

FULFILLMENT OF GOVERNMENT PROGRAM

Economic Development

- Following the stabilization of the economy, there have been several signs of progressive recovery, such as, the creation of 27,600 new jobs (net) from August to December of 2010, along with increases in retail sales, automobile sales and the rebound of the housing market.
 - Credit ratings on the rise:
 - **Moody's Investors Service:** Towards the end of 2008, the Central Government's credit rating was on the verge of being classified in the junk bond category, with a rating of "Baa3". By April of 2010, Moody's positively upgraded its rating to "A3".
 - **Fitch Ratings:** On January of 2011, Fitch gave the Puerto Rico Government's General Obligation bonds a "BBB+" rating, with a stable perspective.
 - **Standard & Poor's:** for the first time in almost three decades, in November 2010, Standard & Poor's announced a positive outlook for Puerto Rico. In March 2011, S&P also elevated the Puerto Rico Government's General Obligation bonds to a "BBB" rating, marking the first rating increase in 28 years.
 - In just over two years, the government's deficit has been reduced from 43.6% in January of 2009 to 10.9% in March of 2011.
- Out of a total of **\$6.943 billion** in ARRA funds, over **\$4.856 million** have been distributed, both in direct benefits to the people of Puerto Rico as well as for the development of public infrastructure;
- Through the Local Stimulus Plan "PEC", over **\$500 million** (\$335 million in infrastructure) funds were appropriated, of which **\$233 million** or **47%** have been disbursed. **\$303 million** have been reassigned for immediate investment in areas such as transportation, tourism, public-private partnerships, the Integrated Permits System and the "Development for the People" initiative.
- The administration launched a world-class **Public-Private Partnership** initiative which is facilitating more than \$3,000 billion in investment, and enabling the creation of thousands of jobs in the development of key public infrastructure projects such as roads, schools, transportation, and others;

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- The government is implementing a **Strategic Model for a New Economy** in which the spirit of innovation and the initiative of our people - not the government - is the engine that spurs economic development and growth.

Infrastructure and Public-Private Partnerships ("APP")

- Recognizing the central role of the construction sector in economic development, this year the Fortuño administration will launch infrastructure projects with a total investment that reaches **\$1.5 billion**.
- In Public-Private Partnerships focused on school modernization, 15 Public-Private Partnership bids totaling **\$135 million** have already been awarded. These projects include not only the complete rehabilitation of schools, but also the establishment of long term partnerships for the maintenance of schools. This in addition to projects already underway, such as the concession of **freeways PR-22, PR-5, PR-52 and PR-20** and the concession of the **Luis Munoz Marin International Airport**, among others.
- All these infrastructure initiatives, combined with other **strategic projects**, will result in investments in each and every one of the island's regions and will ensure that Puerto Rico's ongoing economic development is better balanced. These projects include the Golden Triangle, (including the Bahia Urbana initiative and the Convention Center District); the Green Triangle (the rehabilitation of the former Roosevelt Roads Naval Station, Vieques and Culebra); the Science District (the Science City and Comprehensive Cancer Center initiative); the Port of the Americas in Ponce and the Aguadilla International Airport.
- 23 water-related infrastructure projects have been completed, for a total investment of \$160 million, benefitting 750,000 subscribers;
- The construction of 46 repair and improvement projects were initiated as well as public housing remodeling projects, with a projected investment of \$174 million benefitting more than 8,500 families;
- Projects to control flooding in the La Plata River and the Margarita Canal of the Puerto Nuevo River have commenced, with a projected investment of over \$75 million;
- A program to repair and improve public buildings all over the island was launched, with investment totaling more than \$70 million;
- The construction of 38 public roads was initiated, with a total investment of \$165 million.

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- DTOP launched the Roads Optimization Program in the metropolitan area, with the aim of repaving and improving the most transited avenues. Investment of \$8 million.
- The new Puerto Rico Construction Code was adopted; having been updated for the first time since 1999.
- New Uniform Rules for Public Works Contracting were adopted, which will result in saving both time and money in public works construction projects.
- Obstructions which impeded optimum use of Pier #3 in San Juan were removed, using funds from the local economic stimulus plan ("PEC").
- Fares for the Urban Train (*Tren Urbano*) were reduced to \$0.75 and AMA bus routes were optimized, achieving better usage and record monthly usage in September 2010, with 977,787 tickets sold.

