

SPRING 2020 NEWSLETTER

# BROWARD REGIONAL HEALTH PLANNING COUNCIL

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*Transforming Our Community's Health*



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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 health planning, direct services, evaluation and organizational capacity building.

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[www.BRHPC.org](http://www.BRHPC.org)

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# A Letter From Our President & CEO



This spring help shape your community by completing the 2020 Census Count. During the week of March 12 to March 20, 2020, all households received letters explaining the importance of the Census along with instructions on how to complete the questionnaire. In addition to completing the Census over the phone or by mail for the past decades, this is the first Census that is available online. The questionnaire is quick, easy and safe and will take no longer than ten minutes to fill out. Your response is vital to the community you live in and will help direct billions of dollars in federal funds to local communities for schools, roads, public transportation, hospital and nursing homes, preventive health plans, families, community funding and more. Results from the 2020 Census will be used to determine the number of seats each state has in Congress and your political representation at all government levels. Keep in mind, completing the Census is an opportunity to create a better future for our communities and the next generation by providing an up-to-date count for our population.

BRHPC has been part of the Broward County Census Promotions Subcommittee, chaired by Barbara Effman, for the past year and continues to share Census resources with the community and community partners through BRHPC's social media channels. BRHPC has also helped develop and edit videos in various languages to reach a larger population. Additionally, BRHPC has been working closely with Ana Maria Diaz, Partnership Specialist of the U.S. Census Bureau. Ms. Diaz has presented at BRHPC's Health Care Access Committee Meeting, Healthy Families Broward Advisory Council meeting and the 2020 Public Health Workforce Development series focusing on areas of undercount, including hard-to-enumerate populations and residents of Broward County.



As of early March 2020, over eleven million people have responded to the 2020 Census online. Due to the Coronavirus, we must all keep our "social distance" from each other and the Census has never been easier to respond on your own, whether online, over the phone or by mail, all without having to meet a census taker. Responding to the Coronavirus pandemic is an example of why it's important to respond to

# A Letter From Our President & CEO

the Census. Data collected will be essential for identifying the locations in our communities with the greatest need for hospitals, health centers and medical supplies. If you are interested in completing the Census online, I encourage you to visit <https://my2020census.gov>.

On March 11, 2020, the World Health Organization declared the Coronavirus (COVID-19) as a pandemic and on March 17, 2020 the virus spread across all fifty states. This is a rapidly evolving situation, and BRHPC will provide updated information and guidance as it becomes available. BRHPC is carefully monitoring developments related to the Coronavirus and working closely with our funders on how to meet with clients during this difficult time. Globally, to help eliminate the spread of this infectious disease it is important we all work together by following specific precautions that include, staying home when you are sick, avoiding contact with people who are sick, disinfecting surfaces frequently and washing your hands often with soap and water at the minimum of twenty seconds. For any person who feels they have been exposed to the virus should immediately contact their healthcare provider and then call the Florida Department of Health in Broward County at 954-412-7300. The only way to stop this pandemic is by working together to keep our communities safe and healthy.

In other news, BRHPC was accredited in 2016 through the New York based Council on Accreditation (COA) and is now currently undergoing its reaccreditation cycle. The Council on Accreditation is a nationally-recognized, independent accreditor of community-based behavioral health care and social service organizations. All of BRHPC programs, services and aspects of operations are reviewed by COA. Organizations like BRHPC maintain accreditation to demonstrate the implementation of best practice standards in the field of human services. BRHPC looks forward to the onsite visit in the upcoming months.

I would like to thank our board members, funders, community partners, staff and volunteers for their support and dedication to serving our community. BRHPC continues to be committed to transforming our communities lives through programs and services that meet the needs of our residents. I would like to thank Dr. Cyril Blavo for serving on the BRHPC board for the past fourteen years and being dedicated to the health and wellness of the Broward County community. I would also like to welcome our newest board member Osmel Delgado, who serves as the Chief Operating Officer of Cleveland Clinic. Welcome Osmel!

Sincerely,



Mike De Lucca, President & CEO

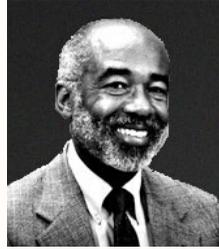
# Board of Directors



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MA



**Leilani Kicklighter**  
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**Cary Zinkin**  
DPM

# Centralized Intake & Eligibility Determination

**Ryan White Part A Services.** 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. In addition to in person eligibility, Ryan White Part A eligibility can be determined by CIED specialist via online certification. Online certification is another way that CIED continues to ensure that clients do not experience a lapse in care or lapse in service needs.

BRHPC-CIED held a consumer advisor board meeting to gather feedback on consumers' experience from a cultural equity perspective and developed a plan to include the community's voice on areas of improvement. During the month of February 2020, the CIED staff had the opportunity to participate in the first of a two-part training titled, "Motivational Interviewing 101: Culture, Communication, Collaboration and Change Training". The training was led by BRHPC educator, Debbie Cestaro-Seifer MS, RN. Debbie educated the staff on the method of motivational interviewing and how to effectively empower clients to be active in their own care.

