

2020



FALL NEWSLETTER

BRHPC

Broward Regional Health Planning Council

Transforming Our Community's Health

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HIGHLIGHTS



BACKPACK DISTRIBUTION

The Healthy Families Broward Program filled backpacks with school supplies to distribute to the program's participants.



NATIONAL THOUGHTFUL DAY

BRHPC expressed our gratitude for staff by passing out cookies at the office. The day also motivated staff to give to one another showing their appreciation of co-workers. This is a great reminder of how we should always be thoughtful. There were many SMILES made on this day under our masks!



FOOTBALL TEAM SHIRT DAY

On BRHPC's Football Team Shirt Day, staff supported their favorite teams by wearing their favorite team shirts or team colors to work!

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO



Broward Regional Health Planning Council is continuously monitoring developments related to the coronavirus pandemic. Our staff has continued to follow key protocols to contain the spread of COVID-19 by following the Centers of Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO) guidelines of promoting healthy habits and enhancing existing cleaning and disinfecting practices. BRHPC's goal is to have all staff, clients and visitors maintain safety and feel comfortable at our office. A mask must be worn by all when entering the BRHPC office, in common areas and hallways. By working together, we can make a difference and help slow down the

spread of COVID-19. As we have already prepared for the first hurricane to come during the pandemic, make sure your homes are stocked with water, flashlights, canned goods, first aid kits and other essential necessities as hurricane season extends through November 1, 2020.

For the past year, it has been an honor to sit on the Broward County Census Promotions Subcommittee, chaired by Barbara Effman. BRHPC continued to host Census Field Supervisory Trainings and Enumerator Trainings at our office. We would like to thank our fellow colleagues, community partners and community members for allowing their staff to dedicate fifteen minutes of their time to complete the 2020 Census. Together, Broward County has reached over a 61% response rate. The Census results will help determine how billions of dollars in federal funding flow into states and communities each year.

In July, BRHPC facilitated six training opportunities for staff on racial and social justice, which were facilitated by Sonya Brown-Boyne, LMHC from the University of Miami's AIDS Education and Training Center, and Suzanne Bundy, MA from Broward County's Office of Equity and Community Investment. The first training focused on exploring the influence of racial disparities on mental health and identifying strategies for addressing these disparities. Then, an open discussion was provided to staff, creating a safe space to express feelings and ask questions about race relations and race equity. Additional trainings were offered providing a history of systematic racism and the effect it has had on the minority population in all aspects of life.

BRHPC is devoted to advocating for and supporting social justice initiatives. To our clients, partners and the community-at-large—we are committed to providing services that promote equity in all aspects of our work in order to combat the systematic injustices that have plagued our nation for far too long. We hope that you all will join this effort with us with open minds and most importantly open hearts. #BLM

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO

In an effort to take actionable steps towards health equity, BRHPC is excited to announce our new equity and inclusion training curricula, developed and licensed from the Cross-Cultural Health Care Program (CCHP) based in Seattle, Washington. BRHPC proudly recognizes Florence Ukpai, HIV Planning Council Health Planner, for completing the CCHP Program's Equity & Inclusion Training of Trainers. The Equity and Inclusion Training of Trainers Institute held a virtual 3-week training for trainees to master how to provide culturally and linguistically appropriate services. Florence received a two-year, renewable license to provide cultural competency trainings. This quarter, Florence provided a training on Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Defined to our executive team. BRHPC is now a licensed provider of the Equity & Inclusion Training of Trainers.

BRHPC was accredited in 2016 through the New York based Council on Accreditation (COA) and is now currently undergoing its reaccreditation cycle. The reaccreditation cycle will take place in mid-October virtually, for the first time. All of BRHPC's 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 upcoming virtual site visit review.

For those looking for a career that empowers you to make a real difference in the health and well-being of the community in which we live, we encourage you to frequently visit BRHPC's job postings hosted on our website at www.brhpc.org/careers/. This page is monitored and updated daily.

Furthermore, BRHPC would like to welcome the Substance Abuse and Mental Health department's new Medical Director, Eric Robbins M.D., to our team. On behalf of BRHPC, we would like to express our gratitude to our board members, funders, community partners, staff and volunteers for their continuous support over the past 38 years and their dedication to serving the community. BRHPC continues to work toward a goal of transforming our community's health. During these challenging times of navigating through the COVID-19 pandemic, we wish you and your families good health and safety.

