BR PC – 2024 Spring Newsletter



Broward Regional Health Planning Council, Inc.

Health & Human Service Innovations 200 Oakwood Lane, Suite 100, Hollywood, FL 33020 | 954.561.9681 | www.BRHPC.org

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A Leadership Message

From BRHPC's President & CEO, Michael De Lucca



BRHPC Awarded \$78 Million Insurance Assistance Program Benefits contract from the State of Tennessee AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP). The program will serve over 5,000 clients annually for the initial three-year contract term. The Insurance Assistance Program (IAP) provides health insurance premium payment assistance as well as medical and pharmaceutical deductible and copayments for Ryan White clients enrolled in Tennessee's AIDS Drug Assistance (ADAP) program.

Although the contract was awarded to BRHPC, the incumbent provider has been appealing that decision since December of 2022, when the Notice of Intent was posted. The State's procurement process allows for an appeal to three levels of entities: 1st) Central Procurement Office (CPO); 2nd) State Protest Committee (SPC); and 3rd) Chancery Court. After the second appeal to the SPC was denied in June of 2023, the incumbent filed the third and final available appeal.

This final appeal is a petition to the Chancery Court seeking judicial review of the decision made by the State Protest Committee. The Chancery Court will hold oral arguments on March 27th, 2024. The Chancery Judge will issue a decision following the hearing which will conclude the protest period. If the appeal is denied, BRHPC should begin providing services later in 2024.

Through the partnership with the Health Foundation of South Florida, BRHPC's Get Covered Broward Program increases awareness regarding the availability of low-cost

health insurance. The 2024 Open Enrollment Period ended on January 16, 2024, and we are now in the Special Enrollment Period (SEP) through October 31, 2024. Qualifications for a SEP include certain life events, such as losing health coverage, moving, getting married, having a baby, or adopting a child. These life events may qualify you to enroll in or change Marketplace health plans. Consumers who think they may qualify for the SEP are encouraged to call the Get Covered Broward Program at 1-800-794-2208 to speak with an enrollment representative. The enrollment team is available Monday through Friday from 8 am to 5 pm



in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole.

I want to thank our HIV Planning Council department for creating a sweet Valentine's Day celebration for our office. A decorated table full of individual goodie bags included a variety of heart-shaped and colored candies for our staff to enjoy throughout the week. Additionally,

BRHPC kicked off the year with our quarterly birthday celebration. We celebrated January through March birthdays on a Friday afternoon, sharing cake in the breakroom and allowing camaraderie among our team.

BRHPC celebrates Heart Health Month throughout February. On Friday, February 2, 2024,

BRHPC participated in the nationwide initiative, National Wear Red Day. Staff wore red to help raise and spread awareness in hopes of eradicating heart disease and stroke in millions of women throughout the nation. Cardiovascular disease causes 1 in 3 deaths in women every year, making it the number one health-related killer in women, of which 87% of all heart issues are believed to be preventable. I am proud of my team for showing awareness in our community by wearing red on that day, whether it



was lipstick, a dress, shoes, pants, a blouse, or an accessory!



On Friday, March 1, we celebrated National Employee Appreciation Day with a continental breakfast. This observance started in the early 1990s as a response to the increasing understanding that the most valuable assets of any organization are its employees. To my entire staff, you all play a valuable role on our team and I look forward to another successful year working with you. I am thankful for each and everyone of you.



As we approach spring, now is the time to prepare for hurricane season, which will begin on June 1, 2024. Every year, I recommend that residents follow Broward's Official Hurricane Preparedness Guide to navigate through hurricane season safely. The guide offers valuable information before, during, and after a storm. It provides instructions to develop a hurricane plan,

identifies items to include in an emergency kit, explains how to identify the nearest shelters to your home, and much more. To access this guide, I encourage you to visit <u>Broward.org/Hurricane</u> or scan the QR code. The time to prepare is now.