## View the office locations below to schedule an appointment!

### 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 3rd Ave. Suite 301  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316  
954-767-0887

### Broward Community & Family Health

168 N Powerline Rd.  
Pompano, FL 33069  
954-970-8805

### Florida Department of Health in Broward County Paul Hughes Health Center

205 NW 6th Ave.  
Pompano, FL 33060  
954-213-0623

### Florida Department of Health in Broward County

State Road 84  
780 SW 24th Street  
Fort Lauderdale, FL  
954-213-0623

### 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

### Broward House

**Wilton Manors Client Service Center**  
2800 Andrews Ave.  
Wilton Manors, FL 33311  
954-568-7373

### 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

5647 Hollywood Blvd,  
Hollywood FL 33021  
954-276-1616

### Poverello: Friends Fitness Center

2200 NE 12th Ave.  
Wilton Manors, FL 33305  
954-563-1299

# 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.

The Affordable Care Act Open Enrollment period for 2020 coverage started November 1, 2019 and ended December 18, 2019. During this period, HICP along with BISS staff contacted Ryan White Part A clients that did not have health insurance coverage but were eligible for ACA insurance based on their income and other factors. HICP also contacted clients who are currently enrolled in an ACA Marketplace plan to remind them about the open enrollment period. Clients were referred to Certified application counselors that were able to complete enrollment over the phone. Phone enrollment provided a more convenient option for clients.

During 2019, The Benefits Insurance Support Service Program (BISS) has assisted clients by providing health insurance education to ensure that clients understood their benefits. The BISS team referred clients to HICP that were unaware of their copay and deductible assistance benefits. At the end of February 2020, the BISS program will be sunsetting having served over 2,166 clients with benefit education.

HICP has introduced copayment cards to eligible clients which allows for providers to submit an electronic claim for the client's copay or deductible amount directly to HICP. This method ensures that the clients do not experience any delays in access to care. Currently the HICP copayment card is utilized for medical copayments and deductibles. As of today, 150 copay cards have been distributed to HICP clients.

***“The service that the HICP team provides is invaluable and I truly appreciate the program.”***

- HICP Satisfied Client

For more information on HICP call:  
954-561-9681 x 1275 or 1220.

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



# Healthy Families Broward Program

Healthy Families Broward (HFB) takes pride in offering our monthly parenting groups which are always free of charge to our participants. Healthy Families Broward parenting groups help to foster an open exchange of ideas, support, information and resources to the families we serve in our Broward communities.

During the month of February, we had a Valentine's Day themed baby shower for our expecting moms participating in the HFB program. Mother's-to-Be had a chance to create personalized infant swaddle sacks for their soon to be bundle of joy. In addition to creating a cute infant swaddle, they also engaged in fun baby shower games and won resourceful prizes such as a car seat and pack-n-play. Additionally, the mother's learned how to swaddle an infant, the reasons why and some of the benefits of swaddling. The benefits include:

1. Regulate babies' temperature.
2. Reduce the likelihood that the startle reflex will wake baby up.
3. Help baby to feel more secure and safe especially in the "fourth trimester," the first 3-4 months after baby is born.
4. Reduce excessive crying in young babies, especially babies with colic/reflux.
5. Help babies to get the sleep they need for optimum infant development.

The Mother's also received information on "Breastfeeding vs. Bottle-Feeding" and all the great health benefits for babies breastfed. The mother's continue to look forward to Healthy Families Broward amazing free parenting groups.



For any additional information, contact Laonya Starlin, program manager at [LStarlin@brhpc.org](mailto:LStarlin@brhpc.org).

# HIV Planning Council & Clinical Quality Management



The Chair of the Community Empowerment Committee, Bessie Dennis, addressing the audience at the African American Research Library and Cultural Center on February 6, 2020.

On February 6th, the HIV Planning Council (HIVPC) worked with the Community Empowerment Committee (CEC) to table at a speaking event about HIV. The African American Research Library and Cultural Center (AARLCC) hosts a speaker series called, Cultural Conversations at the Center. In honor of National Black HIV/AIDS Awareness Day, the AARLCC hosted Morris Anthony Singletary. The speaker discussed “Love and Positivity,” sharing his story from HIV diagnosis through empowerment.

CEC and HIVPC members attended and tabled the event, sharing information about the Council with attendees. The CEC Chair made an appeal to event guests to attend HIVPC and Committee meetings.

This event represented an increased effort by the HIVPC to engage interested community members. In the past few months and in the new fiscal year, the HIV Planning Council’s focus has been and will continue to be recruiting new members and retaining existing members. The HIVPC is required to maintain a minimum 33% unaffiliated consumer membership. That means that one-third of the Council’s members must utilize Ryan White Part A services and do not work for—or is otherwise compensated—by a Part A-funded agency. Having consumer involvement means that the HIVPC meets its goal of representing the views and needs of people using Part A services. The HIV Planning Council will continue to engage prospective members with new promotional materials and engaging events in the coming months.