Small and Medium-Sized Businesses ("PYMES")

- The Economic Development Bank approved over 825 loans totaling over \$256 million for **small and medium-sized businesses**.
 - The Economic Development Bank's finances have improved, as evidenced by a reduction in loan defaults from 35% to 23.8%, and net income of \$11.2 million.
 - The **Entrepreneurial Movement** (*Movimiento Empresarial*) program was launched in four municipalities, with 20 agencies offering support to participating small and medium-sized businesses in order to facilitate job creation and retention. Over 10,000 people have benefitted from this program. During a summit held in October 2010, there were 5,000 participants, over 75 exhibitors, and alliances were formed with major associations.
 - The **Development for the People** (*Desarrollo Para el Pueblo*) program has been established to sponsor the development of small businesses. \$5 million has been designated for the program and 22 cases representing \$414,000 have been approved thus far.

Housing

- The housing market has been **given a boost**. In comparison with the same period in 2009, in 2010 there was a 16.68% increase in the total amount of existing housing units sold and a **51.83% increase in the total amount of new construction housing units sold**. New incentives

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are being offered in order to facilitate the ability of families to fulfill their dream of having their own home, and foster investment in this important sector of the economy.

- Law 132—Stimulating the Housing Market
 - Mortgage Insurance Program
 - Real Estate Sales Stimulus Program
 - Rental Stimulus Program
- Sales generated by Housing Finance Authority's COMBO program (consisting of the Second Mortgage and the Bonus for Closing Costs and Down Payment Programs (Allocation of \$155 million)
 - As of February 28, 2011, the COMBO program generated \$1.775 billion in sales, with an impact on 13,194 housing units.
- Results for the Second Mortgage Program on its own, as of February 28, 2011
 - 3,072 second mortgages have been awarded (totaling approximately \$40.5 million)
 - \$472 million generated in sales
 - \$45 million allocated
 - \$4.5 million still available
- Results for the Bonus for Closing Costs and Down Payment Program on its own, as of February 28, 2011
 - 12,744 participants, \$71.2 million awarded in bonuses and \$5,600 average award
 - \$1.6 million generated in sales
 - 21% of participants have taken the COMBO (second mortgage and closing costs)
 - \$110 million allocated
 - \$28.8 million still available

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- Combo for Both Programs, as of February 28, 2011
 - 13,194 participants (23.7% new housing units)
 - 1.7 million in sales (23.7% new housing units)
 - \$134,000 average sales Price
- Law 132—Results New Construction Housing Units
 - 1,617 units sold from September 2010 to February 2010
 - 1,065 units sold from September 2009 to February 2010
 - 52% increase in sales of new construction housing units
- Law 132—Results Existing Housing Units
 - 4,885 units sold from September 2010 to February 2010
 - 4,521 units sold from September 2009 to February 2010
 - 8% increase in sales of existing housing units.
- Economic Impact Law 132—New Construction Housing Units
 - Injected \$357 million into the economy from September 2010 to February 2011
 - Injected \$259 million into the economy from September 2009 to February 2010
 - 38% increase in capital generated by the sale of new construction housing units
- Economic Impact Law 132—Existing Housing Units
 - Injected \$850 million into the economy from September 2010 to February 2011
 - Injected \$664 million into the economy from September 2009 to February 2010
 - 28% increase in capital generated by the sale of new construction housing units

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- Financing, Development and Construction
 - **ARRA funds and LIHTC for rental projects**
 - Allocated \$158 million of TCEP and \$42 million of TCAP
 - Allocated over \$200 million in LIHTC of 2009, 2010, 2011
 - \$66 million were approved in construction loans
 - Awarded 22 projects, 16 of those were for the elderly population.
 - \$455 million in total investment and 2,482 housing units
 - **Loans for Construction for Sale Program**
 - 10 projects have been approved with 1,300 units to be developed
 - \$205 million in projected sales.
 - **Law 124 Program**
 - 27 construction projects; 3,691 housing units
- Delivery of Housing Units (New Construction) in Special Communities
 - **398** new housing units in 20 different communities, constructed with funds from the Perpetual Trust for Special Communities.
 - Impacting nearly 2,000 Puerto Ricans
 - As of December 31, 2011, we will be delivering 471 **additional** new construction housing units, with an impact on 1,400 additional Puerto Ricans.

