

# BRHPC

## Broward Regional Health Planning Council

*Connecting Education, Research, Technology & Service with Community Need*

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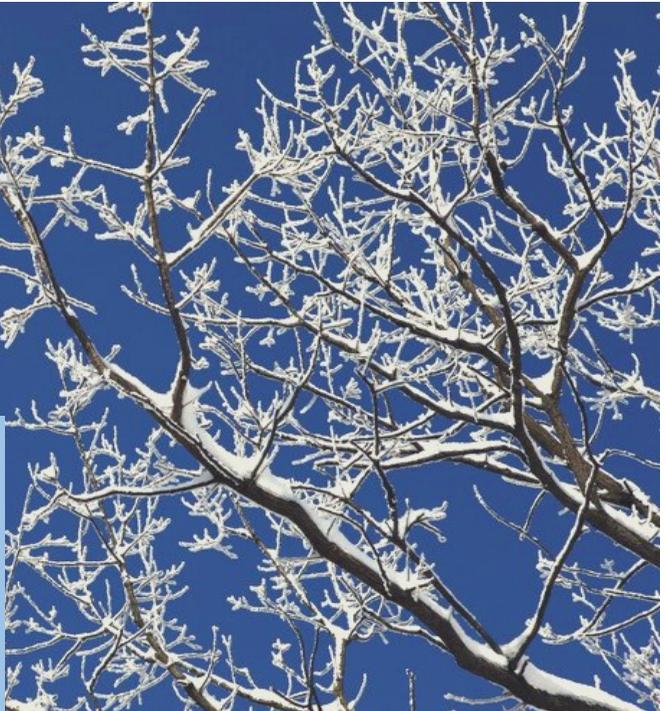
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Broward Regional Health Planning Council is committed to delivering health and human service innovations at the national, state and local level through planning, direct services, evaluation and organizational capacity building.



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**Stay connected with BRHPC through the Health Blog by visiting:**

<http://www.brhpc.org/category/health-blog>

# LETTER FROM PRESIDENT & CEO



In looking forward to another new year, I want to wish everyone a Happy and Healthy 2019. BRHPC has a long history of collaboration, providing health and human services innovations and, in cooperation with our partners, will continue to do so throughout the upcoming year. BRHPC continues to strive to improve our community's well-being, improve the health of our residents, help house those who are struggling to find affordable housing, provide individuals with opportunities to increase their self-sufficiency, as well as, help to improve the lives of those individuals who are met each day with difficult personal challenges.

While the Open Enrollment for healthcare was limited, taking place from November 1, 2018 to December 15, 2018, BRHPC was able to process approximately 300 successful enrollments and provide individuals with the information necessary to make appropriate healthcare choices.

During 2018, BRHPC embarked on a new initiative to ensure organizational stability while preserving affordable housing availability for low and moderate income residents of Broward County. As part of this initiative, BRHPC purchased its first multi-family residence in October with several more purchases anticipated before the end of the current fiscal year. Property acquisition will be focused in the City of Hollywood and surrounding areas. The Affordable Housing and Community Economic Development Project, which offers legal representation to non-profits engaged in the development or preservation of affordable housing and/or community development, was instrumental in the pursuit of this new endeavor. We owe special thanks to Legal Aid Services of Broward County/Affordable Housing and Community Economic Development attorneys Wendy Wilson, Terry Costolo, Erin Weiss and Shahrzad Emami for their assistance in helping to ensure the success of this project.

As with any agency, the work we do could not be accomplished without our funders, board members, partners and staff. I want to personally thank each of them for their commitment and dedication in ensuring that BRHPC remains in a position to continue improving our community's health and well-being throughout the upcoming year. I would also like to express my deepest gratitude to one of our Board Members, David Roach. David has served on the BRHPC Board of Directors for the past ten years and has offered invaluable recommendations and guidance during his tenure on the board. David will be retiring at the end of January and we will be forever grateful for his loyalty, dedication and service to the agency.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike De Lucca". The signature is fluid and cursive.

