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**CORAL GABLES CHAMBER OF COMMERCE HONORS EIGHT AMAZING WOMEN LEADERS AT THE 2014 AXA ADVISORS BUSINESSWOMEN OF THE YEAR AWARDS**

**Coral Gables, FL** – The Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce honored excellence in business by celebrating eight outstanding women at the 2014 AXA Advisors Businesswomen of the Year Awards on Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>. This signature awards program of the Chamber recognizes women who achieve success in their business or profession, as well as a commitment to serve as role models for other women.

"We are very proud and honored to once again present and sponsor the Businesswomen of the Year Awards," said Luis Chiappy, Regional Executive Vice President of AXA Advisors. "Our company works towards recognizing the particular needs of businesswomen, and women in general. With that goal in mind, we have designed a series of programs and specialized financial plans to help women take control of their finances and their financial future."

Summer Knowles, reporter for CBS4 / MY 33, served as the Mistress of Ceremonies and introduced the finalists in each of the eight categories: Entrepreneur, Corporate Leader, Philanthropist, Non-Profit Professional, Retailer, Restaurateur, Health Care Professional and Hospitality Leader, along with a special recognition of the Women's Chamber of Commerce of Miami-Dade in recognition of their 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

The following outstanding women were honored as winners at the 2014 AXA Advisors Businesswomen of Year Awards:

**Outstanding Non-Profit Professional Award – Sponsored by Baptist Health South Florida**  
Virginia Jacko, Miami Lighthouse for the Blind & Visually Impaired

**Outstanding Retailer Award – Sponsored by Frames USA + Art Gallery**  
Lynn Sampson, Oceanview Shades & Drapery

**Outstanding Restaurateur Award – Sponsored by Credomatic Merchant Services**  
Cindy Hutson, Ortanique on the Mile

**Outstanding Health Care Professional – Sponsored by U.S. Century Bank**

Yolangel Hernandez-Suarez, FIU – Herbert Wertheim College of Medicine

**Outstanding Hospitality Professional Award – Sponsored by the Greater Miami Beaches & Hotel Association**

Lina Santiago, American Airlines

**Outstanding Entrepreneur Award – Sponsored by AXA Advisors, LLC**

Conie Ensor Goudie, Gymboree Play & Music

**Outstanding Corporate Leader Award – Sponsored by AXA Advisors, LLC**

Donna Abood, Colliers International South Florida

**Outstanding Philanthropist Award**

Kerry Gruson, Shake-A-Leg Miami

This year's sponsors were: AXA Advisors, LLC, Credomatic Merchant Services, U.S. Century Bank, Baptist Health South Florida, The Clevelander, Coral Gables Country Club, Frames USA + Art Gallery, Rene Ruiz, Sir Speedy and South Florida Business Journal.

**About the Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce**

The Coral Gables Chamber of Commerce represents more than 1,500 members and is the second largest business association in Miami-Dade County. Our mission is to foster and enhance the economic interests of the Coral Gables community, while advancing the quality of life of our members, partners, neighbors and visitors. For more information on our Chamber, please visit [www.coralgableschamber.org](http://www.coralgableschamber.org) or follow-us on Facebook at [www.facebook.com/coralgableschamber](https://www.facebook.com/coralgableschamber).

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