

# Broward Regional Health Planning Council

## 2021 Spring Newsletter

*Transforming Our  
Community's Health*



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.

**BRHPC**

200 Oakwood Lane, Suite 100  
Hollywood, FL 33020  
954.561.9681 | [www.BRHPC.org](http://www.BRHPC.org)

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# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO



As we enter a new year, we must continue to work together to create and maintain healthy and safe environments. The COVID-19 pandemic began changing our daily lives in March 2020. During these challenging times, I am extremely proud and inspired by our staff at Broward Regional Health Planning Council for coming to work every day and accomplishing their daily tasks and goals, transitioning in-person meetings to virtual calls and disinfecting their work stations daily. Our staff will continue to follow the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the World Health Organization guidelines by wearing masks, maintaining their social distance and

washing their hands for at least twenty seconds. As vaccine distributions began late last year and continue into 2021, it is vital to continue to engage in healthy habits and enhance existing disinfection practices to slow the spread of COVID-19. Throughout the State of Florida, various sites are offering COVID-19 vaccines. To schedule an appointment, I encourage you to continuously check the Florida Department of Health's website for available appointments.

The Health Insurance Marketplace opened a special three-month enrollment window running from February 15, 2021 through May 15, 2021. Now you can enroll in or change health insurance plans, view the wide range of essential health benefits and covered services and apply anytime through May 15, 2021 by visiting [Healthcare.gov](https://www.healthcare.gov) or calling 1-800-318-2596. This may be the last chance to enroll in health plans for 2021 coverage.



During this quarter, I participated in a two-day virtual Groundwater Approach Addressing Racial Inequalities funded by the Broward County Board of County Commissioners and Children's Services Council. Facilitated by the Racial Equity Institute, these educational presentations used data from our major systems and institutions to illuminate the structural and institutional nature of racism in America. On behalf of BRHPC, we continue to provide equity and inclusion trainings to our staff, Board of Directors and community. BRHPC's HIV Planning Council Coordinator, Florence Ukpai, completed the Cross-Cultural Health Care Program (CCHP) training last year and Dr. Gritell C. Berkeley Martinez, Manager of the Planning and Quality Management, will receive the training this quarter.

# A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT & CEO (CONTINUED)

On January 8th, 2021, BRHPC received notification that we have been accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA) for the second time! COA accreditation affirms that an organization meets the highest national standards of best practices and establishes the organization's credibility as effective and professionally sound. In addition, it provides assurance to all of our stakeholders that BRHPC is delivering the need, high-quality services in our community, conducting its operations successfully, and managing its funds effectively.



To achieve COA accreditation, BRHPC first provided written evidence of compliance with the COA standards. Thereafter, a group of specially trained volunteer Peer Reviewers confirmed adherence to these standards during a series of virtual interviews with trustees, staff and clients. Based on their findings, COA's volunteer-based Accreditation Commission voted that BRHPC had successfully met the criteria for accreditation. COA accreditation demonstrates accountability in the management of resources, sets standardized best practice thresholds for service and administration, and increases organizational capacity and accountability by creating a framework for ongoing quality improvement. Congratulations to everyone involved and thank you for your commitment and support, which has been instrumental in BRHPC achieving COA accreditation successfully.

Last month marked my twentieth year at BRHPC and I would like to show my appreciation by thanking our wonderful Board of Directors, funders, community partners and staff for their commitment to the programs and services we provide. You all play a valuable role on our team and I look forward to another bright and successful year working with you. At this time, I would like to thank Lee Chaykin for serving on the BRHPC Board of Directors for the past seven years and recognize his dedication to the health and wellness of the Broward County community. Furthermore, I would like to welcome our newest board member Dr. Venessa Walker. Welcome to the BRHPC team Venessa!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Mike De Lucca'.

Mike De Lucca, President & CEO

# BOARD OF DIRECTORS

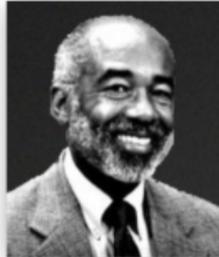
Special thank you to our Board of Directors for their continuous support and dedication to Broward Regional Health Planning Council.