BRHPC is committed to developing and providing health and human service innovations at the national, state, and local levels through planning, direct services, evaluation, and capacity building. I want to thank and recognize BRHPC's Board of Directors, funders, community partners, staff, and volunteers for their continuous dedication to the service areas. Sincerely,

Mike De Lucca, President & CEO

BRHPC Board of Directors

2023-2024



Barbara S. Effman MPH Chair



Samuel F. Morrison BA, MLS Vice Chair



Pamela Africk BA Secretary



Alexander Fernandez MBA, CPA Treasurer



Paula L. Anderson DO, MPH Board Member



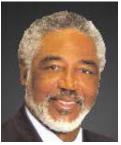
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Matt Hughes MBA Board Member



Albert C. Jones MA Board Member



Ronald E. Moore MD Board Member



Leilani Kicklighter MBA, ARM, RN Board Member



Peter Powers FACHE Board Member

Celebrating Women's History Month

Board Spotlight: Barbara S. Effman, MPH, Board Chair



In celebration of Women's History Month, the Health Foundation of South Florida will be honoring twelve women, including **Barbara Effman**, Broward Regional Health Planning Council's Board Chair, at the fourth annual Inspiring Women of Health event on March 21, 2024. Barbara exemplifies what it means to be a true leader as is reflected in her years of involvement with so many local and national organizations. She has attended state and national lobby days, raised thousands of dollars, participated in numerous policy campaigns, recruited both state and national legislative sponsors, helped plan

South Florida policy forums, has been an active member of several boards, and worked with both Relay for Life and Making Strides Against Breast Cancer events in her community. She is a distinguished leader renowned for her lifelong commitment to public health and community advocacy. She has profoundly impacted healthcare, education, and political engagement, earning her numerous awards as a dedicated advocate and trailblazer. Barbara strives for Broward County and the State of Florida in every capacity. She is a kind, understanding and compassionate person who is one of the biggest advocates for her community.

Employee Spotlight: Jasmin D. Shirley, Program Director



History Fort Lauderdale and Galleria Fort Lauderdale are proud to announce this year's five "Women Trailblazers: Champions of Change- Broward County", including Jasmin D. Shirley, Broward Regional Health Planning Council's Centralized Intake and Eligibility Determination (CIED) Program and Health Insurance Continuation Program (HICP), Program Director. **Jasmin Shirley** was the former Sr. Vice President of Community Health Services of the North Broward Hospital District d/b/a Broward Health. In that position, she had oversight of the day-to-day operations of Community Health Services division inclusive of primary care centers, home health and

hospice agency, an infusion company, urgent care centers, and physician practices. She has more than forty-one years of experience in health administration. Ms. Shirley holds positions in numerous health-related committees, task forces and community advisory boards; these include NAACP Executive Committee, Broward County Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Incorporated, Broward Democratic Executive Committee, Broward County Racial Equity Task Force, and The Fort Lauderdale Chapter (FL) of The Links Incorporated. She was a past honoree and chairperson of the March of Dimes Women of Distinction, a past honoree of the JM Family Foundation African American Achievers Award, and received an Honorary Doctorate of Humane Letters from The Virginia Theological Seminary. Jasmin's dedication to the community is remarkable.

Nurse-Family Partnership

About the Program

The Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) Program works with high-risk mothers in the community. The program is aimed at improving prenatal care, decreasing infant mortality rate, and promoting breastfeeding in the community. The goal of NFP is to implement early interventions for these women. NFP strives to empower these mothers with support for the child's health and development and increase the economic sustainability of the families. Some of the qualifying events for the program include:

- Economic adversity
- Any form of high-risk behaviors
- Education levels
- Lives in Broward County in one of the following zip codes: 33311, 33313, 33319, 33023, 33024, 33025, 33060, 33064, 33069

All participants for the program are screened through a collaboration with Broward Healthy Start Coalition and its funding providers. The program has grown from just assisting first-time mothers, to now include any potentially high-risk mother.