Tourism

- Two five star hotels were inaugurated (St. Regis Bahia Beach Resort in Río Grande and W Resort in Vieques). The Ritz Carlton Reserve Dorado Beach Resort & Spa, **the first six star hotel in the Caribbean**, is already under construction in Dorado. The Ritz Carlton project in Dorado involves

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a \$342 million investment and the creation of 1,870 jobs during the construction phase as well as 700 permanent jobs during its operational phase;

- During the first 9 months of calendar year 2010, occupancy rates in hotels in the island rose 3.0%% in comparison with the same period the previous year.
- During the first 11 months of 2010, there was a 14.9% increase in passengers in *homeport* cruises, in comparison with the same period the previous year.
- **250 additional flights** have been added for 2009-2010.

New laws benefitting the tourism sector have been signed such as

- The new Tourism Development Law
- The new Nautical Tourism Law
- The new Medical Tourism law
- **250 additional flights** have been added for 2009-2010, with close to **12 million** seats annually, including flights to the most important European markets: Madrid, London and Frankfurt. **Three new airlines** have established or re-established service to San Juan, including Virgin Atlantic, British Airways and, and Condor.

Film

- New Film Incentives Law positions Puerto Rico amongst the most competitive filming locations in the United States and the world, attracting additional domestic and international films and audiovisual productions.
- During 2010 a total of nine film productions had an economic impact of \$43.3 million as well as the creation of 17,443 jobs and occupancy of 22,671 hotel room nights.
- In 2010 Puerto Rico hosted the film production “Fast Five”, which had a direct economic impact on the island of \$27 million, making it the most expensive production that has ever filmed on the island. Other productions that filmed in 2010 were; “Off the Map”, “Royal Pains”, “Eastbound and Down”, “Elite”, “Levantate 2”, “Mi Verano con Amanda 2”, “Pirates of the Caribbean 4: On Stranger Tides” and “Witness”.

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Puerto Rico Green

- An **Energy Reform** was launched that is helping Puerto Rico reduce its oil dependency, while also promoting the use of renewable energy, both for businesses and individuals.
- Fourteen renewable energy contracts were signed, representing 534 megawatts, as part of the energy diversification strategy to reduce Puerto Rico's oil dependency.
- The Vía Verde project was launched, in order to immediately provide the island with a cheaper, safer and cleaner leading source of energy. The project's Environmental Impact Statement has been approved.
- The Unit 5 system of the South Coast Plant was modified, in order to use natural gas, representing immediate savings of over \$113 million.
- The **Great Northeastern Reserve** was established, tripling protected lands from 3,058 acres that the Northeast Ecological Corridor had to the 9,646 acres that the **Great Northeastern Reserve** now has.
- With an investment of \$12 million, 2,400 homes have been acclimatized; priority was given to low income homes.
- 4,803 traffic lights were replaced with LED lights through the "Traffic Signal/Lighting Retrofit" program for annual savings of more than \$1 million.
- Vouchers totaling \$3.6 million were distributed for use in replacement of home appliances for more energy efficient Energy Star certified appliances. This program generated \$2.1 million in sales of energy efficient home appliances.
- Over \$3 million were invested in designating 972 acres of land as state forest land.
- Over 750,000 trees were planted.
- \$300 million was invested towards flood control projects (Including the La Plata River)
- The *Aguirre Verde* project was launched with the purpose of turning the community of Aguirre into an exemplary sustainable community.