Sincerely,



Mike De Lucca, President & CEO



Connect with BRHPC on Social Media!

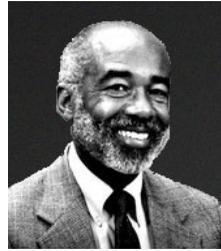
BOARD OF DIRECTORS



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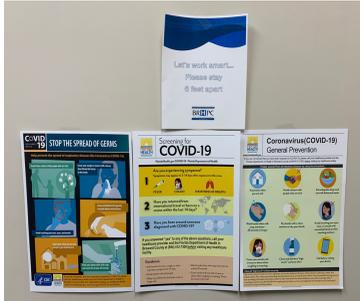
Cary Zinkin
DPM

BEST PRACTICES AT BRHPC DURING COVID-19

BRHPC is taking proactive steps to prevent the spread of diseases such as a COVID-19 by promoting healthy habits and enhancing existing cleaning and disinfecting practices.



Plastic Barriers are located at the front desk and between staff at work stations.
Facial Coverings must be worn at all times when social distancing cannot take place.



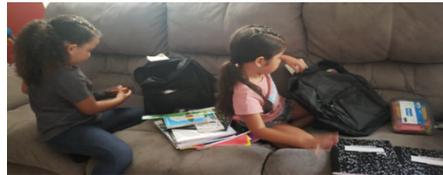
Signage has been placed throughout the building for the safety of our employees and visitors.



Handsfree door openers, faucets, toilets, soap dispensers, hand sanitizers & temperature checks have been added providing touch-free options.

HEALTHY FAMILIES BROWARD

Due to COVID-19, many businesses in Broward County ceased face-to-face services. This affected organizations such as schools, childcare centers, as well as home visitor programs. Our Healthy Families Broward (HFB) Program worked to adapt to the new norm by supporting families, who were in quarantine. Family Support Workers have been working diligently to connect families to community resources as they become available. They also provide training to support parents on topics such as stress management, screening for maternal depression, choosing a caregiver for their children, establishing a support system, parenting skills trainings, as well as working with children on social emotional and fine motor skills development.



HFB came up with creative ways to be innovative by providing fun activities remotely, such as Zoom Zumba, Virtual Zoom Scavenger Hunts (indoors and outdoors). Other online support groups include parents as teachers for expecting parents, parents of newborns and parents with multiple children in the home. Moreover, Family Support Workers educated families about the major impact of parent-child engagement on brain development during this time of quarantine. Lastly, thanks to a generous donation by Children's Services Council (CSC) of Broward, HFB was able to distribute 180 backpacks filled with supplies to our families with school-age children, getting them ready to do school virtually in Fall 2020.

For additional information, contact Laonya Starlin, Program Manager at Lstarlin@brhpc.org.

NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP



In response to the COVID-19 Pandemic, the Broward Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) Program migrated all home visits to telehealth visits to continue services, while maintaining the health and safety of the program's participants and nurse home visitors. We are also providing information through our website and the Goal Mama app to ensure that every Nurse-Family Partnership participating family has access to reliable information, support, and easy access to their Nurse Home Visitor. In addition to services being done virtually, clients receive a drop off visit of monthly incentives that can include diapers, wipes, books, safety items, and toys to meet the needs of families during this difficult time.

NFP works with first-time mothers and their children to improve prenatal health, support child health and development, and increased economic sustainability. Nurse-Family Partnership works to reduce the risk of pre-term labor and delivery, decrease infant mortality rate, promote breastfeeding, and improve the rate of prenatal care within the community.

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.

NFP 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.

NFP also works in close collaboration with other community providers to receive eligible participants. The program is supported through the Maternal Infant Early Childhood Home Visiting Initiative (MIECHV) funds which are administered by the Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions.



NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

CONGRATULATIONS CLASS OF 2020

FROM NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP



SAVE THE DATE
08.08.20

Nurse-Family Partnership
National Virtual Graduation
1pm PT | 2pm MT | 3pm CT | 4pm ET
RSVP @ bit.ly/2020NVC

NFP Broward participated in the first National Virtual Graduation 2020. This first-ever National Virtual Graduation was a huge success! We are so thankful to celebrate such a major accomplishment, with all our NFP families.



Always there for us, extremely grateful for this experience.

NFP MOM KENDRA & KARSON - FLORIDA



I just want to say thanks for your support, for helping me in all this process to be a new mom. Matthew and I really appreciate and love our nurse Diana Lara.

NFP MOM LORENA & MATTHEW
- FLORIDA

NFP Broward participated in the first National Virtual Graduation 2020, which was a huge success! We are so thankful to celebrate such a major accomplishment with our NFP families.

For additional information, contact Program Manager, Diana Lara at Dlara@brhpc.org.

INSURANCE BENEFIT MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

The Insurance Benefits Management (IBM) team is gearing up for the 2021 open enrollment. BRHPC has established a pre-registration site for those clients enrolling in 2021. The site will be live in October. BRHPC has worked closely with the Florida Department of Health and all local affiliates to clarify processes and ensure smooth enrollment.

BRHPC has built a state of the art secure IBM system to streamline payments, verify eligibility and premium amounts. To date, BRHPC has enrolled over 8,000 clients and paid more than \$46,000,000 in insurance premiums. BRHPC has worked closely with insurance carriers and has reduced the frequency and number of checks written monthly.

More information on open enrollment will be available at <https://enroll.brhpc.org> by the first week of October.



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.

HIV PLANNING COUNCIL & CLINICAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT

The Work Continues. The HIV Health Services Planning Council (HIVPC) and its Committees have continued serving the HIV community of Broward during this time. Despite being unable to meet in person, members have been working via virtual platforms to conduct business. In this period, two notable occurrences include the completion of the Priority Setting & Resource Allocation (PSRA) process and the Community Empowerment Committee's (CEC) first virtual town hall event. The PSRA Committee works year-round to evaluate how services are used in the community and plan for the future needs of Broward County. At its June and July meetings, the Committee worked tirelessly to rank services and allocated **\$14,212,868** in funding for the 2021-2022 fiscal year. The Committee considered Part A client utilization and outcomes, services available to clients from other funders, Broward County HIV epidemiological data, and ranking of services completed by the CEC.

In July 2020, the CEC hosted its first-ever virtual event, which was developed to recognize the video series entitled "Ryan White & You: The Simple Facts." The videos were created by the Ryan White Part A Program Office and serve both as an introduction to the Ryan White Program and as a guide to basic HIV care. To host the event virtually, CEC partnered with the World AIDS Museum along with Children's Diagnostic & Treatment Center and AIDS Healthcare Foundation to livestream the video series.

The video launch included an introduction to the series' producer, with overviews of the theme of each video from CEC members. Attendees then watched each video and participated in brief discussions. This event marked the beginning of CEC's venture into online event hosting, as the Committee continues to engage the community through innovative ways during this time. If you are interested in attending a virtual meeting of a Committee or the Council, email hivpc@brhpc.org for login information!

PRESENTATIONS AT THE RYAN WHITE 2020 NATIONAL CONFERENCE

Quality Management: The Clinical Quality Management staff presented on "The Broward EMA Initiative to Increase QI" Despite systemwide efforts to increase capacity for quality improvement (QI), there remain challenges in bridging the gap between quality improvement concepts, best clinical practices, and client barriers to quality care. To address this gap, the Broward EMA utilized a collaborative learning approach to improve providers' capacity to conduct QI. Presenters shared how quality network members were guided in conducting quality improvement projects (QIPs) within their agencies. This QI collaborative resulted in a systemwide change to quality improvement capacity within subrecipient organizations with all agencies completing a QIP during the fiscal year. By incorporating interactive QI training and technical assistance,



CULTURAL AGILITY IN HEALTH CARE

Become more culturally agile with one of BRHPC's new Equity and Inclusion training modules. In our efforts to take actionable steps towards health equity, Broward Regional Health Planning Council (BRHPC) is excited to announce our new equity and inclusion training curricula, developed and licensed from the Cross-Cultural Health Care Program (CCHCP) based in Seattle, WA.