If you are interested in attending upcoming events or meetings, please contact the HIV Planning Council Support Team via email at [hivpc@brhpc.org](mailto:hivpc@brhpc.org) or by phone at (954) 561-9681 ext. 1295 or 1343.

For additional information on the program, please email [HIVPC@brhpc.org](mailto:HIVPC@brhpc.org).



## JOIN THE HIV PLANNING COUNCIL FOR A MEETING

- The Broward County HIV Health Services Planning Council (HIVPC) believes in the power of people with HIV to guide their own care.
- For 30 years, this Council has elevated the voices of Broward’s Ryan White Part A consumers. HIVPC does this by empowering its members to plan services provided by the program.
- To do this work, the HIVPC relies on its 5 standing Committees to review community information and make informed decisions.
- Any Broward County resident with an interest in the care of the HIV community can join a Committee and have his, her, or their voice heard. From there, join the Council to see how each Committee adds to the HIVPC’s knowledge and action.

## COME SEE US IN ACTION!

For more information:

✉ Email us at [hivpc@brhpc.org](mailto:hivpc@brhpc.org)

☎ Call us at (954) 561-9681 ext. 1295 or 1343

<https://www.brhpc.org/programs/hiv-planning-council/>

# Housing Opportunities for Persons Living with AIDS

The Housing Assistance program at Broward Regional Health Planning Council, Inc., provides services to the community under the Housing Opportunities for Persons with HIV/AIDS (HOPWA) program.

Our team has been working diligently to assist our clients to help prevent homelessness. The Housing Assistance program has assisted 102 unduplicated clients between October 2019 to December 2019 with over \$95,305 of rental, utility, and emergency hotel voucher assistance to help prevent homelessness.

BRHPC has been working closely with the City of Fort Lauderdale grantee and other local agencies - CareResource and SunServe to provide rental and utility, and emergency hotel voucher assistance to low-income residents across Broward County.

## CLIENT SUCCESS STORY

A client was laid off from her job and fell behind on her mortgage payments. The client was at risk of going into foreclosure and losing her home of over 25 years, even though there were only nine payments left. With the swift and dedicated help of the client's Housing Case Manager and the Reviewer at BRHPC, the client was able to work out an arrangement with the mortgage company. The program assisted the client with financial assistance towards her mortgage and late fees. The payments were made quickly, thus preventing foreclosure and saving the client's home for the client and her family.



As we enter the second quarter of the current fiscal year, the HOPWA team is looking forward to another successful year in helping persons living with HIV/AIDS in our community to prevent and end homelessness.

For more information on this program, email Housing Program Coordinator, Sharon Alveranga-Jones at [smcdonald@brhpc.org](mailto:smcdonald@brhpc.org).

# Insurance Benefits Management

After a successful launch of the Insurance Benefits Management System (IBMS), BRHPC has enrolled over 7000 clients, verified premiums and tax credits as well as paid up to \$5,000,000.00 in premium a month. The IBMS resides in HIPAA compliant secure cloud and maintains over 21,000 records for eligible and enrolled clients.

BRHPC has provided clients access to assist with questions through an 800 number. During it's peak BRHPC handled on average over 100 calls a day. The 800 number is in operation from 8:00 AM to 6:00 PM Monday through Friday to assist clients with coverage and enrollment concerns.



For eligibility information contact Matt Anthony at 954-561-9681 x 1205 and for payment information contact Cristy Kozla at 954-561-9681 x 1334.

# Nurse-Family Partnership



**Diana Lara** is from Bogotá, Colombia. She is a foreign registered nurse since 1997 with experience in pediatrics. Diana moved to the United States back in 2001 pursuing her dreams. She became an International Board Lactation Certified (IBCLC) in 2006 and worked as a breastfeeding counselor in the WIC office. She is passionate about supporting moms in their breastfeeding journey. Diana also worked for the Healthy Start program at Memorial Healthcare

System, and later became a Registered Nurse home visitor with the Nurse-Family Partnership program. Her charismatic personality and good sense of humor added to her experience and made her the right fit for the supervising position. She is excited to start in her new role as program manager to continue delivering the program with fidelity to the model and supporting her team of nurses to provide the best care to the families they reach.

Nurse-Family Partnership Broward works with first-time mothers and their children to improved prenatal health, improved child health and development, and increased economic sustainability. Nurse Family Partnership works to reduce the risk of pre-term labor and delivery, reduce infant mortality rate, promote breastfeeding, and improve the rate of prenatal care within the community. We proudly service 183 mothers and 138 infants and we truly look forward to continuing working with these families.

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; and (4) live in one of the following Broward County zip codes: 33024, 33025, 33023, 33319, 33313, 33311, 33069, 33060, or 33064.

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.