The NFP program is administered through a partnership between BRHPC and two of the County's hospitals, **Broward Health and Holy Cross Health**. The hospital directly employs the nurse home visitors for the program who are trained and reports to the Program Nurse Supervisor which is employed directly through BRHPC. Broward NFP has eight (8) nursing positions total; 4 nurses with Broward Health and 4 nurses with Holy Cross Health. The NFP program is funded by the Maternal Infant Early Childhood Visiting Initiative (MIECHV) which is administrated by the Florida Association of Healthy Start Coalitions.

NFP clients participating in the program receive essential items monthly. These items include car seats, pack n plays (for safe sleep practices), diapers and wipes. One of the program goals is helping families access resources and become confident in the care of their child.

Client Testimonials

"NFP has been such a blessing for my family and I. Marcia (NFP Nurse) never ceased to encourage me and support me during the challenging months of motherhood. I felt heard! My experience with the program has been nothing but positive. So blessed to have had a support system that has equipped me to be the best mama I can be." - **Grace M** "This program came to me unexpectedly and has been a blessing. The support of Nurse Elba and Nurse Beverlie after giving birth to my first child has taught me a lot. It has helped me to feel confident and prepared to handle the new journey of motherhood. The program has also provided gifts which has helped in times that it was most needed. Despite the large number of mothers in the program, I have never felt neglected, and my visits have never felt rushed. Thank you!" - Kellia M.

"This program makes me very confident with being a first-time parent. I can raise my child a different way from how I was raised. I am more prepared to deal with issues differently and react more appropriately than my parents. I deal with the same situations calmly. I want to say thank you to my nurse, Nurse Beverlie for helping be confident and prepared to raise my child. This program is very helpful for me and for other young parents." - Demetria D.

New Members to our Team

Holy Cross Health has employed their first set of NFP Nurses, and we would like to welcome their first hires. The remaining nurses will be joining the team very soon. Stay tuned!



NFP BROWARD welcomes **Brittany Williams** to the team. Brittany brings several years of mother and baby experience and knowledge to the team. Brittany has worked as a travel nurse allowing her to encounter different cultures to apply to first time mothers within the country's diverse communities.



NFP BROWARD welcomes **Janices Gainious** to the team. Janices has many years of experience in an in-patient nurse and in the community. Janices is very passionate about education and continuity of care for new mothers and their new children which will be applied to helping participants in the program.



For more information on the Nurse-Family Partnership Program contact the Program Nurse Supervisor, **Maxine Pink** at <u>mpink@brhpc.org</u>.

Get Covered Broward

Open Enrollment Period Ended

It feels like just yesterday that Floridians were enduring scorching summer temperatures. As we eagerly anticipated cooler weather and the joys of fall, BRHPC's Get Covered Broward program was hard at work preparing for Open Enrollment. From November 1st, 2023, to January 15th, 2024, the program assisted nearly 1,200 Broward residents in securing health insurance for the year 2024. While we are proud of our accomplishments during the Open Enrollment Period, we understand that there are still Broward County residents in need of health insurance.

Special Enrollment Period

As spring arrives, BRHPC continues to be busy, fully engaged in our efforts for the Special Enrollment Period (SEP), which runs from January 16th to October 31st. Get Covered Broward is available to assist by telephone at **1-800-794-2208** in English, Spanish or Haitian Creole, Monday through Friday, from 8am to 5pm. You may qualify for a Special Enrollment Period if

- You married during the SEP window.
- You become a dependent or have/adopt a child.
- You become a United States citizen or lawful permanent resident.
- You moved homes permanently.
- There was an error with your open enrollment.
- Your income is at or below 150% Federal Poverty Level (FPL).
- You have an income or circumstance change that makes you newly eligible.

Community Health Fair

Our team has been diligently updating flyers and seeking out community outreach opportunities.