**Barbara S. Effman**  
MPH  
Chair



**John A. Benz**  
MBA  
Vice Chair



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**Leilani Kicklighter**  
MBA, ARM, RN



**Cary Zinkin**  
DPM



**Venessa Walker**  
DC

# HEALTHY FAMILIES BROWARD

During the month of December, the Healthy Families Broward (HFB) staff hosted a Mommy Meet Up via ZOOM. This event catered to mothers that had babies who would be celebrating their 1st Christmas, December 2020. The mothers spoke about their favorite holiday memories and about what they were looking forward to this holiday season. Family Support Workers (FSWs) also shared some of their fondest memories with the moms. The moms and children created Christmas decorations. This activity encouraged parent and child interaction as well as helping with the development of fine motor skills. Thanks to various donors such as Toys for Tots, The Salvation Army and SOREFF Jewish Community Center WECARE program, the Healthy Families Broward program provided over 50 families with Christmas toys for the children and holiday food bags for their families.



The beginning of the year is usually a time for goal setting. The Healthy Families Broward team hosted a group meet-up in January 2021. The mothers created vision boards and updated their family goal plans. One mom said her goal is to get her driver's license, another said go to Mexico, while another said she wants to learn English. Family Support Workers (FSWs) will continue working on these boards with the moms and follow up with them throughout the year.



Healthy Families Broward Family Support Worker of the Quarter is Claudia Salazar. Claudia has been with HFB since September 2019. She works closely with the Spanish-speaking participants in the program. She has come alongside the Child Development Specialist as the Spanish translator to have her participants join the ongoing groups that

have been posted for parents in HFB. Claudia stays on the search for the next event or resources made available in the community that will benefit the program. She is always willing to share her findings with all of HFB. Claudia has a unique relationship with her participants; she has met her outcomes at 100% because she always gives a 110%. Not only is she an MVP to HFB, but also a team player. Therefore, she is helping create a team full of MVPs. For further information on the Healthy Families Broward Program, contact **Program Manager, Lasonya Starlin** at [Lstarlin@brhpc.org](mailto:Lstarlin@brhpc.org).

# NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

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The Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) program 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.

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 (NHV). 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 families' needs during this difficult time.

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 administered by the Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions.

# NURSE-FAMILY PARTNERSHIP

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## Celebrating the Holidays!

The NFP Christmas celebration was held this past December. The program's nurse home visitors delivered Christmas presents to their clients. This was an opportunity for new mothers to celebrate the season with their babies and their nurse home visitors. Thanks to generous toy and book donations from Memorial Hospital and Nurse-Family Partnership funders, each child received a gift from Santa!



## Client Testimonials

"My experience with the Nurse Family Partnership program has been so pleasant and informational that I have recommended it to all pregnant women in my life. I was reluctant at first with thoughts of doubt if I would be able to keep up with the program, but I grew to love and anticipate the weekly and bi-weekly meetings. As a first-time mother that has given birth and raising a child through these difficult times, having my nurse to be there for me has eased my anxieties and reassured me in ways I probably could never had myself."

There is so much misleading and false information out there and I am so fortunate that a program like this exists. I am treated like a family member, if not better than my own family, and I am so thankful. Many times, new moms are judged, and I felt that having that one person to listen and take the time out to explain and care for me as an individual has made my post-partum experience a game changer. I would really be lost and left vulnerable if it were not for my nurse. The support received from this program is unreal and I pray that it continues to stand in our community and that all women may experience it." - K.G.

"The Nurse-Family Partnership program is a wonderful knowledge-sharing platform for first time mothers. I feel it is having a great impact on my health and my child's life. Thank you to everyone who is doing hard work to run this program and my nurse." - P.B.

To learn more about the Nurse-Family Partnership program, contact **Diana Lara, Program Manager at [Dlara@brhpc.org](mailto:Dlara@brhpc.org)**.