The CCHCP's equity and inclusion training curricula features eight training modules designed to help participants heighten their awareness, improve their knowledge, and increase skills to work effectively in diverse work environments. Each module encompasses elements that explore the dynamic qualities of diversity, tools for effective interpersonal interactions, strategies that will help to deepen the dialogue across communities, and the integration of the principles of cultural competence in all operating systems of health institutions. The eight modules are outlined as follows:

- Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Defined
- The Principles of Cultural Competency
- Understanding the Dynamics of Difference
- The Five Steps to Cultural Competency
- The Culture of Western Medicine
- Culturally Competent Use of Language Services
- Building Culturally Competent Community Partnerships
- Building Culturally Competent Systems of Care



Florence Ukpai

Through CCHCP's "Training of Trainers" (ToT) Program, BRHPC's Health Planner, Florence Ukpai, has become a certified trainer. With this newly acquired expertise, BRHPC will utilize CCHCP's proven curriculum to facilitate ongoing education to our staff, partners, and community in the cities of Hollywood, Fort Lauderdale and Pembroke Pines. We seek to improve equity and inclusion within the health care system.

The Cross-Cultural Health Care Program (CCHCP) is a nonprofit training and consulting organization founded in 1992. They work with health and human service organizations on providing culturally competent services to their surrounding communities. "I was so pleased to work with Florence and learn about the fantastic work she is doing as a Health Planner. We're in awe of the work of agencies like the Broward Regional Health Planning Council, and I can't wait to hear how Florence will incorporate the training she received here to train others in the principles of equity and inclusion," said Bryon Lambert, Equity and Inclusion Program Director and ToT facilitator at CCHCP. In addition to CCHCP's Equity and Inclusion Program, the organization certifies medical interpreters with its widely used Bridging The Gap (BTG) licensing program.

SUBSTANCE ABUSE AND MENTAL HEALTH



Dr. Eric Robbins

New Team Member: On September 21, 2020, Dr. Eric Robbins joined the BRHPC Forensic Services Program as the Medical Director. Dr. Robbins is a psychiatrist and he will be working with Dr. Michael Collins to implement Medicaid billing for targeted case management. Dr. Robbins grew up in upstate New York. His Father, an ophthalmologist, influenced his decision to become a physician. As a family of Holocaust survivors, it was very important to his Mother that he would have a deep connection to the Jewish faith. In Rochester, he attended Hillel School and was raised in a modern orthodox community. His gravitation for the study of sciences drew him to Binghamton University where he received his B.S. in Biochemistry. With a strong affinity for Israel, he made the decision to study medicine abroad.

About the Substance Abuse and Mental Health (SAMH) Program: The BRHPC SAMH Team provides services in three main areas; Competency Restoration Training (CRT), Post-Arrest Diversion (PAD) and Forensic Hospital Case Management. In these areas, we strive to promote the idea that an individual can break the cycle of frequent recidivism resulting in jail time during the competency restoration process and reoffending after being found competent. The SAMH Clinician is responsible for processing all referrals of clients who are found Incompetent to Proceed (ITP) in the Felony courts. First, the referrals are reviewed for completeness followed by a clinical determination made of the client's suitability for services based on their mental health and/or substance use disorders, general intellectual ability to comprehend competency restoration material and specific competency deficits. Clients are then linked with an appropriate community agency for case management and medication services, as well as enrollment in competency restoration services at BRHPC. Services are delivered in English, Spanish and Haitian Creole by BRHPC staff. Contracted interpreters are used when needed for those who communicate using American Sign Language. Assisted Aids are available for clients who are hard of hearing.

For more information on the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Program, contact Dr. Michael Collins at Mcollins@brhpc.org.

CENTRALIZED INTAKE & ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION & HEALTH INSURANCE CONTINUATION PROGRAM

Ryan White Part A Services

BRHPC provides Centralized Intake and Eligibility Determination 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.

