



EXECUTIVE PROFILE



María Carla Chicuéen

*Founding Executive Director, CasaCuba
Florida International University (FIU)*

María Carla Chicuéen has over ten years of professional experience in the fields of higher education and international development. Before joining FIU to lead the efforts to build CasaCuba, she led special projects in the Office of President Eduardo J. Padrón at Miami Dade College, focusing on strategic partnerships and community engagement. Earlier, she held positions as a Consultant in the Integration and Trade Sector at the Inter-American Development Bank in Panama City, Panama, and as a Consultant in the Education Sector of

the Latin America and Caribbean Region at the World Bank in Washington, DC. María Carla is an advocate for access to education and opportunity. She is a frequent speaker on this subject and has been featured on national and international media. She is the author of the book *Achieve the College Dream: You Don't Need to Be Rich to Attend a Top School* (Rowman & Littlefield, 2016).

María Carla earned a Bachelor's Degree with High Honors in History and a Certificate in Latin American Studies from Harvard University, and a Master's in International Relations with Merit from the London School of Economics and Political Science. She lives in Miami, FL with her husband and two young children.