For more information, contact Program Manager, Diana Lara at [DLara@brhpc.org](mailto:DLara@brhpc.org).



# Point-in-Time Homeless Count

The 2020 Broward County Point-in-Time (PIT) Homeless Count took place on January 29th and 30th. It was a huge success! This year, we had a 2-day count and established six new Headquarter Sites strategically placed in different regions across the County. These Sites allowed for a convenient meeting place for volunteers to leave from to canvas their designated regions. Volunteers completed surveys with individuals experiencing homelessness that they came across in their coverage area. Around 300 volunteers were recruited to participate in this grand effort. Around 45 law enforcement joined in for the night shifts to go out with volunteer teams ensuring their safety.

Another exciting change this year was the use of the Survey123 App. Most of the surveys collected were done using the App. We were able to see when and where surveys were collected through an interactive, LIVE dashboard! An additional advantage was that the data collected was more accurate and minimized human error. Most volunteers reported that they preferred using the App to paper surveys.

Furthermore, many volunteers reported that they were glad they participated in PIT and recommended that everyone should experience this at least once to really understand how our homeless population lives in Broward County. It is one thing to see individuals experiencing homelessness panhandling on the streets or sitting on a bus bench— It's a whole other thing when you interact with them in this personal way.

The PIT Count is important because the data collected monitors local trends, identifies unmet needs and characteristics of homelessness, assists in development or redistribution of programs and services, raises community and political awareness, and measures if homelessness has decreased in our community. Results for this year's PIT Count can be expected in the Summer of 2020.



For more information on the Point-in-Time Homeless Count, contact Jessica Abou a [Jabou@brhpc.org](mailto:Jabou@brhpc.org).

# Substance Abuse and Mental Health

Congratulations to BRHPC's Forensic Coordinators from the Post-Arrest Diversion (PAD) and Competency Restoration Training (CRT) Programs. They have all been matched to their predoctoral internships and will be moving onto the next stage of their clinical psychology training this fall. The Coordinators have each played a vital role in the program. Their dedication and commitment has brought the program to the next level. We wish each of you continued success and growth in your career. The Forensic Coordinators in the Training Programs include Brittany Plombon, Danielle Milen, Amanda Wolfson and Jordana Pepper.

**Brittany Plombon** is currently a doctoral candidate at Nova Southeastern University's clinical psychology program with a concentration in forensics. In July 2020, she will begin her predoctoral internship at Utah State Hospital (USH) in their clinical psychology forensic program. USH is a secure psychiatric treatment facility for the severely mentally ill. The forensic program involves evaluation and treatment of inpatient, outpatient, and incarcerated defendants committed to the Division of Human Services by the Utah criminal justice system. As a forensic coordinator and a previous practicum psychology trainee for the Post-Diversion Program, Brittany has gained experience in conducting psychological evaluations and running groups with patients involved in the legal system.



**Danielle Millen** is currently in her fifth year of training in the clinical psychology PhD program at Nova Southeastern University (NSU). In July 2020, she will begin her predoctoral internship program at NYU + Bellevue where she will continue to gain experience working with individuals with severe and persistent mental illness (SPMI) in a forensic inpatient setting.

The program combines the resources of Bellevue and Kirby Forensic Psychiatric Center to offer training in both acute and long-term care with forensic patients who are at various stages of involvement with the criminal justice system. She is hoping this experience will naturally build upon the knowledge and skills she has developed from working with both the Post-Arrest Diversion program at BRHPC.



# Substance Abuse and Mental Health



**Amanda Wolfson** is a fourth year graduate student at Nova Southeastern University's Psy.D. in Clinical Psychology program and has been working with the Diversion and CRT programs for two years. Her treatment focus is primarily forensic populations and trauma, after completing a forensic practicum rotation, as well as rotation at the Trauma Resolution Integration program at NSU. She recently matched for internship with Broward Sheriff's Office, where she will continue working with SMI and trauma clients in a forensic setting. She hopes to pursue a career working in corrections at a federal or state level.

**Jordana Pepper** is currently a 4th year graduate student in the clinical psychological doctoral program at Nova Southeastern University (NSU) with a focus in clinical forensic psychology. In September 2020, she will begin her predoctoral internship program at the Federal Bureau of Prisons Metropolitan Detention Center in Los Angeles, California which is designated as one of the Forensic Study Centers in the United States Federal Bureau of Prisons. Jordana will not only continue to gain experience working with individuals with severe and persistent mental illness in a forensic correctional setting, but she will also gain experience conducting court ordered evaluations on inmates from all over the country. As the co-forensic coordinator and a previous practicum student trainee for the Post



Arrest Diversion Program, Jordana has gained invaluable experience working with SPMI clients currently going through the criminal justice system, and she hopes that her internship training will build upon the knowledge and skills she has developed from working at BRHPC.

For additional information on the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Program, please contact, Forensic Director, Dr. Michael Collins at [MCollins@brhpc.org](mailto:MCollins@brhpc.org).

