



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Pinellas County Urban League Becomes the Urban League of Florida Suncoast, Expanding Services Across Several Counties

Historic merger with Urban League of Hillsborough County unites two of the region's longest-standing civil rights organizations; new INROADS College Links partnership launches in Tampa this October

ST. PETERSBURG, FL. — September 17, 2026 — Pinellas County Urban League is announcing that it is officially becoming the **Urban League of Florida Suncoast (ULFS)**, following its merger with the Urban League of Hillsborough County. This historic step brings together two organizations with decades of shared commitment to empowering communities and changing lives, now united under one name, one mission, and one collective vision for the region. A public launch event with media availability will be held on Tuesday, September 22, 2026, at 12:00 PM at Stetson Tampa Law Center (1700 N. Tampa Street, Tampa, FL)

The newly formed Urban League of the Florida Suncoast will continue serving residents across several counties in the region: Pinellas, Hernando, Pasco, Marion, Lake, Sumter, and Seminole. It will add Hillsborough and take a phased approach to serving Sarasota, Manatee, Charlotte, and Lee.

The Urban League of Florida Suncoast will continue building on this shared legacy of economic empowerment through four core focus areas:

- Education, Youth and Community Leadership
- Workforce Development and Entrepreneurship
- Housing and Community Development
- Health and Quality of Life through Social Justice and Civic Engagement

"This merger is about more than combining two organizations — it's about building regional capacity, changing any lingering siloed mindsets, and combining decades of trust, legacy, and impact into one unified force for our region. One Region. One Mission. One Collective. One Urban League. Together, we are positioned to work with other partner organizations to create even greater opportunities for the communities we serve.", said Nikki Gaskin-Capehart, president and CEO of the Urban League of Florida Suncoast.

By combining strengths, resources, and expertise, the two legacy organizations will be positioned to expand their reach, strengthen their impact, and better serve youth, seniors, individuals, and families throughout the region — while preserving the core programming both communities have long relied on.



New INROADS Partnership Expands into Hillsborough County

INROADS, the nationally recognized career and college readiness program, has been at the forefront of building pathways to career opportunities through robust career readiness programs, real-world learning experiences, and a life-long support system. Once a strong youth development provider in Tampa, the program returns in partnership with ULFS to equip talented students with the skills, tools, and network needed for long-term success.

As part of the expansion, services in Hillsborough County will begin in October 2026. The Urban League of Florida Suncoast will serve as a satellite site in Tampa for INROADS College Links, extending the program's Orlando Chapter career and college readiness programming to high school students across the Tampa Bay region. Interested students are encouraged to apply at <https://inroads.org/apply/>. Students are asked to state that you were referred by Urban League Florida Suncoast when completing the application.

Marking the Moment

The organization will mark this new chapter with a public launch event on Tuesday, Sept. 22, 2026, at the Stetson Tampa Law Center in Tampa, bringing together donors, community partners, elected officials, and residents to celebrate what Urban League leadership has called an exciting new chapter made possible by the continued investment of longtime supporters.

For more information about the Urban League of Florida Suncoast, its programs, and how to get involved, visit ULOFS.org

Media availability and interviews regarding this announcement will follow the launch at the media center located in Stetson Tampa Law Center (1700 N. Tampa Street, Tampa, FL).

ABOUT URBAN LEAGUE OF FLORIDA SUNCOAST

Pinellas County Urban League, established in 1977, and Urban League of Hillsborough County, established in 1922, have joined forces to become a powerhouse Urban League Affiliate. Our vision is to be a trailblazing beacon in the community, building generational wealth, changing systems, and shifting mindsets. We will produce resilient social enterprises, programs, and initiatives designed to energize, empower, and transform lives.

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