# POINT-IN-TIME HOMELESS COUNT

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Due to the Pandemic, the 2021 Point-in-Time (PIT) Homeless Count will be done differently. The count will take place over a 10 day period beginning on March 20, 2021. Twenty surveyors will be hired and led by staff from the BrowardTask Force for Ending Homelessness. The county will be separated into 10 regions and each region will be covered by one team, consisting of 2 surveyors and one Task Force personnel.

Surveyors will utilize the Survey123 app on provided devices. This year the survey has been reduced to 9 questions to limit interactions between people. All precautionary measures are being taken to prevent the spread of COVID-19 and still provide Broward County with the data needed to ensure future funding for this vulnerable population.



Multiple providers who serve the homeless population in Broward County partner to make the PIT Count possible. *The featured image consists of Jessica Abou, Point-in-Time Homeless Count Coordinator, Deputy Michael Francis, BSO, Cassandra Rhett, Taskforce for Ending Homelessness and Pernell Baisden, formerly with Taskforce for Ending Homelessness. Teamwork Makes the Dream Work!*

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

# INSURANCE BENEFIT MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

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Enrollments are at an all-time high of over 7,700 clients and premiums are more than \$6.3 million. BRHPC expects that the total number of clients anticipated will be over 8,000. BRHPC continues to streamline the processes to make it more efficient and effective for clients to enroll and have their premium payments paid in the Marketplace.



BRHPC continues to improve the Insurance Benefit Management System (IBMS), which includes automated emails to the State and the service County for the client experiencing changes in coverage or eligibility status. The IBMS is also automating payments to carriers via a secure file transfer and wire payments in order to streamline the process further.

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**.

# TENANT-BASED RENTAL VOUCHER

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The Tenant-Based Rental Voucher program (TBRV) is springing forward to a new season with new goals and a new normal post-pandemic. The program continues to abide by and carry out its mission. During this past quarter, the TBRV program served 84 clients.

The TBRV program takes extraordinary measures to ensure that all clients live in safe, sanitary housing conditions, complying with the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) guidelines. The TBRV team is closely monitoring a client who will soon graduate from the program. Clients who graduate from the program complete their goals and deem to have reached self-sufficiency.

Two new clients have been selected from the waiting list and the TBRV team is honored to help them achieve their goals and reach self-sufficiency. Recently, three other housing programs opened their waiting list. Notices were sent to clients and the TBRV team assisted clients applying to those housing programs.

The TBRV program seeks to help participants make measurable progress toward economic security. As always, the team will continue to monitor, support, and provide resources for all clients and continue to push them to reach excellence. The team will continue to conduct mock interviews and resume tutorials with clients to ensure that they achieve self-sufficiency.

The Financial Workshop hosted by Consolidated Credit Services will resume monthly. The clients will receive instructions as to how to attend the meeting via telecommunication.



For more information on the program, contact Housing Coordinator, **Rhode Rosulme-Rock** at **[Rock@brhpc.org](mailto:Rock@brhpc.org)**.

# HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS

## CITY OF FORT LAUDERDALE

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

The team has been working diligently to assist clients in helping prevent homelessness. The Housing Assistance Program - Short-Term Rental, Mortgage and Utility (STRMU), and Permanent Housing Placement (PHP) has assisted 102 unduplicated clients between October 2020 to December 2020 with over \$98,663 of rental, utility, and emergency hotel voucher assistance to help prevent homelessness. Additional funds were awarded to prevent, prepare for, and respond to COVID-19 under the CARES Act.

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

### Client Success Story



The client, a single mother, became homeless in November 2020. The client called to inquire about move-in assistance. The HOPWA team has made an appointment for the client to immediately come in since she had already found an apartment. The reviewer did the client's intake and spoke to her supervisor about expediting the application process since the client was homeless. The application was expedited. The client called reviewer on the day she moved in, and the client

stated that "I wish everybody in the HOPWA department a Happy Thanksgiving." The client further stated that "words cannot express how thankful I am to everyone for this help."