Mike De Lucca, MHM  
President & CEO

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS



Barbara S. Effman,  
M.P.H, Chair



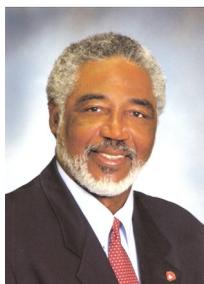
David Roach, BA,  
Vice Chair



Cyril Blavo, DO, M.P.H & TM,  
FACOP, Treasurer



John A. Benz,  
MBA, Secretary



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Daniel Lewis,  
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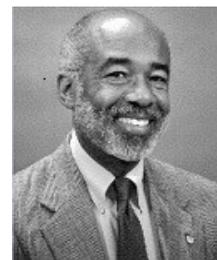
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Board Member



Leilani Kicklighter,  
MBA, ARM, RN  
Board Member



Mark Dissette, MBA,  
Board Member



Samuel F. Morrison,  
BA, MLS  
Board Member

## ACA MARKETPLACE

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### Health Foundation of South Florida Awarded BRHPC \$30,000 ACA Enrollment Grant



This year's open enrollment period was only six weeks long taking place from November 1, 2018, to December 15, 2018. With secured funding from the Health Foundation of South Florida, the Broward Regional Health Planning Council ACA Program wrapped up the 2018-2019 ACA open enrollment period strong. BRHPC's four part-time Certified Application Counselors enrolled approximately 300 consumers in approved healthcare plans.

As the open enrollment period has ended, the special enrollment period (SEP) is now available to those who qualify. A special enrollment period is a time when consumers can select a plan only if they experience a life change. Some life changing events include having or adopting a child, getting married, losing other qualifying health coverage and moving to a new location that offers different plan issuers. For further information to see if you qualify for a SEP or for assistance please visit [www.Healthcare.gov](http://www.Healthcare.gov) or call 1-800-318-2596.

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## AIDS DRUG ASSISTANCE PROGRAM

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The AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) is funded by the Florida Department of Health and is a component of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program. It is designed to assist eligible clients with costs associated with insurance premiums. ADAP clients have government sponsored health insurance/health insurance marketplace plans that include prescription coverage. The insurance plans for this new program were analyzed by the Florida Department of Health for its comprehensive coverage that includes a drug formulary comparable to drugs on the ADAP Program formulary. Clients who meet eligibility requirements and have enrolled in one of the designated plans will receive health insurance cards and the same prescription coverage that they had previously while in ADAP. BRHPC issues payments for the clients' monthly premium and ensures the insurance carrier is paid promptly.

Clients who are currently in the AICP also receive assistance for COBRA and Employer Sponsored health insurance premiums. Payments for both state-wide programs are initiated by the Florida Department of Health and processed by BRHPC. This last year, the state of Florida's ADAP program assisted over 4,000 clients by paying over \$29M towards monthly insurance premiums. The assistance is to ensure that clients remain in care and have access to physicians and the vital prescriptions for their chronic illness.

## DISASTER CASE MANAGEMENT

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The Disaster Case Management Program (DCMP) is a federally funded supplemental program administrated by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). The program provides funding and technical assistance to ensure holistic services to disaster survivors of Hurricane Irma.

The Disaster Case Managers have been busy assisting clients registering for Rebuild Florida. Individuals who have suffered damage to their homes from Hurricane Irma can qualify for up to \$100,000 to help with repairs. The staff has been assisting clients applying for American Red Cross HIFA (Hurricane Irma Financial Assistance) direct assistance (\$2,000) and complex assistance (\$4,500).

Following is a success story of a client that received our services:

Ms. Jones is a single mother of 3 children whose youngest son has special needs. Her landlord evicted her from her home after she made a complaint to Section 8 Housing regarding his lack of repairing the home. She was able to safeguard her Section 8 eligibility and through assistance from United Way, we were able to assist her with the rental security deposit for a new place.

She received the accelerated HIFA in June 2018 from American Red Cross and qualified for the complex assistance which she reported receiving today, which will help her with some basic necessities.

Client's Quote: "I wanted to let you know that the check came and I give my deepest thanks to you and all that you and Red Cross have done for me and my kids."



*Disaster Case Management Program Team*

# CENTRALIZED INTAKE & ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION

Broward Regional Health Planning Council, Inc. provides Centralized Intake and Eligibility for Persons Living with HIV/AIDS in Broward County. The program provides a single entry point of service and assistance with applications and referrals to third party benefits and community services to all eligible Broward County residents.

**Providing eligibility determination and connecting clients to services that will sustain their quality of care.**



Adriana Ribon is a veteran member of the CIED team. She began working at BRHPC for the Centralized Intake and Eligibility Determination (CIED) Ryan White Part A Program in 2010. Since becoming a CIED Specialist, Adriana has gained great satisfaction in being able to provide HIV clients with the tools they need to access healthcare. She has established a relationship of trust and respect within the community and amongst providers.

