential to the low unemployment rates in our area. This has a direct relationship with the Chamber of Commerce's membership and impact in the community, as well. When our members are seeing the constant progress of job development and young graduates staying and working in Florida, the business and healthcare climate thrives. With new ideas, the community advances. With ample training, the immersion into a job field is fast and effective, and essentially saves companies generous amounts of time and money. Because of Keiser's continued involvement, they are helping contribute to the success of the Chamber and the community.

Sincerely,

Mary Lou Bedford
Chief Executive Officer
Central Palm Beach County Chamber of Commerce