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 additional information, please email **Housing Program Manager, Sharon Alveranga-Jones** at [smcdonald@brhpc.org](mailto:smcdonald@brhpc.org).

# HOUSING OPPORTUNITIES FOR PERSONS WITH AIDS

## STATE OF FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

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Broward Regional Health Planning Council was awarded a contract from the State of Florida Department of Health to meet the needs for persons with HIV and AIDS in need of emergency housing assistance.

### What Services Are Provided?

- **Short-Term Rent/Mortgage/Utilities:**

Financial assistance for housing and utilities (electric, water, gas only)

- **Housing Case Management:**

Support to help clients get into and stay in a safe housing situation.

### Qualifications for Services:

- Be a U.S. citizen or a legal resident with a valid Social Security number
- Someone in the household must be HIV positive
- Verification of low, very low or extremely income
- Demonstrated immediate financial emergency
- Documented proof of the need for assistance
- Completed application
- Plan of action to address the situation after receiving HOPWA assistance
- Be a current Broward County Resident for at least 6 continuous months

### How Do I Apply?



Contact the Housing Assistance Office directly at **754-777-7717** or **954-567-9688** for an appointment.

For additional information, please email Housing **Program Manager, Sharon Alveranga-Jones** @[smcdonald@brhpc.org](mailto:smcdonald@brhpc.org).

# SUBSTANCE ABUSE & MENTAL HEALTH

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The Substance Mental Health (SAMH) Program at BRHPC prides itself on ensuring that clients receive comprehensive treatment delivered by highly trained and skilled practitioners. Case managers, Competency Restoration Training (CRT) trainers, and Peer Specialists are encouraged and provided with ongoing training opportunities to enhance their skills, interventions, and communication.

As part of our ongoing training, SAMH staff have recently attended trainings in the areas of Motivational Interviewing, Serious/Severe and persistent mental illness (SPMI), and Collaborative Documentation. These three areas play a crucial component in all treatment steps and with our ability to effectively deliver services to individuals suffering with mental illness. Many of our clients are initially not ready or motivated to commit to change. Still, motivational interviewing helps them move through the emotional stages of change necessary to find their motivation. Motivational interviewing helps our clients become motivated to change the behaviors that prevent them from making healthier choices.

As the forensic team servicing Broward County, we work daily with clients diagnosed with (SPMI). This is a group of severe mental health disorders as defined in the Diagnostic and Statistical Manual used by mental health professionals to diagnose clients. The SPMI category includes Major Depression, Bipolar Disorders, Schizophrenia and Borderline Personality Disorder. Our staff works together in a cohesive effort to understand the psychiatric rehabilitation process. Participating in routine SPMI trainings provides our staff with the tools needed to help our clients learn ways to minimize stressors or conflicts that can further exacerbate the symptoms of SPMI. Along with the family and a range of social service providers, we are able to provide treatment, rehabilitation, and various types of community support for our clients.

In a collaborative effort to provide tailored services, we must first be able to accurately document the information presented by the client, in order to jointly develop goals and interventions through shared-decision making. Collaborative Documentation (CD) is an innovative practice for behavioral health service providers, whereby providers and clients collaborate in creating intake and assessment summaries, treatment or service plans, and progress notes. Training in this area allows for very effective accountability requirements and is a means for strengthening the therapeutic and working alliance with the client.

Our efforts at BRHPC to maintain professionally trained staff is guided through our commitment to ensure that those most in need are offered the full array of community-based mental health services necessary to successfully manage their illness, support their recovery process, and live meaningful lives in their community. For more information about the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Program, contact **Dr. Jenny Pi** at [Jpi@brhpc.org](mailto:Jpi@brhpc.org).

# HIV PLANNING COUNCIL & CLINICAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT

**CQM Quality Improvement Projects:** The Clinical Quality Management (CQM) Program assisted Ryan White Part A-funded agencies in completing their Quality Improvement Projects which were completed in the fourth quarter of the Ryan White Part A fiscal year. Service providers worked throughout FY2020 to develop a project based on an area of particular concern. Each worked to improve client health and experience outcomes throughout a year that posed the particular challenge of providing care during a global pandemic.

