

Mr. Ray Coleman, the Executive Director at FAU Pine Jog Environmental Education Center, has over 28 years of nonprofit leadership experience. Ray holds a B.S. degree in Psychology from Indiana University of Pennsylvania, a Master's degree in Social Work and post-master's certificate in Industrial Social Work from the University of Pittsburgh. Ray is presently enrolled as a doctoral student in FAU's School of Social Work. Ray has written, implemented and managed over 30 programs geared at engaging and educating youth. Many of these programs began as federal, state and local grant projects and continue to operate today. Since joining FAU, Coleman has incorporated several new initiatives such as the H2O to Go Residential Research Program, the Community Laboratory- a fully operational micro-propagation laboratory created to grow native wild orchids, the Educational Connections to Ongoing Research Projects (E-CORP) program, and the Apple Snail Adoption Program (ASAP). Additionally, Coleman has forged strong ties with community partners such as the Everglades Foundation for whom Pine Jog created an Everglades literacy conceptual framework, assembled and piloted a series of lessons to foster literacy on the Everglades for students in grades k-12, and trained 1,200 teachers in 14 Florida counties to use the curriculum.