

## ***INNER CITY CHEERLEADING PROGRAM MAKES HISTORY AGAIN AND WINS ITS SECOND BID TO POP WARNER'S REGIONAL CHEERLEADING CHAMPIONSHIP***

**OCTOBER 21, 2013 - (Miami, Florida)** – What if the cheer movie *Bring It On*, actually happened in your hometown? Well it has! On Sunday, October 20, 2013, the Coconut Grove Lady Titans made their second debut in the Greater Miami Pop Warner Local Cheerleading Championships and came home with two 1<sup>st</sup> Place and one 2<sup>nd</sup> Place trophies. Now the spirited squads are headed to Orlando to vie for the Southeast Regional Cheer Championships.

This local championship marks the first time that the Coconut Grove Cheer program has ever placed first in a competition since its inception. This is a great accomplishment not only for the participating athletes and coaches, but for the community at large. "It has been a long time coming but we've arrived. The girls and the cheer staff put their hearts and souls in this and make it look easy – but it's not. The parents and friends of the cheer program stand behind us 110% which means so much. I want to thank everyone that was involved and even those who wanted to be and for whatever reason couldn't" says Cheer Commissioner, Nikenna Benjamin.

Now the hard part begins. With annual cuts to funding and rising expenses, the Lady Titans need help covering their basic food, lodging and travel expenses.

The Titans Cheer Program is composed of 40 young ladies, ages 6-14, who have been loyal and hardworking throughout the entire season. Now they just want a chance to defend their hard earned title.

"It's been a long wait and a lot of effort put into the Coconut Grove Cheer Program bringing it to this level. This is a great experience for our children to make history," said team Grand-parent, Elaine Taylor.

The wins were well-deserved and Nikenna credits faith in God and hard work as the reasons they were victorious.

"I know what God's favor is and what He is capable of doing. I'm over joyed for my girls and my coaches because I know this is the result of obedience and hard work paying off," Nikenna said. "Everyone has worked so very hard and we will do our very best to raise the funds so that we may continue on to Orlando."

For more information about Coconut Grove Lady Titans Cheer Program and how you can help support the ladies exhibit their spirit, contact Nikenna at 305-546-1153.