Service providers reviewed their client data to develop projects with goals ranging from increasing client re-certification & viral load suppression to improving patient engagement in care coordination. Each agency made use its existing information to develop a Plan, Do, Study Act cycle. This quarter, the agencies shared the results of their quality improvement projects and next steps to continue their efforts.



**Welcome, CQM Coordinator:** The Clinical Quality Management Program has recently brought on **Vanessa Oratien**, MPH as Coordinator. Ms. Oratien has worked within the Broward County Ryan White Part A Program as a Planning Council Support Team member for the past four years. She completed a graduate certificate in Non-Profit Management at the University of Tampa in 2018 and received her Master's in Public Health from Florida

International University in 2018. Ms. Oratien is excited to bring her working knowledge of the Part A system to the CQM Team!

***"I have witnessed the impact of quality improvement on the Broward County Ryan White Part A system of care, and I look forward to continuing the fantastic work of CQM!" - Vanessa Oratien***

**HIVPC - About the HIV Health Services Planning Council:** One of the important aspects of the Ryan White HIV/AIDS Program (RWHAP) is its focus on community health planning for HIV care and treatment. Community health planning is a deliberate effort to involve diverse community members in "an open public process designed to improve the availability, accessibility, and quality of healthcare services in their community." The process involves "identifying community needs, assessing capacity to meet those needs, allocating resources, and resolving conflicts." For RWHAP Part A, planning councils/planning bodies play that role.

RWHAP planning councils are unique. No other federal health or human services program has a legislatively required planning body that is the decision maker about how funds will be used, has such defined membership composition, and requires such a high level of consumer participation (at least 33 percent). This quarter, the HIVPC focused on recruitment efforts as well as maintaining the high quality of work it does.

# HIV PLANNING COUNCIL & CLINICAL QUALITY MANAGEMENT

**Screen Time:** In an effort to increase community engagement, the HIVPC is developing a recruitment video. Council & Committee members volunteered to share their motivations for serving the Council and continuing



the work HIVPC member of HIV care & treatment. Each provided a moving testimony for HIV advocacy and how the work of the Council impacts Broward County. The video will be rolled out in the coming months and the HIVPC looks forward to sharing the finished product! The photo captured is Lorenzo Robertson in a still shot from the upcoming HIVPC Recruitment Video, Priority Setting & Resource Allocation Committee Chair.

**HIVPC Retreat:** The HIVPC held a half-day retreat at the end of the Ryan White Part A fiscal year to enter into the new year with strengthened skills and renewed energy. Members focused on team cohesion with a presentation from Susan Leahy, Robert's Rules & Group to TEAM trainer. Joe Toliver facilitated conversation about how to bring skills from other areas of life to the table. Mr. Toliver has facilitated Council events in the past and used his skill to illicit insights from members that will impact the coming fiscal year. Finally, Ken Williams & Angela Pitts worked together to further the Council's capability of sharing a story. Mr. Williams previously worked with the Council by hosting a Storyteller Workshop in advance of the recruitment video shoot, for which he serves as editor. Ms. Pitts is an HIV advocate who has worked with the HIVPC previously and filmed the Ryan White & You: The Simple Facts video series. The retreat was a powerful, meaningful event and served as a strong call to action for members to engage in the work of the HIV Planning Council.

**Welcome, HIVPC Coordinator!** Coordinating all these activities will be Florence Ukpai, MPH, formerly HIVPC Health Planner. Ms. Ukpai joined the Planning Council Support staff in 2019 and has been promoted to HIVPC Coordinator. Florence received her Master's in Public Health with a Specialization in Health Promotion & Disease Prevention from Florida International University. She worked as a Prevention Specialist for a non-profit organization in Atlanta, GA, before coming to Broward Regional Health Planning Council. In her time on the PCS Team, Ms. Ukpai has demonstrated her dedication to the role and a passion for serving the community. Florence will continue in a leadership role with the HIVPC team to provide support to the Council and its Committees to ensure that people living with HIV/AIDS in Broward County receive care that is effective and inclusive.