At the onset of the COVID-19 pandemic, Ryan White Part A eligibility was extended to ensure that clients did not experience a lapse in care or eligible services. As the community was faced with many challenges surrounding the pandemic, the CIED program employed alternative ways for clients to complete eligibility over-the-phone, online or in-person with a CIED specialist. The implementation of over-the-phone certification has provided clients with a new flexible and convenient option. Online certification was launched by CIED in 2019, and the program has seen an increase in clients opting to utilize this method of eligibility due to social distancing and other COVID-19 safety measures. In addition to these new methods, CIED specialist are also outpostted throughout the community to assist clients who prefer to go a site for eligibility certification. Furthermore, a secured CIED email address was created for clients and community partners to communicate with CIED staff regarding eligibility status and services. The continued collaboration between CIED staff and Ryan White service providers throughout the community has made the implementation of these new methods seamless during this difficult time.

The Health Insurance Continuation Program (HICP) at BRHPC also 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. During the COVID-19 pandemic, HICP staff noticed a shift in clients receiving telehealth and virtual medical appointments as opposed to traditional in-person visits. Clients continue to notify HICP staff of upcoming medical appointments to avoid any delay in assistance.



Client Testimony

"This program has been so helpful to me during this crazy time. I do not know what I would do without you all. I truly appreciate your help."

For additional information on the Centralized Intake Eligibility Determination and Health Insurance Continuation Programs, contact Program Manager, Natasha Markman at nmarkman@brhpc.org.

POINT-IN-TIME HOMELESS COUNT

The Point-in-Time (PIT) Homeless count is a statistically reliable count of people experiencing homelessness during a 24-hour period within the last 10 days of January. The count includes both sheltered homeless (those living in emergency shelters or transitional housing) and unsheltered homeless (those living in places deemed not suitable for human habitation). In order to successfully conduct such a huge endeavor, it is critical to attend strategic committee meetings, collaborate with other organizations who serve the homeless population, and recruit and train volunteers in preparation for the PIT count.

The 2020 Broward Point-in-Time Count revealed that there were a total of 2,211 individuals experiencing homelessness (985 unsheltered and 1,227 sheltered). To view the detailed report, go to the County's Homeless Continuum of Care Board Meeting Agenda Listing page under the June 24th meeting: <https://www.broward.org/Homeless/Pages/CoC-Board.aspx>.

Planning for the 2021 Point-in-Time Count will begin in October. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it has yet to be determined how Broward County will conduct the count and keep volunteers and those experiencing homelessness safe. The Broward County Homeless Continuum of Care Board is waiting for the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) guidance to determine strategizing for the count.

WAYS TO GET INVOLVED

In order to have an effective count it is vital to have dedicated volunteers to participate in our efforts. Not only are volunteers necessary for the actual count, they are also important factors in the events leading up to the count as well. If you are interested in volunteering for the count, please send an email to pitvolunteers@brhpc.org. Follow the Point-in-Time Count Facebook page for news and updates.



For more information, visit the PIT website at Browardpointintime.org or contact Program Coordinator, Jessica Abou at Jabou@brhpc.org.

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. For the last twelve years, the team has been working to assist eligible low-income [Area Median Income 80% or below] Broward County residents with past due rent, utility and mortgage assistance as well as permanent housing placement.

During the current contract year, the Housing Assistance Program at BRHPC provided over 110 unduplicated clients between April to June 2020, with over \$97,155 in short-term rental, permanent housing placement, utility, mortgage 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 Division, to find better ways to deliver services to the community. BRHPC cooperates 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

"I wanted to say thank you to everyone that played a role in helping to secure my wellbeing and prosperity. With every day that goes by, I think about what wonderful things you all do every day, by helping people become self-sufficient. It makes me even more grateful, that I was one of the lucky ones and that there will be others like myself who will be given a chance to get back on the right path of prosperity in life. It has been over a month at my new job, and everything is spectacular. I am making decent money and have been able to pay down most of my bills. I have been lucky enough to work extra hours every week that allows me to prosper. As of August 4th, it has been almost 3 weeks since I have moved into the condo and things are really beginning to happen for me. This place is spectacular. Thank you again to all of you. You are all angels."

As we enter the fourth quarter of the current fiscal year, the HOPWA team is looking forward to another successful year 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.