Our first event on the agenda was the **Mose & Mary Jane Williams Outreach Community Health Fair**, held on Saturday, February 24th in Fort Lauderdale. Running from 12:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., the fair saw a great turnout. BRHPC was out in full force, providing informational flyers and giveaways, as well as donating gift cards to the fair's raffle.

Attendees had access to blood pressure and glucose screenings, HIV testing, breastfeeding counseling, and a wealth of other health-related information and resources. Throughout the event, we distributed over 100 flyers and engaged attendees to raise awareness about Special Enrollment Period opportunities.

Photos from Event



Upcoming Event



BRHPC is gearing up to participate in the **Broward Spring Health Fair** on March 23rd, aiming to highlight the ongoing Special Enrollment Period. Set to take place at the Lauderhill Mall from 10 AM to 2 PM, this event holds particular significance as it encompasses numerous zip codes within the target area of the Get Covered Broward program.

Additional activities from other agencies include: free immunizations, HIV testing, preregistration for a free mammogram, Florida KidCare application assistance and more. There will also be free spring baskets for the first 500 children who attend the event.

For more information on the ACA Enrollment Program, contact ACA Enrollment Coordinator, **Michelle Barrett** at <u>mbarrett@brhpc.org</u>. For assistance in enrolling in a health insurance plan or additional information on the Special Enrollment Period, call **1-800-794-2208**.

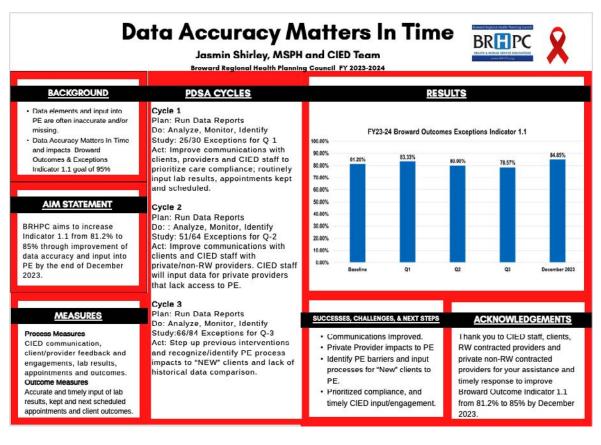
Centralized Intake and Eligibility Determination

About the Program

Centralized Intake & Eligibility Determination's (CIED) core functions include determining eligibility for Ryan White Part A services and/or third-party payers. CIED also provides information and referrals to services for clients who are seeking medical and supportive services. CIED services include a centralized intake, eligibility, enrollment, and information/ referral process for all Ryan White Part A funded services. CIED continues to serve as the single point of entry for Persons Living with HIV and AIDS (PLWHA) who are residents of Broward County.

Quality Award Improvement Superstar

CIED staff completed its Quality Improvement Project 2023-2024 entitled Data Accuracy Matters In Time (DAMIT). HIV Quality presented CIED with the Quality Improvement Superstar Award recognition on February 21, 2024.



Congratulations to the CIED Team, clients and all Ryan White network providers for this successful endeavor.



Employee Spotlight



Congratulations to **Yolette Beckford**, CIED Eligibility Specialist, who is recognized as the CIED Top Producer with the highest number of eligibility assessments completed and clients served for the month of January 2024. Yolette remains an integral part of the success of CIED and provides outstanding performance at two off-site locations, AHF North Point and The Poverello Center. Clients consistently comment about her

professionalism, supportive referrals, and compassionate engagements.

New Member to Our Team



CIED welcomes **Otto Irizarry,** Eligibility Specialist, who brings a wealth of knowledge and experience with HIV/AIDS programs and services delivered in the Nashville, TN service area; diverse cultural; and multi-lingual skills to our team effort. CIED looks forward to the outstanding contributions and dedication Otto will provide to strengthen our capacity to serve.

We encourage all Ryan White Part A clients to actively engage with CIED staff as we unite to improve access to medical care and supportive services available throughout Broward County. Call CIED for assistance at **954-566-1417**.

