Statement From The National Haitian American Elected Officials Network (NHAEON) On The Passing of His Holiness Pope Francis

The National Haitian American Elected Officials Network (NHAEON) is deeply saddened by the passing of His Holiness Pope Francis. A beloved spiritual leader and moral beacon, Pope Francis's profound commitment to justice, compassion, and human dignity reached far beyond the walls of the Catholic Church. His leadership inspired individuals from all walks of life, regardless of faith, and his life's work will continue to echo in the hearts and minds of millions around the world.

Pope Francis's ministry was defined by an unwavering dedication to serving those on the margins—those often forgotten or ignored by society. He showed us the power of humility and empathy, reminding us that true leadership comes from serving others with a compassionate heart. Through his words and actions, he championed the poor, the vulnerable, the immigrant, and the oppressed. These are the values that deeply resonate with many within the Haitian and Haitian American communities.

As an organization that represents the interests of Haitian Americans across the United States, NHAEON sees Pope Francis's legacy as a call to continue our collective work toward justice, equity, and human dignity. His emphasis on solidarity, particularly with those facing hardship and displacement, reflects the struggles many in our community have faced and continue to endure. His message of peace, compassion, and advocacy for the most vulnerable aligns deeply with the values that guide us in our mission to uplift and empower Haitian Americans.

Our thoughts and prayers are with the faithful worldwide as they navigate this difficult loss. Pope Francis's passing leaves a void, but his teachings will live on, inspiring future generations to pursue justice, equality, and compassion in all aspects of life. May his legacy continue to motivate each of us to live with kindness, to serve with humility, and to advocate for those who need our voices the most.

May Pope Francis find eternal peace, and may his example continue to guide us as we work toward a better, more compassionate world for all.

Honorable Mary Estimé-Irvin,
Councilwoman, North Miami, FL
Chairwoman, NHAEON