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Governmental Reform and Modernization of the Executive Branch

- A governmental reform was launched in order to streamline and facilitate government processes. The reform aims to ensure that quality services are offered to our citizens and ensure economic development is not hindered by bureaucracy. With the new reform 40 government services can now be completed by Internet , through the PR.gov webpage.
- A new integrated permits system was launched making it easier for businesses, especially small and medium-sized business, to expand, grow and create jobs.
 - With the new permits law, the number of different regulations citizens must comply with were reduced from 28 different regulations to just one.
- PR. gov has resulted in over **40 million hours saved** and approximately **\$22.6 million in savings for our citizens.**
- Through PR.GOV, a person can file a corporation's annual report in less than 15 minutes at any time of day. What previously took half a day now takes significantly less time to complete.
- Through the Department of State's online services, over 15,000 corporations are now eligible to obtain their good standing certificate online.
- Available online services at **PR.gov** include
 - Birth certificates
 - Criminal Records Certificates
 - Certificate of compliance with ASUME
 - No debt certificate from the Treasury Department
 - Tax Filing Certificate
- In the Demographic Registry's central offices, the Plaza las Americas office and the Plaza del Caribe office, the wait time is less than one hour.

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Agriculture

- Consumption of local agricultural products in school cafeterias has increased from 20% to 50% and the sale of local agricultural products is being sponsored through farmer's markets;
 - **Farmer's Market in Condado:** with the assistance of the Economic Development Bank, nine farmers' markets have been held with average sales of \$30,000; 4,000 visitors and 40 farmers and gastronomical artisans attended on average, per event.
 - **The "Placita en Plaza":** this event held on the last weekend of each month provides access for local agricultural products in the Plaza las Americas mall. Over 40 farmers participate and sales towards the end of December of 2010 exceeded \$100,000.
- The Picú Canto Alegre plant was reopened, creating over 300 jobs and bringing with it a \$14 million investment.
- The government subsidy offered for the purchase of fertilizer was increased from \$30 to \$45 per 100 pounds. This represents an increase of \$3.85 million, \$1 million of which is derived from a special allocation from the Governor. Of this total amount, 2,935 vouchers have been distributed, for a total of \$3.7 million disbursed.

More Money in Your Pocket

Tax Reform

- With the introduction of the first part of the Tax Reform package on November of 2010, taxpayers were provided relief totaling \$240 million, with average savings of \$306 per taxpayer.
- With the second part of the Tax Reform package, taxpayers will be provided relief totaling over \$1,200 billion annually during each of the next six years (on average, more than \$1,500 annually per taxpayer). This constitutes the biggest tax relief in the history of Puerto Rico.
 - **Christmas Bonus:** during the month of December of 2010 no taxes were withheld from paychecks or from Christmas bonuses.
- Other important benefits:
 - **Marriages:** The marriage penalty was eliminated

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- **Charitable deductions**—the allowed deduction for donations to non-profit organizations was increased so that each dollar donated will be deductible up to a maximum of 50% of a taxpayer's adjusted gross income.
- The Sales and Use Tax (IVU) Loto was launched.

Health For All

- **“Mi Salud”**: 1.4 million Puerto Ricans are now covered by the Government Health Plan (“Mi Salud”). Among other benefits, this new, patient-centered health plan eliminates the referral requirement for specialists and prescriptions, for services provided by providers within the preferred web of providers.
- **Patients’ Bill of Rights and Responsibilities**: the Patient’s Bill of Rights and Responsibilities was amended to provide better coverage and protection for all patients in Puerto Rico.
- **WIC Program**
 - Launched a new package of foods that include fruits and vegetables.
 - Approved a new regulation of Businesses Authorized in the WIC Program, allowing more businesses to serve our population of pregnant mothers, infants and children up to the age of five.
 - Increased enrollment: In February of 2011 there was a substantial increase of 4,829 enrolled participants. This represents an important achievement that demonstrates the effectiveness of the new measures that have been implemented such as the extended hours and Saturday openings.
- **Health Insurance Code**
 - Senate bill 1856 was filed, in order to create a new Health Insurance Code. The purpose of the new Code is to achieve a balance between over-utilizing and rationing, to incorporate Federal provisions and standards adopted by the National Association of Insurance Commissioners (NAIC) and to achieve uniformity in existing practices.
 - Through this change, we hope to address patient’s complaints related to changes in medications by insurance companies and provider complaints related to the payment of claims in dispute.