***"I use my passion for public health to empower and inspire people to make healthy lifestyle changes. My goal is to effect change by helping to shape public health programs that are mindful of the diversity in community health."** - Florence Ukpai*

For additional information on the CQM and HIVPC Programs, contact **Program Manager, Dr. Gritell Martinez** at [GMartinez@brhpc.org](mailto:GMartinez@brhpc.org).

## **CENTRALIZED INTAKE & ELIGIBILITY DETERMINATION**

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BRHPC provides Centralized Intake and Eligibility Determination (CIED) 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.

During the COVID-19 pandemic, Ryan White Part A eligibility continues to provide eligibility determination through web portal (online) access, telehealth, in person and over the phone to ensure the community was provided alternative ways to complete eligibility.

The online certification 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 specialists are also outposted throughout the community to assist clients who prefer to go into a site for eligibility certification. Furthermore, a secured CIED email address is available for clients and community partners to communicate with CIED staff about 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 systems seamless during this difficult time.

## **HEALTH INSURANCE CONTINUATION PROGRAM**

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The Health Insurance Continuation Program (HICP) at BRHPC 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 HICP program continues to provide eligible clients with copay and deductible assistance. 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.

## **PROGRAM ASSISTANCE FOR PAYMENT FOR PREP LABS AND MEDICAL VISIT CO-PAYMENTS**

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Broward Regional Health Planning Council was awarded funding to provide payment of PrEP Labs and Medical Visit Co-Payments for insured or underinsured Broward County residents. Additional information is soon to follow.

## 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

### Specialty Care Center

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

### AIDS Healthcare Foundation

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

### Broward House Wilton Manors Client Service Center

2800 Andrews Ave.  
Wilton Manors, FL 33311  
954-568-7373

### AIDS Healthcare Foundation Oakland Park

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

### Care Resource

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

### AIDS Healthcare Foundation Downtown

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

### Memorial Healthcare System

**Memorial Primary Care Center – Dania**  
5647 Hollywood Blvd, Hollywood FL 33021  
954-276-1616

### Broward Community & Family Health

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

### Poverello: Friends Fitness Center

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

### Broward Health

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

For more information on the Centralized Intake & Eligibility Determination, Health Insurance Continuation Program and the Program Assistance for Payment PReP Labs and Medical Visit Co-payments, contact

**Program Manager, Natasha Markman at [Nmarkman@brhpc.org](mailto:Nmarkman@brhpc.org).**

# EMPLOYEE OF THE QUARTER



BRHPC proudly recognizes Nicole Cohen as the Employee of the Quarter. Nicole joined the BRHPC family in November 2015 as the Communication's Manager for the Transforming Our Community's Health (TOUCH) Broward Program. In September 2018, Nicole transitioned to the Public Information Officer for the organization. Nicole recently presented at the American Public Health Association in collaboration with Dr. Claudia Serna, Director of the Master of Public Health Program

at Nova Southeastern University's Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine, discussing the use of social media and non-profit organizations. Additionally, Nicole played an instrumental role as being the lead coordinator in achieving national accreditation for the agency by working with all programs and services, analyzing and organizing over 200 documents and scheduling various meetings. Congratulations Nicole on your accomplishments!

## 2021 PUBLIC HEALTH WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT SERIES

### 2021 Public Health Workforce Development Series

*A series conducted by Nova Southeastern University Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine Department of Public Health and Broward Regional Health Planning Council*

#### Promoting Tobacco Cessation to Vulnerable Populations

This presentation will address the current trends in adult tobacco use in Florida with an emphasis on high-risk populations that continue to consume tobacco at rates that are higher than the general population. Information will be provided on the benefits of quitting smoking, services readily available to assist smokers in their quit process, and procedures that can be easily adopted by health care systems and providers to promote the use of these services and further reduce tobacco use disparities.