“Being a CIED Specialist for the Ryan White program at BRHPC has allowed me to fulfill my personal desire to help others, has given a valuable purpose to my life and has allowed me to make a positive contribution to society.”

## **CIED Main Office**

Broward Regional Health Planning Council  
200 Oakwood Lane, Suite 100,  
Hollywood, FL 33021  
954-566-1417

## **AIDS Healthcare Foundation**

6405 N Federal Highway, Suite 205  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308  
954-722-2411

## **AIDS Healthcare Foundation Oakland Park**

1164 E Oakland Park Blvd.  
Oakland Park, FL 33334  
954-561-6900

## **AIDS Healthcare Foundation Downtown**

700 SE 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave., Suite 301  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316  
954-767-0887

## **Broward Community & Family Health**

168 N Powerline Rd.  
Pompano, FL 33069

## **Florida Department of Health in**

### **Broward County**

Paul Hughes Health Center  
205 NW 6th Ave.  
Pompano, FL 33060  
954-566-1417

## **Florida Department of Health in**

### **Broward County**

State Road 84  
780 SW 24th Street  
Fort Lauderdale, FL  
954-467-4700

### **Broward Health**

#### **Comprehensive Care Center**

1101 NW 1st Street  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311  
954-356-5047

#### **Specialty Care Center**

1111 W. Broward Blvd.  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311  
954-527-6002

## **Care Resource**

871 W Oakland Park Blvd.  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311  
954-567-7141

## **Children's Diagnostic &**

### **Treatment Center**

Comprehensive Family AIDS Program  
1401 S Federal Highway,  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316  
954-728-1088

## **Memorial Healthcare System**

Memorial Primary Care Center Dania  
1150 N 35<sup>th</sup> Ave., Suite 445  
Hollywood, FL 33021  
954-265-8410

## **Poverello: Friends Fitness Center**

2200 NE 12th Ave.  
Wilton Manors, FL 33305  
954-561-3663

# HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS

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Broward Regional Health Planning Council, Inc. is in its ninth year of successfully providing services to the community under the Housing Opportunities for Persons with HIV/AIDS (HOPWA) program. The HOPWA program assists eligible low-income Broward county residents with past due rent or mortgage and utilities payments and also assists those already homeless or who need to move into safe, permanent housing with move-in assistance.

During the 2017 – 2018 contract year, the HOPWA Program at BRHPC provided 411 clients with over \$354,984 in rental, utility and emergency hotel voucher assistance to help prevent homelessness.



BRHPC has been working closely with the local HOPWA Grantee, the City of Fort Lauderdale's Housing and Community Development office, to develop better methods to deliver services to the community. BRHPC has also cooperated with other local HOPWA agencies such as Care Resource, Minority Development and Empowerment, Mount Olive Development Corporation (MODCO) and SunServe to offer training, technical assistance and service coordination.

## **Client Success Story:**

The client came to the office in need of move in assistance. The client's landlord refused to make any repairs to the client's apartment to accommodate the client. The client was referred to Legal Aid to sort out the issue with his landlord. The client and the landlord were not able to resolve the issue. The client found another property to move into since the landlord had threatened the client with eviction. The client's application was reviewed promptly to avert the client from being homeless. The client called to thank Reviewer and her Supervisor who expedited the process. The client told the reviewer, "You always find a way to support me."

The HOPWA team is looking forward to another successful year serving persons living with HIV/AIDS in our community to prevent and end homelessness.

# HEALTH INSURANCE BENEFIT SUPPORT SERVICES

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Broward Regional Health Planning Council, Inc. (BRHPC) provides insurance support services to qualified Ryan White Part A clients. Programs provide a variety of services to ensure clients maintain health care coverage.

**The Health Insurance Benefit Support Services (HIBSS) is the newest program that works with HICP and all Ryan White Part A funded providers to ensure clients receive education and support with their insurance.**

In the past few months, the HIBSS team focused on the Affordable Care Act (ACA) open enrollment. During that time period, the team conducted outreach calls to all eligible Ryan White Part A clients. The team's efforts were positively received by many and numerous appointments were scheduled for new and existing clients for enrollment and re-enrollment into the Marketplace. With access to numerous Ryan White programs, BRHPC is in a unique position to maximize services for clients by utilizing the premium assistance provided by ADAP and the copay assistance by HICP, both of which were not widely known to clients.