TENANT-BASED RENTAL VOUCHER PROGRAM

Despite the COVID-19 outbreak, the Tenant-Based Rental Voucher Program (TBRV) continues to make tremendous strides and a much-needed difference in our client's lives. Clients were able to adapt to inevitable changes, such as the limit of in-person contact, utilizing their smartphones to send pictures, taking advantage of their local public library for computer use, and maintaining and sending needed documentation to specialists. The program is now serving 88 clients. Housing Specialists work closely with clients to see that they reach their full potential by



becoming self-sufficient. The TBRV team also ensures that each client lives in safe and sanitary housing conditions, abiding with HUD guidelines.



The TBRV team is happy to announce that we will be pulling two clients off the waiting list, totaling ninety clients in the upcoming months. We value the importance of encouraging clients to create and complete their intended goals.

One great highlight for this year is that one of our clients decided to return to school to complete her GED and enroll in a medical program at the same time. The client recently gave birth to a

healthy son and she was determined to give him a better life by starting a career. The program will continue to support and maintain communication with the client as she reaches self-sufficiency. We are hopeful that all clients will utilize the TBRV program as a stepping stone in achieving their goals, as well.

If you would like more information on the program, please contact Housing Program Coordinator, Rhode Rosulme-Rock at rrock@brhpc.org.

SUPPORTIVE SERVICES FOR VETERAN FAMILIES

Client Success Story: Kira Johnson came to our program unemployed and homeless with three minor children. She was fleeing after being abused by her children's father. The team attempted placement with Women in Distress, but then she declined to go. The Supportive Services for Veteran Families (SSVF) team placed her in emergency housing to keep her safe. Later that evening, she was mortified later when the phone in her room began to ring – her ex had found her location and now was threatening her.

The team responded quickly to move the family to a private residence in a gated community. The Case Manager referred the family to the Housing Specialist, who helped her find a suitable place to accommodate her family. The program paid first and last months rent and double security deposit to house the client and her children. Additionally, much needed beds were purchased. She also received a referral to Legal Aid to resolve the custody of the child she shared with the her ex. Kira has since become employed and expressed thanks to the program for saving her life.

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 provides 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.

OUTSTANDING LEADER OF THE YEAR



BRHPC proudly recognizes **Sandy Thompson**, Chief Financial Officer (CFO), as the Outstanding Leader of the Year for her amazing contribution to the daily operations at BRHPC. Sandy has been part of the BRHPC family for the past seven years, starting out as the Accounting Manager and then promoted to CFO in January 2020. In her role, Sandy manages all financial services agency wide and oversees a team of five in the accounting department. Sandy's skills, qualifications and knowledge makes her an exceptional asset to the BRHPC family and we are honored to have her on our team.

Congratulations Sandy for your exemplary leadership and extraordinary commitment to BRHPC!

SPRING EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER



Christina Lazarre has been working at BRHPC for the past 8 years, starting as a Housing Case Manager for the HOPWA Program and later joining the SSVF team in October 2018. Christina's extensive experience in housing makes her an excellent advocate and mediator. She works to, first, build rapport with her clients, and then assists them in making the best possible life choices. Her outgoing personality makes her a favorite amongst her clients, and they often show their gratitude for the difference she's made in their lives. She will go the extra mile to ensure that her clients remain housed.

Christina is dependable, a team player, a trusted co-worker, and is always willing to assist others.

SUMMER EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER



Daniel "Dan" Oviawe recipient of the "Employee of the Quarter" award did not come as a surprise. Dan puts his all into sharing his talents in the office. He started with the Early Learning Coalition Program at BRHPC in August of 2015, where we saw him demonstrate an excellent work ethic and positive attitude despite the many challenges that have come his way. Over the years Dan has proven to be eloquently spoken, an effective communicator and equitable with those he encounters. Additionally, he has demonstrated his acumen to resolve client issues and staff difficulties with grace, integrity and

knowledge. Dan, thank you for your steadfast conviction to your duties and position. This award is a natural outcome of your commitment to excellence.

Broward Regional Health Planning Council Fact Sheet

Mental Health During a Large-Scale Crisis

What constitutes a large-scale crisis?