# Supportive Services for Veteran Families

## Client Success Story

Mr. Ali was desperate for assistance when he met Christina Lazarre at an outreach event.

“I’m behind on my rent!”, he said. “My hours were cut at work and it left me short. ”I’m two months behind... unable to pay what I owe.” I don’t want to become homeless; can you help me?”

After helping the client to complete the application Christina immediately connected the client to our legal partner, Legal Aid of Broward County for immediate assistance. Legal Aid was able to advocate for and negotiate with the Landlord subsequently drafting a joint stipulation which outlined a plan to satisfy the debt.



Meanwhile Christina worked with the client to develop a budget so that he could have an overview of his monthly expenses and develop a housing stability plan to help sustain his housing. Mr. Ali was able to contribute \$2,000.00 toward his balance of \$4,141.72.00 in past due rent with the Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) program providing the remaining balance of \$ 2,141.72. The payment was hand delivered to the leasing office by Christina. The client was grateful and thanked everyone who was part of the process. “May God bless you all”, he said.

The SSVF Program assists veterans and their families who are experiencing homelessness or at imminent risk of homelessness through client-initiated case management and temporary financial assistance. The program is able to provide move-in cost assistance to secure new housing such as security deposit, first or last month or assistance to address past due rent. The program also provides referrals and services such as employment readiness, legal assistance, emergency housing assistance, connection to health services, and housing.

For additional information, please email Program Manager, Lisa Besley at [Lbesley@brhpc.org](mailto:Lbesley@brhpc.org).

# Tenant-Based Rental Voucher Program

The Tenant-Based Rental Voucher (TBRV) program is proud to announce that another client reached self-sufficiency and is on their way to homeownership! With the help of the program, and the incorporation of our financial health workshops, held every first Thursday of the month, our client decided to work on her credit, reduce her debt significantly, and save. The client was pre-approved for a mortgage and is actively shopping around for a new home. As with all our clients, the TBRV program is here to support and provide all resources and referrals necessary to help our clients reach their goals and self-sufficiency.



## Client Success Story

"I would love to say first that I appreciate all the help and support I've gotten from this program, from day one. I never had one complaint nor any concerns that wasn't addressed with the utmost professionalism. Mrs. Rhode, is the best along with all my counselors, especially my last one, Miss Floreal. There are no words to express my thoughts of appreciation at this time. I'm going to relinquish my voucher on March 31st. I've been pre-approved for a mortgage to get my own home. I'm still looking and prayerfully and hopefully I'll have found a place of my own by the end of my lease. Again, thank all of you from the bottom of my heart."

We are hoping to share another success story about another client who is actively working on becoming a home-owner next year. Our client was referred to a first-time homebuyer program, in her area, from one of our housing specialists. She is adamant about reaching her goal, and with the help of TBRV, she will be able to complete her intended goal.

If you would like more information on the program, please contact Housing Program Coordinator, Rhode Rosulme-Rock at [rock@brhpc.org](mailto:rock@brhpc.org).

# Employee of the Quarter



**Lasonya Starlin** started her journey at BRHPC on October 1, 2012, as a Family Support Worker (FSW) for the Healthy Families Broward Program. In 2013, she was promoted to a Family Assessment Worker (FAW) and in 2014, she was promoted to the Family Assessment Worker Supervisor. In 2019, she was again promoted to the Program Manager of the Healthy Families Broward Program. In her current role, Lasonya is known by her employees as a reliable, effective and caring manager and has developed trusting relationships with families and coworkers. Thank you Lasonya for being a key team player at BRHPC!

## Public Health Workforce Development Series

**Presenters Needed.** The Public Health Workforce Development Series is a series conducted by Nova Southeastern University Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine Master of Public Health Program and Broward Regional Health Planning Council.

For the 2020 Work Force Development cycle we are looking for presenters on a range of public health topics. If you are interested in presenting or have any further questions, please email [Workforce@brhpc.org](mailto:Workforce@brhpc.org) and provide the following information: name, title, organization, topic(s) interested in presenting and contact information. We look forward to your presentations!



# The 2020 Census

The 2020 Census is here, and it is so important that you participate. The Census Bureau mailed an invitation to every household. Responding to the Census is easy and convenient — whether online, over the phone, or by mail—all within the comfort of your home. In fact, over 11 million people have already responded online!

Responding to the Coronavirus Pandemic is an example of why it is so critical to respond to the Census. An accurate count allows public health officials to monitor the spread of communicable diseases and provides funding for vital health services and emergency response planning. Data collected in the 2020 Census will be essential for identifying the locations in our community with the greatest need for new hospitals and health centers.

A flawed Census will compromise efforts to track and effectively manage these emergent public health threats, so it is critical that you and every member of your household is counted in the Census this year. We need your help to ensure that Broward County receives its fair share of federal funding. Use your 12-digit Census ID you received in the mail and visit: <https://my2020census.gov/>.