Gustavo A. Saldias, MPH TTS

12:00 p.m. -  
1:00 p.m.

Tuesday,  
March 30, 2021

Synchronous viewing will be made available. Please RSVP to [Workforce@brhpc.org](mailto:Workforce@brhpc.org) to receive the link.

Mr. Saldias is the Associate Director of the NSU KPCOM Area Health Education Centers (AHEC). He has been involved with the NSU AHEC Program for over 25 years in developing training and educational initiatives to address a wide range of public health issues of great importance to our state and nation, including AHEC's Tobacco Program since its inception in 2007. He was also instrumental in establishing the Master of Public Health Program at NSU. Mr. Saldias obtained his Master of Public Health degree from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill.



The next Public Health Workforce Development Series will take place Tuesday, March 30, from noon to 1PM and will focus on Promoting Tobacco Cessation to Vulnerable Populations.

Gustavo Saldias, Associate Director of the NSU KPCOM Area Health Education Centers (AHEC) will present this online seminar. Reserve your spot today by emailing [Workforce@brhpc.org](mailto:Workforce@brhpc.org) to receive the link to the virtual meeting. We look forward to seeing you there and to have you join the conversation!

BRHPC & NSU are looking for presenters on a range of public health topics for the 2021 Public Health Workforce Development Series cycle. If you are interested in presenting or have any further questions, email [Workforce@brhpc.org](mailto:Workforce@brhpc.org) and provide the following information: name, title, organization, topic(s) interested in presenting and contact information.

# ELECTRONIC FINGERPRINTING SERVICES

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

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 the electronic submission of fingerprint screens, with results within 24 to 48 hours, compared 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.

**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:**

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.*

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

# COUNCIL ON ACCREDITATION



Broward Regional Health Planning Council (BRHPC) received national accreditation the New York-based Council on Accreditation (COA) for the second time! 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.

**As part of best practices, 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.

# COMMITTEE FACILITATION

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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, 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 on the Health Services Planning Committee, email Jason Barron at [Jbarron@brhpc.org](mailto:Jbarron@brhpc.org)

# SOCIAL MEDIA

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



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



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



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

BRHPC is committed to bringing community engagement, education and awareness of public health topics through our social media channels. Stay connected with BRHPC through Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and LinkedIn by following our pages. #BRHPCHealth

To subscribe to our email distribution list, email **Nicole Cohen** at [Ncohen@brhpc.org](mailto:Ncohen@brhpc.org).

# COVID-19 BROWARD COUNTY VACCINE SUMMARY

## COVID-19: Broward County vaccine summary

Vaccination data through Mar 14, 2021 as of Mar 15, 2021 at 12:05 AM

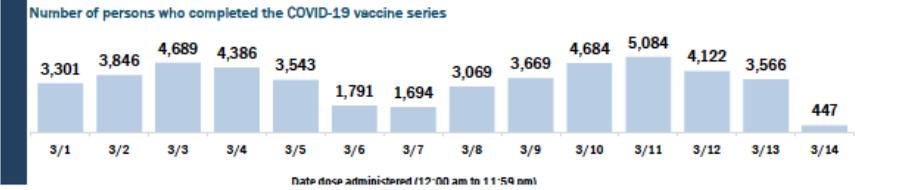
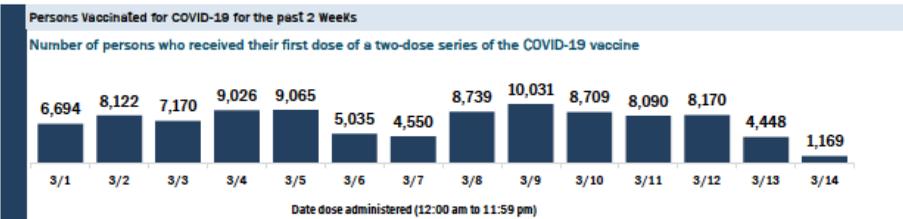
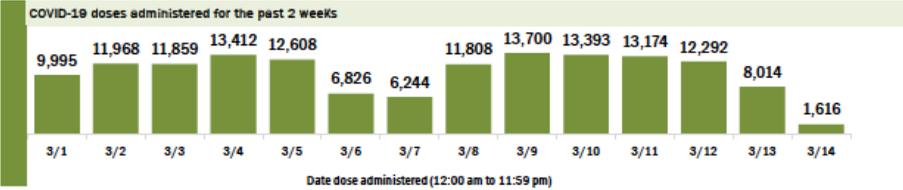
Data in this report are provisional and subject to change.