Training to become a Certified Application Counselor (CAC) through CMS was provided and as a result, a team member has been able to facilitate enrollment for clients into Ryan White Part A.

During the final week of open enrollment, efforts were concentrated on outreach calls, ACA enrollment and linkage to ADAP to ensure premium assistance for enrollees.

The goal for the HIBSS program is to continue educating clients concerning their health insurance, ensure that their medical appointments are kept and prevent health insurance termination due to lack of education.

**For more information on HIBSS Call:**

Office: 954-561-9681 x 1359

Cell: 954-579-7886

**HIBSS provides the following services:**

- Understanding your health insurance coverage
- Knowing where to go for care
- Finding a provider
- Scheduling an appointment
- Being prepared for upcoming doctors' visits
- Estimating clients' cost of care
- Obtaining help with copayments and/or medical bills, if approved
- Reviewing health insurance terminology
- Interpreting insurance company mail/communications
- Appeals/Prior Authorizations

# HEALTHY FAMILIES BROWARD

This year Healthy Families Broward held a parenting group for the holiday season for our families who are having difficulties this time of year. Healthy Families Broward is a community-based home visitation program that strengthens families, promotes positive parent-child relationships and enhances the health and development of children. Serving over 600 low-income families within Broward County, who are vulnerable and more likely to experience a lack of stability in the home.



The group focused on having families experience activities that centered on promoting positive parent-child experiences that can be incorporated into everyday life. The staff pulled together and created scenery using everyday household items, in order to demonstrate for the families how to create a fun environment for little to no cost. During the event, one lucky participant won a terrific raffle prize of a razor scooter thanks to the generosity of an anonymous donor.

The program was also the beneficiary of a toy drive organized by the McArthur High School Pre-med and Rotary Clubs. The students and their advisors, Ms. Melissa Boone and Ms. Pamela Aiken, set up a “holiday shop” at the BRHPC offices for the participants to enjoy. These teens delivered smiles and holiday cheer to the families. The Healthy Families program is sincerely grateful for the support and dedication of these young donors who provided rays of hope and inspiration for the families that we serve.



For more information about the Healthy Families Broward program, contact Tina Hudson, Program Manager, [thudson@brhpc.org](mailto:thudson@brhpc.org).

## NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP



*Nurse Home Visitor Dianaser with graduating family.*

BRHPC is delighted to acknowledge the work of Nurse Home Visitor Dianaser Bermudez who is a Nurse with Broward Health. Since she began in her role in 2016, Dianaser has experienced no client attrition. In 2018, nineteen of her clients graduated from the program, which is more than half of her caseload. She has graduated more clients than two other nurses combined. This means that 100% of clients stay with her for the entire duration of the two-year program, quite a significant achievement. Her clients' success is unparalleled and reflects her outstanding work and dedication in her role as a Nurse Home Visitor.

On October 27, 2018, Broward Nurse-Family Partnership held its annual graduation ceremony at Holy Cross Hospital's Sister Innocent Conference Center. Forty-five parents and toddlers, including a set of twins, celebrated their accomplishments. Nurse-Family Partnership Broward works with first-time mothers and their children to improve prenatal health, improve child health and development and increase economic sustainability. Nurse Family Partnership aims to reduce the risk of pre-term labor and delivery, reduce infant mortality rates, promote breastfeeding and improve the rate of prenatal care within the community. The program proudly serves 185 mothers and 135 infants. The nurse home visitors truly look forward to continuing to work with these families. The goals for the upcoming year are to continue to support low-income first-time parents and to exceed performance expectations.



## NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

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The Broward Nurse-Family Partnership services are delivered through a partnership between BRHPC and the two hospital districts in Broward: Memorial Healthcare System and Broward Health. Each hospital district directly employs two home visiting nurses who are trained and report to a nurse supervisor employed by BRHPC. The participants are screened for program eligibility through collaboration with the Broward Healthy Start Coalition and its funded providers. Nurse Family Partnership also works in close collaboration with other community providers to receive eligible participants. The program is supported through Maternal Infant Early Childhood Home Visiting Initiative (MIECHV) funds which are administered by the Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions.



*Mom, Alexandra with twins Benjamin and Emmanuel*

### **To qualify for the program, a woman must:**

1. Be less than 28 weeks pregnant;
2. Have no previous live births
3. Be low-income
4. Live in one of the following Broward County zip codes: 33024, 33025, 33023, 33319, 33313, 33311, 33069, 33060, or 33064.