-  Major Health Events (epidemics and pandemics)
-  Social Unrest (protests, riots) #BLM
-  Economic Downturns (mass unemployment, stock market drops)
-  Natural Disasters (hurricanes, earthquakes)

Signs of Mental Distress

-  Sadness/Depression
-  Substance Abuse
-  Lack of Sleep
-  Domestic Violence

Covid-19 & Mental Health

Groups Experiencing Higher Rates of Poor Mental Health Outcomes



37% of Americans historically show some sign of depression

Since pandemic 48% of Americans are showing signs of depression

- Adults with pre-existing conditions
- Latnix and Black populations
- Women
- Young adults 18-34

Case Study in Indonesia

International Labor Organization's Better Work Indonesia

2.5 hour online stress management training to focus on
"Positive Well-being in the Workplace in the Face of Covid-19 Pandemic"

Helps Individuals:

-  Develop skills to cope with constant negative news
-  Understand how the mind and body work together in reacting to the environment (whether positive or negative)
-  Share feelings and overcome stress with an expert



To view the Mental Health During a Large-Scale Crisis Fact Sheet and previous fact sheets electronically, visit:

<https://brhpc.org/health-plan/>

The Fact Sheets are presented at the monthly Health Care Access Committee Meetings.

How Employers Can Help

Utilize technology to offer mental health resources

- Ensure employees are aware and knowledgeable about the mental health resources available through their health insurance including virtual counseling and virtual education on coping mechanisms and stress management.

Reduce stigma of seeking mental health treatment

- Bring in virtual therapists to discuss how to notice and address symptoms of poor mental health. Encourage employees to recognize the connection between mind and body.

Increase communication

- Advise employees about available resources and continuously show empathy—even after the pandemic has passed. Have leadership consistently talk to staff about these resources and make this the "new normal".

Prioritize full-body well-being in benefits plan

- More stress leads to more doctor's visits and sick leave. By prioritizing full-body well-being beyond the pandemic will prepare the workforce for any mental health issues that may come in the future.

Show empathy in leadership

- Leaders who show genuine concern for employees and their families will boost employee morale. Managers should check with staff regularly about their well-being and exclude work in these conversations. Furthermore, encouraging mental and physical breaks, exercise and taking time for themselves can cultivate a caring and empathetic environment.

Encourage "Social Vitamin C"

Courtesy Consideration Caring Community Compassion

RESOURCES

Choose-Your-Own-Adventure Mental Health Guide

CDC Mental Health Resources

Mental Health America's Mental Health & Covid-19 Information and Resources

Mental Health America's Anxiety Test

National Alliance on Mental Illness's Covid-19 Resource and Information Guide

American Psychiatric Association's Coronavirus Resources



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. The entire Broward County Health Plan is available online (www.BRHPC.org).

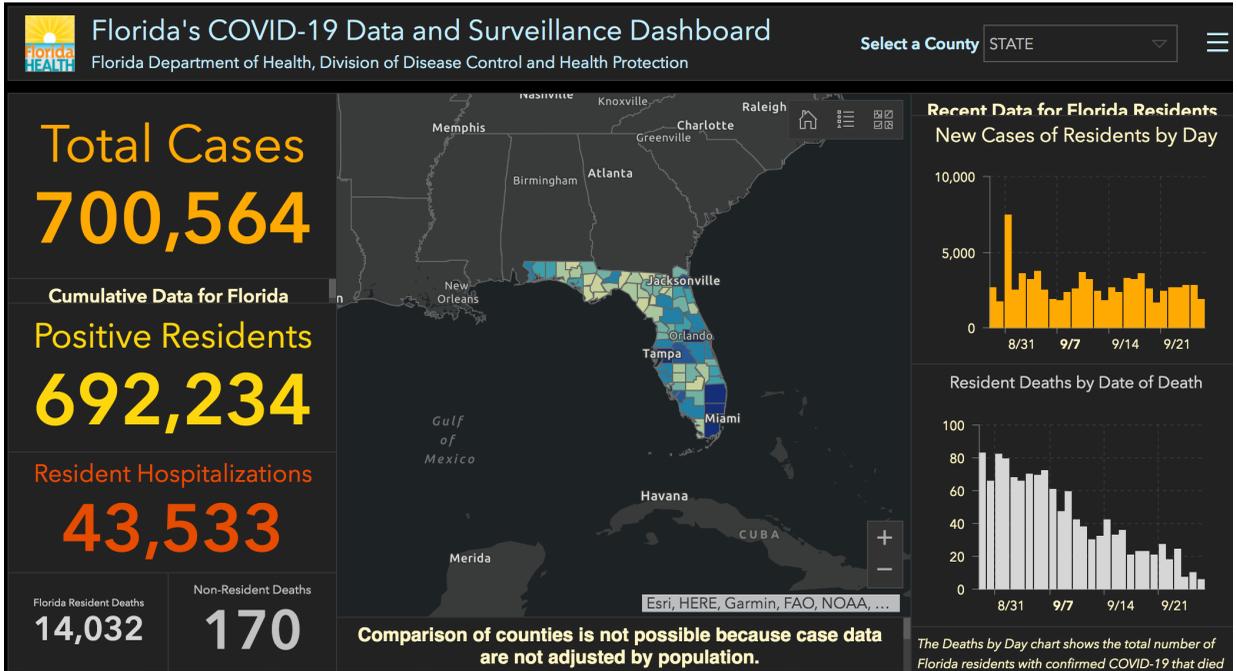
Sources: (1) Healthline (2) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (3) Forbes (4) Psychology Today (5) ilo.org