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Law and Order Society

Security

- In 2010, initiatives such as Hitting the Drug Point, the 100 Group and joint operations between state and federal authorities produced more than 3,800 arrests, the disruption of more than 250 drug sale points and the confiscation of more than 340 firearms, more than \$350,000 in cash and large quantities of marijuana, heroin, crack and other drugs.
- Achieved a 10% reduction in the number of highway fatalities, the lowest level achieved in 30 years.
- Passed law reducing the legal blood alcohol level for young adults between the ages of 18 and 20. This measure gave Puerto Rico access to more than \$ 11 million in federal funds that had been forfeited during the previous 20 years.
- The Traffic Safety Education Park (PESET) in Arecibo was rehabilitated and reopened in January, 2011.
- The DTOP Points System was updated and revised, through the Traffic Record Committee.

Justice

- New Criminal Code 2011:
 - Changes in the philosophy of the Criminal Code, focusing on the dangerousness of the perpetrator over dangerousness of the act.
 - Creates a balance between the rights of the accused and the rights of victims and public safety.
 - New crimes, modes and penalties were added to bring it up to date with modern society.

Emergency Response

- 26 municipalities were integrated into the 9-1-1 emergency service. Private ambulance services were incorporated into the emergency medical system, lowering the average response time from 28 to 10 minutes. Disaster response capacity was also improved by conducting drills in each municipality.

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Correctional Department

- Introduced shackles with GPS capacity.
- Institute of Forensic Sciences
 - First Spanish-speaking jurisdiction to receive accreditation from the National Association of Medical Examiners (NAME) Forensic Pathology
 - First-Spanish speaking jurisdiction to obtain the Crime Laboratory Accreditation by the American Society of Crime Laboratory Directors Laboratory Accreditation Board (ASCLD/LAB)
- Improved the processing of criminal cases
 - The Institute of Training for Legal Thinking: During the Public Ministry Conference in September 2010, 700 prosecutors, juvenile and family attorneys, lawyers and special guests took part in this training.
 - Inaugurated the First Academy of Public Prosecutors on December 20, 2010.

Puerto Rico Overcomes

Family

- **Early Childhood:** new child care and development centers with a non-traditional focus were sponsored.
- **Non Traditional Child Care centers:** two new modes of care and support were introduced:
 - **PAT: Developing Loving Environments**—PAT provides service providers with an opportunity to receive mentoring in the different areas of early childhood education, and to receive up to \$1,500 in educational materials to enrich the learning environment.
 - **Centers for Family Support:** ACUDEN allocated \$1,459,733 for the creation of four centers for family support in the municipalities of Moca, Camuy, Loiza, and Ponce. With these centers, ACUDEN helps families by providing them with temporary support to improve the family environment and the protection of children. These centers also created 100 jobs.

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- **Adoption:** a new law and the acceleration of adoption procedures for adoption have made possible the creation of a registry which lists all persons interested in adoption, as well as all minors with permanent plans to be adopted. This will ensure that that minors do not stay in the system for an indefinite amount of time. During 2010, 378 Puerto Rican boys and girls were placed in adoptive homes where they are loved and cared for, as compared with 307 in 2009 and 158 in 2008.

Education

- Structural changes in the Department of Education included the reorganization of School Districts (reduced from 89 to 28).
 - Awarded tenure status to 4,285 teachers of hard to recruit subjects matters
- Law No. 208 was signed to amend the Organic Law of the Teachers Retirement System requiring that teachers and principals from the public school system whom retire during the school year must notify their resignation to the Department of Education at least 90 days before it becomes effective allowing the Department a reasonable period of time to replace them without affecting students, nor interrupting their academic program.
- Offered the Intensive Care Treatment to 175 low performing schools in improvement plans providing coaching and educational resources to principals, teachers and students in preparation for the state assessments, and conducted an island wide orientation and awareness campaign to educate parents and citizens on the importance of student attendance the day of the tests achieving student participation rates above 95%.
- Declared Puerto Rico's intent to participate of the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) 2012 testing cycle. PISA focuses on 15-year-olds' capabilities in reading literacy, mathematics literacy, science literacy, and also includes measures of general or cross-curricular competencies such as problem solving. PISA emphasizes functional skills that students have acquired as they near the end of compulsory schooling. PISA is coordinated by the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). This will be the first time Puerto Rico students participate of this program.
- **Schools for the 21st Century**
 - 100 schools are being modernized, at least one per municipality, among which 5 are new schools, for a total investment of \$700 million for design, construction, renovations, furnishings and equipment.