# HEALTH INSURANCE CONTINUATION PROGRAM

The Health Insurance Continuation Program (HICP) at Broward Regional Health Planning Council, Inc. provides insurance support services to qualified Ryan White Part A clients. The program provides copay and deductible payment assistance to clients enrolled in pre-approved Affordable Care Act Marketplace plans.

In this final quarter of 2018, HICP has continued to provide financial assistance in the form of copay and deductible payments to eligible clients. In order to qualify for HICP services the client must be living with HIV, reside in Broward County, maintain eligibility with Ryan White Part A & B and be enrolled in pre-approved ACA Marketplace insurance plan.



HICP services are delivered through a partnership with pharmacies, medical providers and laboratories throughout Broward County. By providing continued payment assistance, HICP services have resulted in clients reaching their respective insurance plan's deductible and out of pocket costs. November 1<sup>st</sup> marked the beginning of open enrollment for the ACA Marketplace. HICP staff assisted Health Insurance Benefit Support Services (HIBSS) staff with notifying clients and linking them to schedule an appointment for 2019 enrollment.

**“I can’t thank you enough for all of your assistance. You all have really made this transition very easy for me.” – Satisfied HICP client**

For more information on HICP call:

954-561-9681 x 1275 or 1220

You may also find HICP information on BRHPC’s Website at [www.BRHPC.org](http://www.BRHPC.org)

# HIV PLANNING COUNCIL AND CLINICAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT

## PEER COUNSELOR CERTIFICATION PROGRAM

November 13<sup>th</sup> kicked off the inaugural Peer Counselor Training and Certification (PCTC) Class of 2019! Over 20 community members were selected to participate in the PCTC Program. An HIV Peer Counselor is an individual living with the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) who facilitates person-centered care and HIV disease management for individuals infected with HIV. Curriculum was developed by Broward Regional Health Planning Council and Program Faculty Consultant, Debbie Cestaro-Seifer, an AIDS Education and Training Center (AETC) trainer. For 12 weeks, Peer Counselors will be educated on HIV, emerging medical interventions, motivational interviewing and other best practices that provide practical tools and resources. Through the PCTC, Peer Counselors will be able to identify unmet needs and barriers to care and identify key strategies that can successfully create behavioral and attitudinal changes in clients, which result in increased quality of life, positive health outcomes and HIV viral load suppression. By the end of the program, participants will become certified Peer Counselors and be given the opportunity to participate in a 6-week practicum at local Ryan White Part A agencies.



*Membership/Community Development Committee Chair, with HIVPC staff at membership/ info table.*

## HIVPC MEMBERSHIP DRIVE KICKOFF 2019

The HIVPC membership drive will commence in January 2019 and take place at an HIV community-based organization near you! Each HIVPC standing committee will set up shop at agencies throughout Broward County in an effort to meet the community where they are located. The goal of the membership drive is to connect with those infected and affected by HIV/AIDS and to inspire more community members to become involved in the fight to erase stigmas that still plague members of the HIV/AIDS community. Additionally, the membership drive is utilized to educate the community on resources provided through the Ryan White Program. Joining the Planning Council, in any capacity truly benefits those willing to commit to participate. To know that there is a platform for individuals, specifically PLWHA, to share experiences and advocate for change is empowering. There is an immediate need for the Planning Council membership to reflect the populations in Broward County that are the most affected by HIV/AIDS. Currently in Broward County, the burden of HIV infection has a disproportionate impact on non-Hispanic Black males and females.

# HIV PLANNING COUNCIL AND CLINICAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT

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The youth population (ages 19-24), representing 14.1% of the total population, is also an increasingly emerging demographic. As a result, the Planning Council has identified these specific populations for targeted outreach and recruitment.

## NEW HIVPC LEADERSHIP

Congratulations to the newly elected Vice Chair of the HIV Planning Council! After a 6-month vacancy, the HIVPC held a special Vice Chair Election and on November 29<sup>th</sup>, long-time member Claudette Grant was officially elected as Vice Chair. Claudette has served the HIV community of Broward County for 30 years and is currently the Ryan White Part C program administrator. She plans to be one of the leading forces behind continuing to push forth the mission of creating an inclusive and proactive council. Filling this vacancy creates a balance in leadership and deepens the impact of community planning and advocacy that the council was built upon.