## Count yourself in the right place.

In general, you should count yourself **where you live and sleep most of the time**. But pay special attention if you are:



### Completing Your Household's Form

When responding, count any children, including newborns, who usually live and sleep at your home—even if they're not your own. If they split time evenly between two households, count them where they are on April 1, 2020."



### A Recent Mover

Count yourself at your new address if you moved in by April 1, 2020.



### A Renter

Count yourself where you live. Even though you don't own the home, you need to participate. Don't forget your family and roommates.



### A College Student

If you don't live in a dorm, count yourself at your off-campus address—even if you go to your parents' home for school breaks. This includes international students.



### A Service Member

If you don't live in military barracks—and you aren't deployed or stationed outside the United States—count yourself where you live and sleep most of the time, whether on or off base.



### A Resident of a Group Facility

For people in the following living situations on April 1, 2020, Census Bureau employees will work with a representative from your building to ensure you are counted. They may or may not ask you to complete an individual census form.

- College dorms
- Military barracks
- Nursing homes
- Group homes
- Shelters
- Psychiatric facilities
- Correctional facilities

For more details, visit [2020CENSUS.GOV](https://2020CENSUS.GOV).



**Remember - the Census touches every life, every day!**

## What to expect in the mail

**When it's time to respond, most households will receive an invitation in the mail. Every household will have the option of responding online, by phone, or by mail.**

Depending on how likely your area is to respond online, you'll receive either an invitation encouraging you to respond online or an invitation along with a paper questionnaire.

### Letter invitation

- Most areas of the country are likely to respond online, so most households will receive a letter asking them to go online to complete the census questionnaire.
- We are working with the U.S. Postal Service to stagger the delivery of these invitations over several days. This way we can spread out the number of users responding online, and we'll be able to serve you better if you need help over the phone.

### Letter invitation and paper questionnaire

- Areas that are less likely to respond online will receive a paper questionnaire along with their package. The package will also include information about how to respond online or by phone.

### We understand that you might miss our initial letter in the mail.

- Every household that hasn't responded will receive reminders and will eventually receive a paper questionnaire.
- If you don't respond online, by phone, or by mail, we will follow up in person.

### What we will send you in the mail:



#### March 12-24

An invitation to respond online to the 2020 Census.

**(Some households will also receive paper questionnaires.)**



#### March 16-24

A reminder letter.



#### March 26-April 3

A reminder postcard.



#### April 8-16

A reminder letter and paper questionnaire.



#### April 20-27

A final reminder postcard before we follow up in person.

For more information, visit:

**2020CENSUS.GOV**

D-FS-GP-EN-135

**Shape  
your future  
START HERE >**

United States<sup>®</sup>  
**Census  
2020**

**Remember - the Census touches every life, every day!**

# Committee Facilitation

**Health Care Access Committee Meeting.** BRHPC acts as facilitator for the Health Care Access Committee with the purpose to improve access to health care for the residents of Broward County. During committee meetings, outcomes and indicators are established, measured and reviewed. The members of the committee represent various facilities, agencies and/or departments within the county.

If you are interested in participating at the monthly Health Care Access Committee meeting, held on the fourth Monday of every month, please email Yolanda Falcone at [YFalcone@brhpc.org](mailto:YFalcone@brhpc.org).



**Health Services Planning Committee.** BRHPC convenes the Health Services Planning Committee to ensure the updating and accuracy of the Broward County Health Plan and Fact Sheets published by BRHPC. Presenters are also invited to discuss current issues impacting the health of Broward County residents.

If you are interested in participating at the quarterly Health Services Planning Committee meeting please email Shira Fowlkes at [SFowlkes@brhpc.org](mailto:SFowlkes@brhpc.org).

## Broward Regional Health Planning Council Fact Sheet

### Heart Health

February is Heart Health Awareness Month and a time when health professionals increase their promotion of individuals knowing about their risk for heart disease. "Heart Disease" is an umbrella term for any disorder of the heart including coronary heart disease, congenital heart disease, arrhythmia and heart failure.

Heart disease is the number one killer for both men and women and can happen at any age; however, the risk increases in older populations. Furthermore, heart disease is the leading cause of death for African Americans, American Indians, Alaska Natives and white people. It is the second leading cause of death (behind cancer) for Asian Americans, Pacific Islanders and Hispanics.<sup>1</sup>

#### Causes of Heart Disease

-  Damage to parts or all of the heart
-  Poor supply of nutrients and oxygen
-  Lifestyle choices (e.g. smoking, poor diet, being sedentary)
-  Obesity, high blood pressure, high cholesterol
-  Family History

#### How to Prevent Heart Disease

-  Maintaining a balanced diet
-  Exercise
-  Not smoking/quitting smoking
-  Consuming less alcohol