Ryan White Part A - Certification Locations/Services

Broward Regional Health Planning Council 200 Oakwood Lane, Suite 100 Hollywood, FL 33020 | 954-561-9681 x 1242/ 1279 M-F 8:30am- 5:00pm

AHF - North Point (Medical & Case Management)

6333 N. Federal Highway, Suite 301 & 302 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33308 | 954-722-2411 M, T, Th & F 8:30am - 5:00pm

AHF - Oakland Park (Medical & Case Management)

2866 E. Oakland Park Boulevard, Floor 2 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33334 | 954-561-6900 W- 8:30am- 5:00pm

AHF -Downtown (Medical & Case Management)

700 SE 3rd Avenue, Suite 301 Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316 | 954-767-0887 Th & F 8:30am- 5:00pm

BCFHC Pompano Beach (Medical & Case Management)

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

M 8:30am - 5:00pm & T 9:30am - 6:00pm

Broward House (Case Management Only)

2800 N/ Andrews Avenue, Wilton Manors, FL 33311 954-568-7373 | T-F 8:30am - 5:00pm Care Resource (Medical, Case Management & RW Part A Dental)

871 W. Oakland Park Boulevard Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311

954-567-7141 | M, W, Th & F, 8:30am - 5:00pm

Broward Health Comprehensive Care Center

1101 NW 1st Street

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311 | 954-467-0880

M, W & Th 8:30am - 5:00pm

Memorial Primary Care Center (Medical & Case Management)

5647 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, FL 33021

954-276-1616 | M, T & W 8:30am - 5:00pm

Poverello (Food Bank)

2056 N. Dixie Highway

Wilton Manors, FL 33305 | 954-561-3663

M, W, Th & F 8:30am - 5:00pm

Specialty Care Center (Medical & Case Management)

1111 W. Broward Boulevard

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312 | 954-463-7313

T & F, 8:30am - 5:00pm

FDOH (ADAP)

2421 SW 6th Avenue, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315 954-467-4700 - ADAP 954-213-0623 Th & F, 8:30am- 5:00pm

For additional information, contact Program Director, Jasmin D. Shirley at <u>Jdshirley@brhpc.org</u>.

Housing Opportunities For Persons with HIV/AIDS

About the Program

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. For the last sixteen 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, mortgage assistance, and permanent housing placement.

During the current contract year, October 2023 to December 2023, Housing Assistance provided over 90 unduplicated clients with over \$188,000 for 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 and the City of Fort Lauderdale's Housing and Community Development Division to find better ways to deliver services to the community. BRHPC works with local HOPWA agencies such as Care Resource, Mount Olive Development Corporation (MODCO), and SunServe offering training, technical assistance, and service coordination.

Client Success Story



The 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 15 years.

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 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, email Director of Housing, **Sharon Alveranga-Jones** at <u>smcdonald@brhpc.org</u>.

Tenant Based Rental Voucher Program

About the Program

Tenant Base Rental voucher (TBRV) provides low-income HIV/AIDS persons or families rental assistance to live in private, independent apartment units. The TBRV assistance moves with the client if they move to another rental property in Broward County. The level of TBRV subsidy varies case by case where the program considers the entire household income, the unit size, and the Fair Market Rent (FMR) standards. Once all those factors are met, the program will pay a portion of the client's rent, and the client must pay a portion.

Ongoing Psycho-Social Case Management

Each TBRV client is assigned a Housing Specialist that provides comprehensive case management services to address barriers in housing with the goal of returning the client to self-sufficiency. The HOPWA Housing Specialist:

- Develops, arranges, & coordinates case plans towards the goal of independent housing.
- Serves as the liaison between the HOPWA program and the client and provides linkage to community resources.
- Identify homelessness/ "at-risk" factors in the individual's lifestyle to develop prevention and intervention strategies to lessen the likelihood of the individual/family returning to homelessness.