To view the Mental Health During a Large-Scale Crisis Fact Sheet and previous fact sheets electronically, visit:
<https://brhpc.org/health-plan/>

The Fact Sheets are presented at the monthly Health Care Access Committee Meetings.

BROWARD COUNTY HEALTH SPOTLIGHT

In light of the current COVID-19 pandemic, BRHPC wants to direct the community and our partners to a data-rich online resource.



This interactive dashboard allows interested individuals to look at the impact COVID-19 has had on Florida by County. It also provides users with informational resources, a directory of testing locations and places where people can get food assistance.

To view the dashboard, please visit: <https://floridacovidaction.com/>

This information is from September 28, 2020.

COMMITTEE FACILITATION

To maintain proper safety protocols during the Coronavirus Pandemic, all committee meetings have been transitioned to virtual Microsoft TEAMS Meetings until further notice.

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 on the Health Care Access Committee, held on the fourth Monday of every month, email Yolanda Falcone at 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 on the Health Services Planning Committee email Shira Fowlkes at SFowlkes@brhpc.org.

ELECTRONIC FINGERPRINTING SERVICES

As we are carefully monitoring developments related to the Coronavirus Pandemic, anyone interested in coming to the BRHPC office for Fingerprinting Services, are required wear a face mask, scarf, or cloth material to help prevent the spread of the virus.

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, in comparison to the hard card fingerprint submission, which can take 4 to 6 weeks.

BRHPC's fingerprinting clientele include 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.

For more information on BRHPC's Electronic Fingerprinting Services, contact the BRHPC office at (954) 561-9681 Monday through Friday from 8:30AM to 4:30PM.

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

Location for fingerprinting services:

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

Located in the Oakwood Plaza across from the Regal Oakwood 18 Movie Theater.



COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION



ENGAGE. EMPOWER. EVOLVE.

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 evaluates all aspects of BRHPC's programs, services, management, and administration. BRHPC's accreditation status currently 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 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.

BATCHING CYCLES

Hospital Facilities and Hospice: 2nd Batching Cycle - 2020 (Cancelled per Emergency Order 20-004 - See Below)

Description	Dates*
Summary Need Projections Published in F.A.R.	7-17-20
Letter of Intent Deadline	8-03-20
Application Deadline	9-02-20
Completeness Review Deadline	9-09-20
Application Omissions Deadline	10-14-20
Agency Initial Decision Deadline	12-04-20

Hospital Facilities and Hospice: 2nd Batching Cycle - 2020 (Cancelled per Emergency Order 20-004 - See Below)

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*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 facilities in the applicable Agency rules contained in Rules 59C-1.034-59C-1.041 F.A.C.

**New Hospice programs will not be included in the first CY 2020 Hospital Facilities & Hospice batching cycle per Rule 59C-1.008(1)(g)4 F.A.C.

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