## END+DISPARITIES ECHO COLLABORATION

Over the past several months, the CQM Staff has participated in the Center for Quality Improvement and Innovation (CQII) National end+disparities ECHO Collaboration for the South Florida Regional Group. This collaborative is comprised of four eligible metropolitan areas (EMAs): Broward EMA, Palm Beach EMA, Orlando EMA, and Tampa EMA. The end+disparities ECHO project ensures a collaborative path toward sustainable improvements in the delivery of Ryan White funded medical and support services throughout the region. The project also supports the accessible continuum of high-quality care and assistance to eliminate health disparities and increase viral suppression rates among People Living with HIV/AIDS (PLWHA). The Broward EMA has chosen African American and Latina women as its subpopulation of focus and the BRHPC's CQM team works with Ryan White Part A Service Providers to develop and implement Quality Improvement Projects that benefit the selected subpopulation within their organizations. For more information, visit the website at: <https://targethiv.org/cqii/end-disparities-echo-collaborative>.



*Nationally  
identified  
disproportionately*

## TENANT BASED RENTAL VOUCHER PROGRAM

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The Tenant Based Rental Voucher Program (TBRV) has made a remarkable effort towards accomplishing our 2018 goals and we look forward to establishing even more objectives for the upcoming year! Our case managers continue working closely with clients to make sure that each person meets their full potential by becoming more self-sufficient, along with ensuring that each client lives in safe and sanitary housing conditions, abiding with the guidelines set by HUD.

We are pleased to announce that between October 1, 2018 and December 1, 2018, one of our clients successfully achieved self-sufficiency. We are proud of the hard work and dedication that the client displayed.



Another significant component of the TBRV program is the “Financial Literacy Workshops” that take place on the first Thursday of every month from 2:00 to 3:00 P.M. at BRHPC and are hosted by Consolidated Credit presenter Ann Charleus. Clients receive notice of the workshop three weeks before the scheduled date to ensure that clients have enough time to coordinate their schedules and transportation. It is always a pleasure seeing the clients in attendance and interacting with questions and valuable contributions. Each month different topics are discussed. Some of the most successful topics this year were:

- Repair Your Credit
- Holiday Survival guide
- Managing your Money

Also, a raffle is held at every meeting to encourage attendance and participation!

If you would like more information on the upcoming financial literacy workshops, please contact Rhode Rosulmé-Rock, QA/Skills Development Coordinator at 954-561-9681 ext. 1210 [rock@brhpc.org](mailto:rock@brhpc.org).

# 2019 POINT-IN-TIME HOMELESS COUNT VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITY



## Frequently Asked Questions:

- **Where does the count take place?**  
The count covers all of Broward County from parks, abandoned buildings and encampments, to meal sites, churches and libraries.
- **Is training mandatory?**  
**Yes.** All Volunteers are required to go through training. This year, volunteers will have the option to attend a face-to-face training or an online training, if that is preferred.
- **Can I register with a team?**  
**Yes.** If you would like to register as a team, you can sign up with up to 3 other people (to make a team of 4). Each team member will need to register individually and include the other members' names in their registration. **Note:** If you sign up for a team, we request that one of the team members registers as a driver to ensure all volunteers have transportation.
- **Will I have to go to encampments?**  
**No.** As a part of registration you choose whether you want to do the **street** count (encampments, parks, etc.) or a **meal site** count. Street counters typically are outside and do more walking, therefore, if you prefer a more structured environment, select a meal site.
- **Will I be safe during the count?**  
Absolutely! If you register for a night or early morning shift, local law enforcement officers will be accompanying teams.

More questions?  
Email: [pitvolunteers@brhpc.org](mailto:pitvolunteers@brhpc.org)



# SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES

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Broward Regional Health Planning Council's SSVF program is in its sixth year of providing services to veterans and members of the armed forces who work and live in Broward County. An integral part the United Way of Broward County Mission United initiative is to reduce homelessness amongst veterans. Since inception, the program has provided services to 1,068 veteran led households (189 Families and 879 singles) experiencing homelessness or identified to be at-risk. Services such as security deposit, rental and utility assistance/deposit, transportation, emergency hotel stay, beds, household items and referrals to our community partners for food.

## **Below is one of our success stories:**

A recent client was an unemployed, divorced father of two when he made the southward trek from Atlanta, Georgia to Florida to accept a job offer. His plan was to stay with a friend until he could afford to rent an apartment on his own, but then his plans went awry. His friend accepted a job offer out of state and needed to leave, and soon. Long work hours left Mark with very little time to scout for new housing forcing him to live in his car. Case management met with Mark on his lunch break and together developed a budget and helped him to define what his needs for housing were. Within a week housing was identified and pending inspection. Mark signed his lease and entered housing on November 1st.

