

TALLAHASSEE HONORS CONGRESSWOMAN CARRIE P. MEEK WITH STREET NAMING



The City of Tallahassee honored Congresswoman Carrie Pittman Meek by naming a street in her honor. South Bronough Street between FAMU Way and West Palmer Avenue has been renamed Carrie Pittman Meek Street, continuing the legacy of the legislator who grew up in the Allen Subdivision neighborhood, just steps away from Florida A&M University (FAMU).

"Carrie Pittman Meek dedicated her life to opening pathways that would help others improve their lives and communities – through her work as both an educator and stateswoman. It is my hope that honoring her name so prominently in her former neighborhood and near FAMU's campus will inspire the next generation of leaders," Mayor John E. Dailey said.

The idea to rename a street in honor of Meek was conceptualized by her family. The proposal was presented to the Tallahassee City Commission and the Leon County Commission, which collaborated to bring it to fruition.

Meek, the granddaughter of an enslaved woman, was born in 1926. She was the youngest of 12 children of Willie and Carrie Pittman, owners of the Pittman Boarding House, a residence for college students. Instilling the importance of education in their children was important to the Pittmans, who lived on the lower level of the two-story house.

Meek graduated from the original Lincoln High School on Brevard Street. She earned a degree in physical education and biology from what was then Florida A&M College for Negroes. At that time, African Americans were not allowed to attend graduate schools in Florida, so two years later, in 1948, she received a master's degree from the University of Michigan. Meek went on to become an educator and public servant.

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She taught at FAMU, taught and coached basketball at Bethune-Cookman College (now Bethune-Cookman University) and was a longtime administrator at Miami-Dade College.

She served from 1979 to 1982 in the Florida House of Representatives, chairing the education appropriations subcommittee, and then served from 1982 to 1992 in the Florida Senate. Continuing her public service, Meek was elected to the United States House of Representatives for Florida's 17th congressional district (Miami-Dade County) from 1993 to 2002. She was the first African American since the 1800s elected to represent the state in Congress. Upon taking office, as a freshman Democrat on the House Appropriations Committee, Meek was tasked with helping her district recover from the devastation of Hurricane Andrew. Over the years, she advocated for the poor and the elderly and championed education, housing and health care – issues she called "the springboards."

LUCIA DAVIS-RAIFORD SITS DOWN WITH STATE ATTORNEY KATHERINE FERNANDEZ-RUNDLE'S GUN VIOLENCE INTERVENTION TEAM





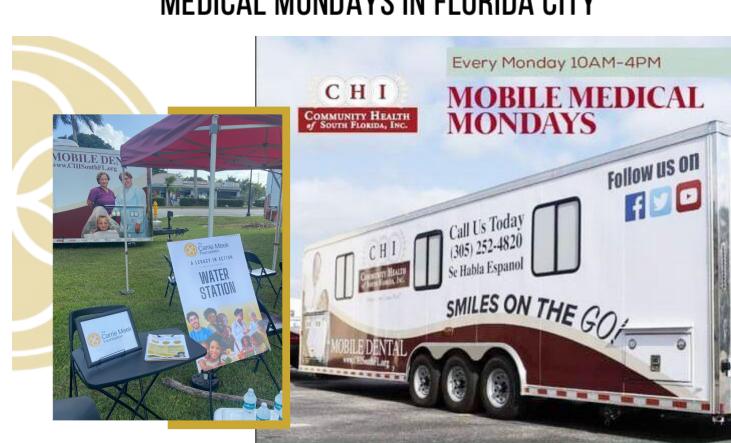
Davis-Raiford, President and CEO of the Carrie Meek Foundation and COO, Matthew Beatty, to discuss ways to partner on their Community-Based Violence Intervention Initiatives.

The partnership will assist with supporting safer communities throughout Miami-Dade County by

State Attorney Katherine Fernandez-Rundle and members of her leadership team hosted Lucia

recognizing local grassroots organizations and bridging the gaps between resources and intended populations who are most in need.

THE CARRIE MEEK FOUNDATION SUPPORTS MEDICAL MONDAYS IN FLORIDA CITY



at Mobile Medical Mondays. For the next year, people will have the opportunity to receive quality health and dental care in Florida City.

Mobile Medical Mondays is the result of a collaboration initiated by the Carrie Meek Foundation

Residents of South Miami-Dade who want to see a medical professional will be able to seek help

(CMF) with the City of Florida City, Community Health of South Florida (CHI) and the Florida Department of Health.

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Miami-Dade County. This local community committee addresses health issues for children. She also serves as the Education and Communication/Community Action Network Coordinator for the Jasmine Project, a program that provides wraparound services to reduce infant mortality rates in Miami Gardens, Opa-Locka, and North Miami. Additionally, Esther serves as the founder and director of the Metro Mommy Agency Doula Mentorship program where she provides ongoing mentorship to 27+ doulas located in Florida, Georgia, and Hawaii and for the Southern Birth Justice Network doula mentees.

the Advanced Doula Skills Training to better support high-risk doula and breastfeeding clients who struggle with diabetes, high

Currently, Esther is working to increase breastfeeding rates & reduce infant mortality as the co-lead for the Healthy Baby Taskforce, a subcommittee of the Consortium for a Healthier

blood pressure, anemia or dehydration.

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health and housing.





