

For Immediate Release Media Contact: Vanessa Bandrich Email: <u>Vbandrich@legalservicesmiami.org</u>

## Legal Services of Greater Miami's Panel Discussion on The Impact of Cyptocurrency on Your Business & Our Community

<u>Miami</u> - Legal Services of Greater Miami (Legal Services) hosted a groundbreaking panel discussion, "The Impact of Cryptocurrency on Your Business & Our Community," featuring Miami leaders. **Generously hosted by Greenberg Traurig, the Business Breakfast Panel on March 15<sup>th</sup>, 2022** focused on the opportunities and challenges cryptocurrency presents, specifically for low-income individuals and small businesses, as well as its impact on our community. The distinguished panel members included **Francesca de Quesada Covey**, Tech Innovation Advisor, Miami-Dade County and Partner, TheVentureCity and **Alpen Sheth**, **Ph.D.**, Senior Principal, Head of Policy & Research, Borderless Capital. **Matt Haggman**, EVP, Opportunity Miami, Miami-Dade Beacon Council, moderated the panel discussion on this emerging financial instrument and explored whether it offers an opportunity to bridge economic and social justice gaps.

Both panelists highlighted the **importance of dymistifying cryptocurrency**. They agreed that cryptocurrency will have growing importance in our national and in our local South Florida economies. Despite the opportunities that cryptocurrency presents for our community, the panelists agreed that **educating members of our community is key** so they are in a better position to understand what cryptocurrency is and the implications of using it for financial transactions. **Financial literacy is crucial to empowering our community to make financial decisions in this increasingly complex and evolving environment**. To that end, both Dr. Sheth and Ms. De Quesada Covey are engaged in projects that aim to educate the community about cryptocurrency, as well as make it more accessible.

Legal Services is a non-profit law firm that advocates to remove legal barriers to economic prosperity and to achieve a more just and equitable community. *"Many in our community are participating in the growing cryptocurrency marketplace, and it is important to have these conversations to bring awareness and ensure the overall economic stability of families, small businesses and our community are protected in this new environment,"* said Legal Services Executive Director Monica Vigues-Pitan.

Legal Services conveys its sincere appreciation to Greenberg Traurig for sponsoring the event and all speakers for their important insight and contributions. At the event, Legal Services also announced it is **now accepting tax-deductible, cryptocurrency donations** through a partnership with The Giving Block. This initiative provides supporters with an additional avenue to make a difference in the lives of low-income families facing harsh realities, such as housing instability and income and food

**insecurities, made worse by the COVID-19 pandemic's financial impact**. To make a cryptocurrency gift, visit <u>legalservicesmiami.org/donatecryptocurrency</u>.

To view the panel discussion on demand, visit tinyurl.com/BusinessBreakfastPanel.

## About Legal Services of Greater Miami

Legal Services of Greater Miami is the largest provider of broad-based civil legal services for the poor in Miami-Dade and Monroe and is recognized in the state and in the nation as a model legal services program. In any given year, Legal Services provides services which benefits almost 20,000 vulnerable members of our community who have nowhere else to turn for help – women, children, seniors, veterans returning from combat, people with disabilities, low wage workers and the homeless--who have problems in the areas of tenants' rights, homeownership, health and income maintenance, employment, special education, tax, and consumer rights. For more information, visit <u>www.legalservicesmiami.org</u> and connect with us on <u>Facebook</u>, <u>Instagram</u>, <u>LinkedIn</u>, and <u>Twitter</u>.

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