“Thank you guys for helping me. I was so unsure of what my next step would be...I am very comfortable here.”

## **Eligibility Requirements**

The SSVF Program is available to single veterans, a family with veteran head of household or family with a head of household whose spouse is a veteran who is at 50% or lower of Broward County's area median income,

- AND Currently residing in permanent housing and at-risk of losing their housing and becoming homeless.
- OR Currently homeless and scheduled to transition to permanent housing in 90 days
- OR Currently homeless and exited permanent housing in the previous 90 days for improve housing stability.

**Services:** Case Management, VA Benefits & Resources Acquisitions, Legal Counsel, Healthcare Access, Temporary Financial Assistance, Housing Search Assistance

# 2ND ANNUAL HEALTHY BROWARD RUN & WALK

**2nd Annual  
healthy broward  
run and walk**

**Saturday  
April 6, 2019  
7:30am\***

*\*5K Run starts at 7:30am;  
1 Mile Walk starts immediately after.*

**Delevoe Park  
2520 NW 6th Street  
Ft Lauderdale, FL 33311**

*Runners/Walkers: \$15 until February 4;  
\$20 until April 4; \$30 day of race.  
Family of Walkers (4 max): \$20 until  
February 4; \$25 until April 4; \$35 day of race.*

**#HealthyBroward**

**Free! Park Entry  
& Parking**

**EMPLOYER 5% CHALLENGE**  
*Sign up 5% of employees for your team,  
prizes awarded for highest participation.*

**Measured 5K Run  
1 Mile Family Fun Walk**

**Medals  
For All**

**Fun  
Activities  
for  
Kids**

**Resource  
& Wellness  
Fair**

**Runners  
Awards**



To register for the Healthy Broward Run and Walk, visit [www.HealthyBrowardRun.org](http://www.HealthyBrowardRun.org)  
For information, call 954-213-0607 or visit [healthybrowardrun.org](http://healthybrowardrun.org).

Help us celebrate National Public Health Week at the 2nd Annual Healthy Broward Run and Walk where there will be a measured 5K run and a 1 mile family walk. This event is open to all ages and skill levels. Enjoy a great morning by getting active, having a good time and being part of your community. Get involved in good health and register now at [www.HealthyBrowardRun.org](http://www.HealthyBrowardRun.org).

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE & MENTAL HEALTH

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The Post-Arrest Diversion Program (PAD) at Broward Regional Health Planning Council, Inc. (BRHPC) seeks to divert individuals with serious and persistent mental illness from the criminal justice system into a structured, outpatient treatment protocol. Prerequisites to program eligibility include a history of non-violent 3rd-degree felony charges and a history of mental illness, specifically involving serious, long-term mental illnesses. The PAD program identifies and screens defendants who are currently in custody to determine their eligibility for the diversion program.

To determine if a defendant is eligible for diversion, BRHPC Forensic staff coordinate with the Broward Sheriff's Office (BSO) Pretrial Interviewing Unit's Program Coordinator at the main jail so defendants newly taken into custody can be screened. The BSO Pretrial Coordinator provides the PAD Program Coordinator a list of defendants who have been flagged as having possible mental health issues. The PAD Coordinator then forwards the names to Public Defender Mitchka Bavardi. Following receipt of the names, the public defender's office sends out letters to the home addresses of all the identified defendants. These letters inform the defendants that they may be eligible for BSO's diversion program and to contact the PAD program office to obtain additional information.



*The Substance Abuse and Mental Health Team*

## SUBSTANCE ABUSE & MENTAL HEALTH

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Upon their release from jail and receipt of the letter, the defendants can call Dr. Collins or the PAD Program Coordinator to complete a referral form which is then forwarded to the State Attorney's Office requesting approval for a Post-Arrest Diversion evaluation. For those defendants who are still in custody when approved for an evaluation by the state (i.e., if their attorney completed the referral form and sent it to PAD for their client), an evaluator from the PAD program can go into the jail and conduct the evaluation on-site.

The forensic evaluation, which is utilized to determine whether the mental health criteria is satisfied, includes an interview and psychological assessment battery which examines psychological symptoms and risk factors. If a history of severe and persistent mental illness is corroborated by the report, the individual is considered to have met the mental health criteria for the diversion program. Evaluation results also indicate if the patient is able to comply with all therapeutic and legal aspects of the program for a duration of one year. Results of the evaluation are scored and interpreted to form a comprehensive diversion report. Upon completion, the diversion report is submitted to the State Attorney's Office with a diagnostic opinion and recommendation for program participation.

