



## **Orphaned Manatees Tequesta and Bronco Recovering at Miami Seaquarium**

Miami Seaquarium received two orphaned manatees, Tequesta and Bronco on February 28<sup>th</sup>, 2007. Manatee Bronco was brought from SeaWorld to accompany one of the oldest manatees Miami Seaquarium has under its care, manatee Romeo. Manatee Romeo was rescued in 1957 and is currently being attended by Miami Seaquarium animal care and veterinarian staff. Manatee Bronco will continue his rehabilitation process at Miami Seaquarium until he's ready to return to the wild.

Orphaned manatee Tequesta was rescued from the area of Tequesta in West Palm Beach. The young manatee is currently in our rehabilitation pool and is being accompanied and cared for by older female manatee Senora. Senora was rescued in 2006 from the area of Port Everglades in Broward County. Manatee Senora was hit by a boat, and according to our park veterinarian Dr. Maya Rodriguez, "The female manatee had severed pus in her thoracic cavity but is steadily recovering." Both manatees currently keep each other company while being cared for by Miami Seaquarium animal care and veterinarian staff.

Miami Seaquarium is proud of its Manatee Rescue and Rehabilitation Program, which in over fifty years has managed to rescue, rehabilitate and release a multitude of injured, orphaned, and ailing manatees. Because of its historical dedication to this endangered specie, leading scientists regard Miami Seaquarium as the "Mother of Manatee Rehabilitation." Miami Seaquarium continues to be one of three critical care facilities for manatees in the United States and perseveres to be on the forefront of manatee medicine, research, and husbandry.