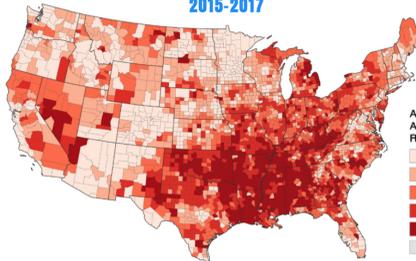
#### National Data <sup>1</sup>



**1 in 4**

of all deaths are from heart disease <sup>1</sup>

Heart Disease Death Rate for Adults 35-2015-2017



Age-Adjusted Average Annual Rates per 100,000

68.6 - 285.3
285.4 - 325.6
325.7 - 363.4
363.5 - 422.1
422.2 - 1096.6
Insufficient Data

Heart Disease



More Sick Days



More Doctor and Hospital Visits/Bills



Less Productivity



Economic Cost Burden

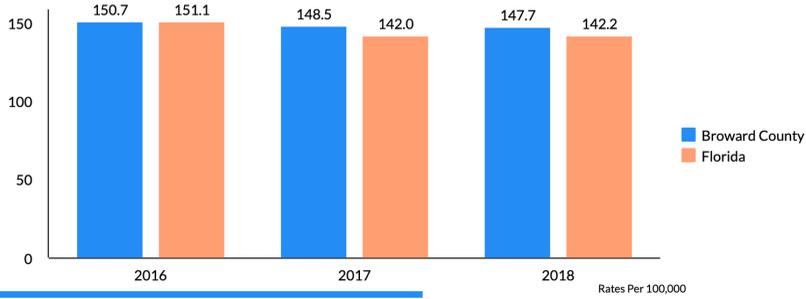
**\$2 Billion**

# BRHPC Health Spotlight

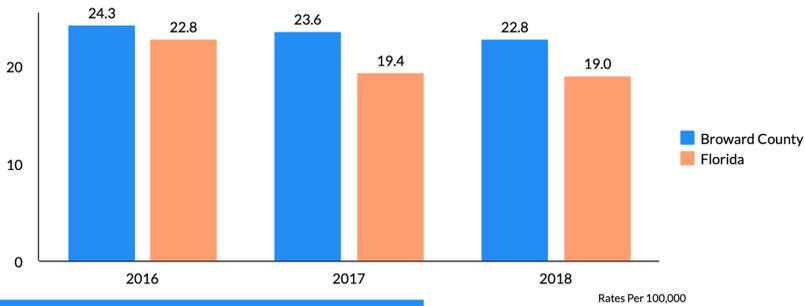
## Local and State Trends

Florida has 1.4 million people with Heart Heart Disease; second only to California which has 1.5 million people.<sup>2</sup>

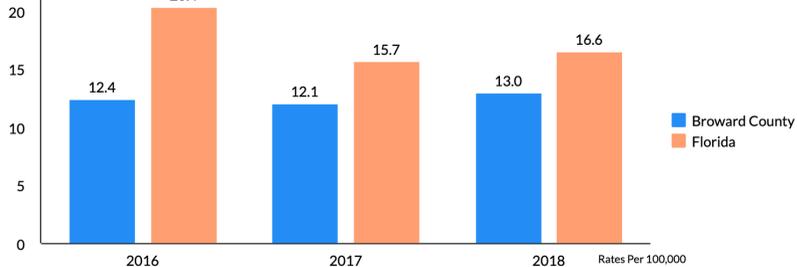
### Heart Disease Deaths Rates, 2016-2018<sup>3</sup>



### Deaths from Heart Attacks Rates, 2016-2018<sup>3</sup>



### Deaths from Heart Failure Rates, 2016-2018<sup>3</sup>



For more information, please email: [stowkes@brhpc.org](mailto:stowkes@brhpc.org)

**Broward Regional Health Planning Council, Inc.** is a non-profit organization committed to delivering health and human service innovations at a national, state and local level through planning, direct services, evaluation and organizational capacity building. For additional information, please visit [www.BRHPC.org](http://www.BRHPC.org). The entire **Broward County Health Plan** is available online ([www.BRHPC.org](http://www.BRHPC.org)).

Sources: (1) Centers for Disease Control, (2) National Heart, Lung and Blood Institute (3) Florida Charts

To view the Heart Health Fact Sheet and previous fact sheets electronically, please visit:

[www.brhpc.org/publications/community-health-needs-assessment-report/](http://www.brhpc.org/publications/community-health-needs-assessment-report/). The fact sheets are presented at the monthly Health Care Access Committee Meetings.

**COVID**  
CORONAVIRUS  
DISEASE  
**19**

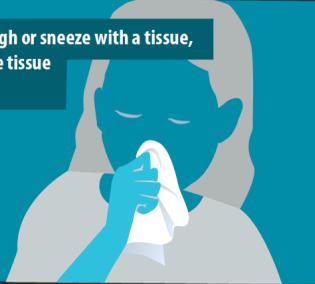
## STOP THE SPREAD OF GERMS

Help prevent the spread of respiratory diseases like Coronavirus (COVID-19).

Avoid close contact with people who are sick.



Cover your cough or sneeze with a tissue, then throw the tissue in the trash.



Avoid touching your eyes, nose, and mouth.