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## EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER

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Mikaela Foster, in her role as intake specialist in the HOWPA Program, has displayed her dedication and positive attitude throughout the years. She is known by her fellow co-workers as being dependable and readily offers her assistance to any department that is in need. Ms. Foster is committed to continuing her education and is currently working hard in achieving her dream profession - *Pharmacist*. Congratulations Mikaela for being so exemplary!

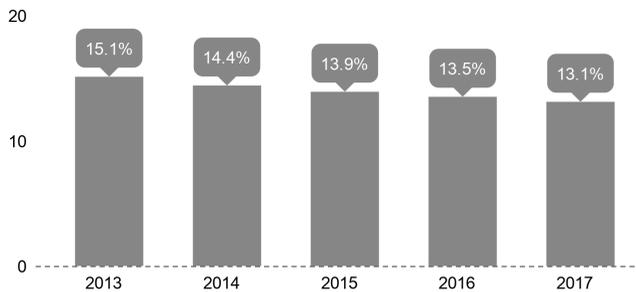
**Left to Right:** Michael De Lucca, President & CEO, Mikaela Foster, Intake Specialist, Sharon Alveranga-Jones, Housing Program Coordinator.

# HEALTH PROFILE UPDATE

## SNAPSHOT ON Poverty

**Poverty** is the state of lacking a usual or socially acceptable amount of money or material possessions. In 2017, the Federal Poverty Level for a **family of 4 was \$24,250 per year**. Broward County has experienced decreases in poverty over the past 5 years.

Poverty (%)



**Women** who are head of household have a higher than average rate of poverty in Broward at 17.7%.



A family of 4 would need to earn **\$61,000/yr** to survive in Broward.



A family of 4 has a median income of **\$53,000** in Broward.



**12.6%** of Broward population receives SNAP/food stamps.



In August 2018, over **245,000** Broward residents were food stamp recipients.



In August 2018, nearly **\$30 million** was issued to families receiving food stamps.

## FINGERPRINTING SERVICES AT BRHPC

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NEED TO BE FINGERPRINTED?



**WHAT:** Level 2 Live Scan background screening for AHCA, DCF, Department of Business, Elder Affairs, VECHS and Professional Regulation.

**WHO:** Individuals, groups and organizations that need Level 2 Live Scan background screenings.

**WHEN:** Monday through Friday from 8:30AM—4:30PM by appointment only. Must bring valid ID and identifying number for organization requesting fingerprints (ORI, CRI). We accept cash or business checks.

**WHERE:** BRHPC, 200 Oakwood Lane, Suite 100, Hollywood, FL 33020. Located in the Oakwood Plaza across from the Regal Oakwood 18 Movie Theater.

If you are in need of Electronic Background Screening Submissions & Quick Results, BRHPC can help you. To schedule an appointment, please call the BRHPC office at 954-561-9681.

BRHPC  
 200 Oakwood Lane, Ste. 100  
 Hollywood, FL 33020

NON-PROFIT.ORG  
 U.S. POSTAGE  
 PAID  
 FT. LAUD, FL  
 PERMIT NO. 604

Or current resident

**Hospital Beds and Facilities:  
 1st Batching Cycle– 2019**

Description	Dates
Summary Need Projections Published in F.A.R.	1-18-19
Letter of Intent Deadline	2-04-19
Application Deadline	3-06-19
Completeness Review Deadline	3-13-19
Application Omissions Deadline	4-10-19
Agency Initial Decision Deadline	6-07-19

**Other Beds and Programs:  
 1st Batching Cycle– 2019**

Description	Dates
Summary Need Projections Published in F.A.R.	3-29-19*
Letter of Intent Deadline	4-15-19
Application Deadline	5-15-19
Completeness Review Deadline	5-22-19
Application Omissions Deadline	6-26-19
Agency Initial Decision Deadline	8-16-19

\*Pursuant to 59C-1.008 (2) (a), the Agency shall publish in the Florida Administrative Register at least 15 days prior to the letter of intent deadline for a particular batching cycle the Fixed Need Pools for the applicable planning horizon for each service in applicable Agency rules contained in Rules 59C-1.031-59C-1.044 F.A.C.