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- First 36 schools mobilized, and 49 RFPs awarded.
- **Special Education In Your Hands**
 - Appointment of 1,294 Special Education School Facilitators, who received over 800 laptops and printers.
 - Awarded tenure status to 1,475 Special Education Student Assistants
 - Developed software programming for the coordination of student evaluation appointments over the internet to expedite services.
- Demonstrated sustained and substantial progress in the 2007 Compliance Agreement, as recognized by the federal Department of Education.
- Established the Character Counts program and incorporated character education into the public school curriculum, reaching 72,323 students in 205 schools.
 - 1,068 trained “champions”, trained in three courses and 201 workshops, 6,895 teachers, principals and school staff, and 72,323 students benefitted during the first 6 months of the program.

Culture

- Signed the Executive Order declaring Santurce as the Art District and established the Committee to Support the Art District
 - Awarded \$500,000 for a fiscal emergency fund to support the work of arts and culture nonprofit organizations that are members of the Santurce Arts Alliance.
 - Created the School District for the Arts/Santurce Arts Alliance
 - Impacts 29 schools, 350 teachers and 8,500 students.
 - Awarded \$1.7 million of Title I funds to support the educational activities of the School District for the Arts implemented by a collaborative between the Department of Education and the Puerto Rico Conservatory of Music.
- Rehabilitation of Historic Buildings with a total investment of \$21 million, including, among others, the rehabilitation of:

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- Casa Blanca
- The Casino of Puerto Rico
- The Fortín San Geronimo
- The Ward of Ballajá
- The Plaza de Soportal
- The Plaza del Jardín
- Launched the pilot of Music Project 100 x 35, with 110 children participating.
- Launched the Marching Bands Project, which included the participation of 120 young adults.
- Sponsored the “Festival de la Palabra”, in which 20,000 people participated, among them 95 writers.
- Participated in the International Book Fair (LIBER 2010), in Barcelona.
- Celebrated the Second Artisanal Fair of Puerto Rico, with the participation of 400 artisans.
- Created the Commission of the Fifth Centenary of the Government of Puerto Rico
 - The web page of the Commission was launched and is available at gobnadorespr.com

Sports and Recreation

- **Open Court Program** - 50,000 young adults, ages 7-16, participated in this program which consists of basketball, volleyball, and indoor soccer tournaments, along with workshops on socio-educational themes like anger management, self-esteem, acting, modern dance, photo-journalism, and participation in non-traditional sports like chess, table tennis, judo, and Taekwondo. It is held in over 300 public housing projects.
- **Adapted Sports Program** - **30,400** people participated in this program, which organizes sports and recreational activities for public school students with disabilities. In 2010, the program impacted 20,000 students with disabilities, 1,000 parents, 4,000 teachers, 1,800 volunteers and 3,600 teaching assistants and members of the community. Adapted sports equipment in the amount of \$400,000 was distributed throughout the 7 educational regions. In 2011, the goal is

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to inaugurate 10 Adapted Sports Centers for both youth and adults in Puerto Rico, including an adapted mega-center in Arecibo that will become the most important of its kind in the Caribbean.

- **Exercise Plaza** - 15,540 senior citizens participated in this dance and exercise program held weekday mornings in the public plazas or sports facilities of 68 municipalities.
- **Loíza Basketball**—1,300 children and young adults, ages 7-16, participated in clinics and basketball tournament in 18 communities of the northern town of Loíza. Ponce Basketball, in the south, will begin April 30, 2011, in 36 communities.
- **School Athletic League** – 74,300 students in elementary, middle, and high school of 1,481 schools participated in leagues and tournaments in 18 different sports.
- **Playing for Your Health**—4,000 overweight children and young adults, ages 7-13, participated in basketball and soccer tournaments, as well as workshops on healthy eating and nutrition.
- **Pursuing Victory with Honor**—6,367 people (1,578 trainers, officials and sports administrators and 4,789 parents) participated in these programs that teaches ethical values through sports. The program has been so successful and requested, that the Department of Sports and Recreation strives to integrate the principals of this program into each and every of their programs, courses, workshops, press conferences, parent assemblies, etc.
- **Church Basketball League**— Over 100 basketball teams of churches, composed of players ages 7-18 of all denominations, have been already recruited to begin the Church Basketball League on May 27, 2011.