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**PHILLIP AND PATRICIA FROST MUSEUM OF SCIENCE AWARDED RESILIENT COMMUNITIES PROGRAM GRANT
FROM NATIONAL FISH AND WILDLIFE FOUNDATION AND WELLS FARGO**

*Grant to Support Programming and Development on Coastal Restoration and
Climate Adaptation at Sites Around Miami-Dade County*

MIAMI, FL (December 11, 2017) – Today, the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science announced that it has been selected by the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and Wells Fargo as one of eight non-profit organizations nationwide to receive a grant aimed at increasing community capacity to plan and implement resilience projects and improve the protections afforded by natural ecosystems by investing in green infrastructure and other measures across the United States. The grants were awarded through the Resilient Communities program, a \$10 million, four-year partnership between NFWF and Wells Fargo. Frost Science, in partnership with the City of Miami and Miami-Dade County offices of resilience and other local non-profits, was awarded \$289,000 to restore 17 acres of living shorelines, create a unique exhibition about sea level rise adaptation in South Florida and work with youth in three urban communities facing threats from sea level rise to tell their stories about sea level rise adaptation in their communities and identify solutions.

The grant will further the work of Frost Science's Museum Volunteers for the Environment (MUVE) initiative, a volunteer-based coastal habitat restoration and citizen science effort. The project has engaged over 8,000 local Miami residents in restoring over eight acres of coastal habitat since 2007. Most recently, MUVE, along with Miami-Dade County and the City of Miami, completed the restoration of 12 acres of continuous dune, freshwater wetland and hardwood forest at Virginia Key North Point. This area is working to stabilize the coastline and provide a protective barrier from storm surge and sea level rise. This habitat was essentially spared by Hurricane Irma in September 2017 due to the work of volunteers who created a resilient living shoreline. In 2014 and 2015, 35,000 dune plants were planted by volunteers and another 3,800 hardwood trees were planted westward of the dune.

The Resilient Communities program grant will allow the museum to pursue similar restoration efforts at three new coastal sites and over 17 acres around Greater Miami and the Beaches (GM&B). As part of the 100 Resilient Cities Program- Pioneered by the Rockefeller Foundation, of which GM&B is a member city, the museum will restore the first three of 100 total coastal resilience sites over 10 years, thereby showing that natural shorelines are more suited to withstand sea level rise and storm surge from hurricanes.

“We’re honored to be recognized by the Resilient Communities program to not only fortify our coastline but engage Miami residents in the process,” said Fernando Bretos, Curator of Ecology at Frost Science and Director of MUVE. “It is important to focus on environmental restoration programming and we are committed to using this platform to educate and work on improving conditions for our natural resources here in South Florida and around the globe.”

The 2017 Resilient Communities grant recipients were selected from a highly competitive pool of more than 280 applicants. Frost Science earned this grant due to its proven success working with local partners and volunteers to increase green infrastructure.

About the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science (Frost Science)

Located in Downtown Miami’s Museum Park, the Phillip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science is a leading science museum dedicated to sharing the power of science, sparking wonder and investigation, and fueling innovation for the future. Sitting on four acres, the 250,000-square-foot museum is divided into four buildings: the Frost Planetarium, Aquarium, and the North and West Wings. At Frost Science, visitors can explore the world of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) in an experiential setting with interactive exhibitions and unique shows. Frost Science is supported by the Miami-Dade County Department of Cultural Affairs and the Cultural Affairs Council, the Miami-Dade County Mayor and Board of County Commissioners of Miami-Dade County. This project is supported by the Building Better Communities Bond Program and the City of Miami. It is sponsored, in part, by the State of Florida, Department of State, Division of Cultural Affairs and the Florida Council on Arts and Culture. The museum is accredited by the American Alliance of Museums, is an affiliate of the Smithsonian Institution and a member of the Association of Science and Technology Centers. Learn more at frostsscience.org. Follow Frost Science on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter @frostsscience.

About the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation

Chartered by Congress in 1984, the National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) protects and restores the nation’s fish, wildlife, plants and habitats. Working with federal, corporate and individual partners, NFWF has funded more than 4,500 organizations and committed more than \$3.8 billion to conservation projects. Learn more at www.nfwf.org.

About Wells Fargo

Wells Fargo & Company (NYSE: WFC) is a diversified, community-based financial services company with \$1.9 trillion in assets. Wells Fargo’s vision is to satisfy our customers’ financial needs and help them succeed financially. Founded in 1852 and headquartered in San Francisco, Wells Fargo provides banking, insurance, investments, mortgage, and consumer and commercial finance through more than 8,500 locations, 13,000 ATMs, the internet (wellsfargo.com) and mobile banking, and has offices in 42 countries and territories to support customers who conduct business in the global economy. With approximately 268,000 team members, Wells Fargo serves one in three households in the United States. Wells Fargo & Company was ranked No. 25 on Fortune’s 2017 rankings of America’s largest corporations. The Chronicle of Philanthropy ranked Wells Fargo No. 3 on its most recent list of the top corporate cash philanthropists. In 2016, Wells Fargo donated \$281.3 million to 14,900 nonprofits and Wells Fargo team members volunteered 1.73 million hours with 50,000 nonprofits. Wells Fargo’s corporate social responsibility efforts are focused on three priorities: economic empowerment in underserved communities, environmental

sustainability, and advancing diversity and social inclusion. News, insights and perspectives from Wells Fargo are also available at Wells Fargo Stories.

About Resilient Greater Miami & the Beaches

Resilient Greater Miami & the Beaches (Resilient GM&B) is a collaboration formed in 2016 by Miami-Dade County, the City of Miami Beach and the City of Miami to respond to the region's top resilience challenges. After a competitive process, GM&B was selected to join the 100 Resilient Cities program (100RC), pioneered by the Rockefeller Foundation, granting funding and support for Chief Resilience Officers (CROs), as well as access to partners in areas such as innovative finance, technology, infrastructure, land use, community and social resilience.

The Miami Beach, City of Miami and Miami-Dade County CROs are currently working to create a tactical roadmap that expresses GM&B's resilience priorities and outlines specific initiatives for short-, medium-, and long-term implementation. This strategy will reflect the region's collective needs and its capacity to address them, as well as identify the support and services needed to implement that vision. Visit Resilient305.com or follow us on social media at [@Resilient305](https://twitter.com/Resilient305) to learn more.

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