Clean and disinfect frequently touched objects and surfaces.



Stay home when you are sick, except to get medical care.



Wash your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds.



If you are concerned that you have been exposed to COVID-19, please call your healthcare provider and the Florida Department of Health in Broward County at 954-412-7300 before visiting any healthcare facility. [www.FloridaHealth.gov](http://www.FloridaHealth.gov), [www.cdc.gov/COVID-19-symptoms](http://www.cdc.gov/COVID-19-symptoms)

Seek medical advice if you develop symptoms, and have been in close contact with a person known to have COVID-19 or if you live in or have recently been in an area with ongoing spread of COVID-19. Symptoms of the virus include a fever, cough and shortness of breath.

# Council on Accreditation



Broward Regional Health Planning Council (BRHPC) is in the process of renewing its national accreditation through the New York-based Council on Accreditation (COA). Organizations like BRHPC maintain accreditation to demonstrate the implementation of best practice standards in the field of human services. COA evaluated all aspects of BRHPC's programs, services, management, and administration. BRHPC's accreditation status covers all programs and services and is valid until 2020.

BRHPC upholds a culture continuous of quality improvement through its transparent processes that engage the BRHPC Board of Directors, managerial and supervisory staff and stakeholders. During the monthly BRHPC's Performance Quality Improvement committee meetings, which are attended by the BRHPC supervisory, managerial and executive staff, various elements impacting performance outcomes are reviewed and discussed: scorecards, satisfaction surveys, safety measures and more. The following four subcommittees present their reports to the PQI meeting for discussion and approval:

## **The Human Resources Subcommittee**

- Reviews all policies and procedures related to employment practices.

## **The MIS Subcommittee**

- Monitors all data information systems function to assure seamless operations across all areas.

## **The Risk Prevention Management Subcommittee**

- Ensures that BRHPC engages in comprehensive, systemic and effective risk prevention and management; and evolves policies and procedures constantly to reduce/eliminate any BRHPC risk, loss, and/or liability exposure.

## **The Staff Training & Development Subcommittee**

- Provides all personnel with the supervision and training needed to perform their job functions at their highest possible level. It is also committed to enhanced staff development and growth of every employee through regularly scheduled and ongoing supervision and training.

Overall, BRHPC views performance quality improvement as a dynamic process that is constantly evolving.

# Electronic Fingerprinting Services

In order to assist community agencies and providers in meeting legislative requirements of HB 7069, BRHPC acquired equipment with the capability to scan fingerprints electronically for Level II Background Screening using Live Scan technology.

BRHPC offers Live Scan Fingerprinting technology for Level II Background Screening for the Department of Children and Families (DCF), Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA), Volunteer and Employee Criminal History System (VECHS), Elder Affairs, and the Department of Business and Professional Regulation (DBPR). Live Scan allows for electronic submission of fingerprint screens with results within 24 to 48 hours as in comparison to the hard card fingerprint submission which can take 4 to 6 weeks.

BRHPC's fingerprinting clientele includes hospital employees, guardian ad litem programs, doctors' offices, non-profit and social service agencies, colleges, universities and more.

Electronic Fingerprinting for Level II Background Screening services and additional services such as photo submission to the AHCA clearinghouse are available at BRHPC.

To schedule an appointment, contact the BRHPC office at **(954) 561-9681**, Monday through Friday from 8:30AM to 5:00PM.

**Fingerprinting clients must bring a valid ID and the identifying number for the organization requesting fingerprints (ORI, CRI). We accept cash or business check.**

## **Location for fingerprinting services:**

Broward Regional Health Planning Council  
200 Oakwood Lane, Suite 100  
Hollywood, FL 33020



# Connect with us on Social Media



[www.Facebook.com/BRHPC](http://www.Facebook.com/BRHPC)



[www.Linkedin.com/BRHPC](http://www.Linkedin.com/BRHPC)



[www.Twitter.com/BRHPCHealth](http://www.Twitter.com/BRHPCHealth)



[www.Instagram.com/BRHPCHealth](http://www.Instagram.com/BRHPCHealth)

## Batching Cycles 2019-2020

### Hospital Beds and Hospice: 1st Batching Cycle - 2020

Description	Dates
Summary Need Projections Published in F.A.R.**	1/17/20
Letter of Intent Deadline	2/3/20
Application Deadline	3/4/20
Completeness Review Deadline	3/11/20
Application Omissions Deadline	4/8/20
Agency Initial Decision Deadline	6/5/20

### Nursing Homes and ICF/DDs: 1st Batching Cycle - 2020

Description	Dates
Summary Need Projections Published in F.A.R.	4/3/20
Letter of Intent Deadline	4/20/20
Application Deadline	5/20/20
Completeness Review Deadline	5/27/20
Application Omissions Deadline	6/24/20
Agency Initial Decision Deadline	8/21/20

\*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.

**BRHPC**  
**200 Oakwood Lane, Suite 100**  
**Hollywood, FL 33020**

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