Data in this summary pertain to COVID-19 vaccines approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration and have been issued an Emergency Use Authorization (Janssen COVID-19 Vaccine, Moderna COVID-19 Vaccine and Pfizer-BioNTech COVID-19 Vaccine). These data summarize the number of people who have received either their first dose or have completed the series for a COVID-19 vaccine. A person can only be counted in one category, first dose or series complete. For persons receiving Moderna or Pfizer vaccines, once they receive their second dose, they are moved from the first dose column to the series completed column. Because of this, the total first dose category may show a change from report to report not matching the total receiving their first dose from the previous day. Persons receiving Johnson & Johnson vaccines will always be counted in the series completed column.

COVID-19 doses for Vaccinated persons in Florida	
Doses administered	572,983
People receiving one dose of a 1-dose series (Johnson & Johnson) or receiving only one dose of a 2-dose series (Moderna, Pfizer) count once. Persons receiving both doses of a 2-dose series count twice.	

Current status of persons vaccinated for COVID-19 in Florida	
Total people vaccinated	376,477
First dose	172,648
Series completed	203,829
Completed 1-dose series	7,323
Completed 2-dose series	196,506
First dose: current number of people who have only received their first dose of the Moderna or Pfizer vaccine.	
Series complete: current number of people who have received both Moderna or Pfizer vaccine doses or one Johnson & Johnson dose and are considered fully immunized.	

Demographic summary	First dose	Series complete	Total people vaccinated
<b>Age group</b>	172,648	203,829	376,477
16-24 years	3,959	2,007	5,966
25-34 years	9,121	7,942	17,063
35-44 years	14,426	11,079	25,505
45-54 years	23,588	15,332	38,920
55-64 years	38,640	21,076	59,716
65-74 years	47,286	84,345	131,631
75-84 years	25,058	45,160	70,218
85+ years	10,570	16,888	27,458
<b>Race</b>	172,648	203,829	376,477
White	101,747	141,277	243,024
Black	23,096	21,683	44,779
American Indian/Alaskan	929	1,035	1,964
Other	17,005	22,816	39,821
Unknown	29,871	17,018	46,889
Other race include Asian, native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, or other.			
<b>Ethnicity</b>	172,648	203,829	376,477
Hispanic	33,670	34,458	68,128
Non-Hispanic	75,296	121,371	196,667
Unknown	63,682	48,000	111,682
<b>Gender</b>	172,648	203,829	376,477
Female	98,115	115,582	213,697
Male	74,067	88,192	162,259
Unknown	466	55	521



(Source: Florida Department of Health)

# BATCHING CYCLES

## Hospital Facilities and Hospice: 1st Batching Cycle - 2021

Description	Dates*
Summary Need Projections Published in F.A.R.	2-05-21
Letter of Intent Deadline	2-22-21
Application Deadline	3-31-21
Completeness Review Deadline	4-07-21
Application Omissions Deadline	4-28-21
Agency Initial Decision Deadline	6-18-21

## Nursing Homes and ICF/DDs: 1st Batching Cycle - 2021

Description	Dates*
Summary Need Projections Published in F.A.R.	4-02-21
Letter of Intent Deadline	4-19-21
Application Deadline	5-19-21
Completeness Review Deadline	5-26-21
Application Omissions Deadline	6-16-21
Agency Initial Decision Deadline	8-13-21

\*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.

BRHPC  
200 Oakwood Lane, Suite 100  
Hollywood, FL 33020

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