



DO THE RIGHT THING OF MIAMI, INC.

C/O CITY OF MIAMI POLICE DEPARTMENT

400 N.W. 2ND AVENUE / ROOM 201-J / MIAMI, FL 33128

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STUDENTS WHO REPORTED SUICIDE NOTE HONORED BY MIAMI POLICE AND THE DO THE RIGHT THING PROGRAM

MIAMI, FL – October 15, 2025 – As school safety takes the national spotlight, the Do The Right Thing Program will honor nine outstanding students out of over 1,000 nominees, who serve as an inspiration to the community and are being honored for doing the right thing by Miami Police. Amongst the honorees are Brandon Gonzalez and Joseph Ochoa, two 7th graders who are being recognized for immediately taking action and reporting a friend's suicide note they saw posted on Instagram. Other honorees include a cancer survivor, a student deescalating a fight between adults, and students taking action to prevent theft, bullying, drug use, and self-harm.

The ceremony takes place on Thursday, October 16, 2025 at 10:00 am in the auditorium of the Chief Clarence Dickson Police College, 350 NW 2nd Avenue.

Do The Right Thing, Inc. is a non-profit community-based program operating in cooperation with the Miami Police Department and other local law enforcement. The program serves school age youth throughout Miami-Dade County by recognizing positive accomplishments and behavior. Each month of the school year students are recognized for their positive decisions and rewarded with prizes including a tablet, plaque, a Do The Right Thing t-shirt and bumper sticker, two tickets to a Miami Marlins game, a Papa John's certificate, gift cards, passes to Zoo Miami, HistoryMiami Museum, Philip and Patricia Frost Museum of Science, and Island Queen Cruises, and letters from United States Senator Ashley Moody as well as Congresswoman Maria Elvira Salazar and Miami-Dade State Attorney Katherine Fernandez Rundle. Two Special Recognition students are also selected and win trips to Rapids Water Park and Washington, D.C. Since its inception, Do The Right Thing has directly impacted over 270,000 youth across Miami-Dade County. Building positive relationships between police and youth at an early age can make all the difference!

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September 2025 Do The Right Thing Winners

Rael Colimon

Rael courageously confronted two peers stealing from another student and responsibly reported the incident to a trusted adult, ensuring justice and safety.

Colomba Gaete

A cancer survivor, Colomba shows incredible strength and perseverance by working hard to close academic gaps and staying positive through her recovery.

Brandon Gonzalez & Joseph Ochoa

When they saw a friend post a suicide note online, Brandon and Joseph immediately reported it, allowing timely intervention that ultimately saved their friend's life.

Demetrious Land

Demetrious intervened and stopped a bullying incident on the school bus, calmly diffusing the situation and reporting it to school staff to ensure his classmate's safety.

Gabriela Liermo & Daisha Munnings

Gabriela and Daisha noticed a classmate self-harming in class and quickly informed their teacher, allowing staff to intervene and help the student in crisis.

Ezra Perez

After a history of behavioral issues, Ezra turned his life around and proved his growth by helping school staff deescalate a fight between adults during an event.

Alain Sanchez

Alain witnessed fellow students smoking in the bathroom and responsibly reported the drug use to administrators, helping ensure a safer, healthier school environment.