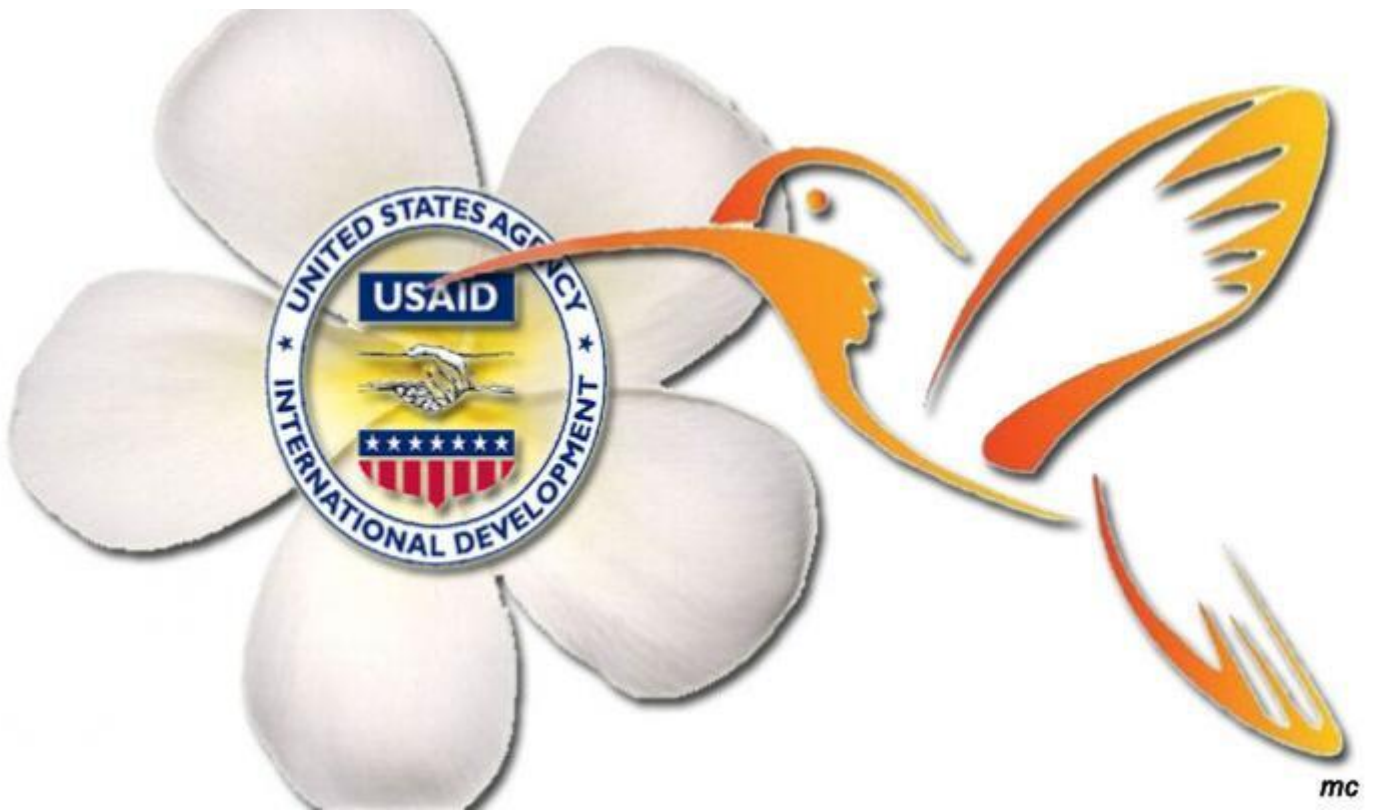# Cuban-American Youth Organization Leaders Helped 'Cuban Twitter'

Havana, April 23 (RHC)-- Leaders of the largest non-profit organization for young Cuban-Americans supported the U.S. Agency for International Development's (USAID) secret ZunZuneo program aimed at toppling Cuba's government, a leaked report reveals.

'Roots of Hope' was approached by the program organizers in 2011 and discussed how to shift it into private hands, according to interviews and documents obtained by the Associated Press.

The members were connecting with potential investors and at least two members of the boards of directors went to work as consultants for ZunZuneo program, also known as the "Cuban Twitter."

AP has disclosed several names in the leak, including Raul Moas and Chris Gueits, currently working for Mobile Accord, another project contractor working for the "Cuban Twitter." They both joined Roots' board of directors in 2011.

Roots of Hope was founded in 2003 at Harvard University by a group of college students.

According to Chris Sabatini, senior director of policy at the Americas Society and Council of the Americas, it wasn't a surprise to him that the organization secretly helped the "Cuban Twitter" as USAID has a large sums of money available and there is a limited number of tech-savvy groups working on Cuba issues.

Meanwhile, Matt Herrick, a USAID spokesman, has declined to reveal any names of people employed in the scandalous project, claiming that Roots of Hope did not enter into any grants or contracts related to ZunZuneo or any other programs.

The *"Cuban Twitter"* scandal broke on April 3rd, when AP revealed documents saying that the U.S. engineered a text messaging network in Cuba to try and spread unrest in the Caribbean country. More than 40,000 people, unaware that the network was created by the U.S. government, were sharing news and opinions using the service.

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