Meet The TBRV Case Managers



From Left to Right, *Nardine Pierre-Louis, Brittney Seymour and Adelle Lewis.*

Client Satisfaction Testimony: "I love my Housing Case Manager, she is very respectable, understandable and caring."

Program Updates

TBRV partners with Consolidated Credit to provide our clients with financial literacy, budgeting, homeownership, and credit repair counseling. A schedule is provided monthly by Consolidated Credit informing of upcoming online and in person seminars. TBRV clients are excited about enrolling in these training courses.

New Enrollment: The TBRV program continues to work towards the program's goals and is making strides in enrolling new clients into the TBRV program. Clients are being selected from the City of Fort Lauderdale waitlist through lottery selection. New incoming clients must meet the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development income and HOPWA eligibility criteria.

For more information, email Director of Housing, Sharon Alveranga-Jones at smcdonald@brhpc.org.

Planning Council Support Activities

HIV Health Services Planning Council (HIVPC)

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 development of bylaws, policies and procedures, memoranda of understanding, grievance procedures, and training are also crucial for the success of the planning council.



Dr. Gritell Berkeley Martinez, BRHPC Director, Planning & Quality Management; Dr. Timothy Moragne, HIVPC Member and Honoree; Lorenzo Robertson, HIVPC Chair

On February 22, 2024, the HIVPC ended its 2023-2024 fiscal year with a retreat, encompassing a presentation on the achievements, updates on the integrated planning process, and new upcoming activities for the prioritysetting resources allocation process for FY 2024-2025. The training was facilitated by Mr. George Gadson of Geophil Enterprises, who provided a dynamic training series on Identifying Leadership Styles, Effective Leadership, refresher on Roberts Rules of Order, Effective Meeting management, Effective Member Engagement, and Effective Community Engagement. The retreat culminated with member appreciation. Each

member was recognized for their service and role on the council. A special Dedication Award was presented to Dr. Timothy Moragne, a foundational member of the Broward County HIV Health Services Planning Council from November 27, 1990. His outstanding and dedicated commitment to the cause of HIV advocacy and awareness is pivotal in shaping policies, implementing programs, and fostering a sense of community resilience in the face of the HIV epidemic. The planning council support staff was surprised with the "Unsung Hero Awards" for our unwavering devotion to the HIVPC, steadfast commitment, and dedication.

Join the Planning Council!

The Council is seeking people with HIV to contribute their time, ideas, and expertise to serve on the Planning Council and its committees. The HIVPC directs and coordinates effective responses to the HIV epidemic in Broward County. The goal is to ensure quality, comprehensive care that optimizes the health care of people with HIV at all stages of illness. The Planning Council offers a unique opportunity for community members and service providers to work together to improve the health outcomes of individuals diagnosed with HIV.

Contact the Planning Council Office: 954-561-9681 Ext., 1343/1244 or hivpc@brhpc.org.

Check out our social media:Facebook @BrowardHIVPlanningCouncil; Instagram and X (formerly Twitter) @Broward HIVPC.

Welcome to our New Planning Council Support Team Member



Mandy Lacroix is our new HIV Health Planner. She was born in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, and raised in South Florida. She is a graduate of New York University, with a master's in public health degree and a concentration in epidemiology. Before joining BRHPC, she worked in insurance and finance. Mandy says that she has always cared about helping her community and decided that working in public health would be the best way to do that.

Upcoming Events



The Priority Setting Resource Allocation and Community Empowerment Committees of the HIVPC will be hosting its Listening Session, to hear from individuals receiving HIV health care on Wednesday, April 24th. The event will be at the L.A. Lee YMCA/Mizell Community Center from 3 PM-5 PM. "We want to hear from you! Your issues and your recommendations!

Scan the QR Code to register.

Contact the Planning Council Office for more details: 954-561-9681 Ext., 1343/1244 or <u>hivpc@brhpc.org</u>.

Clinical Quality Management

Activities

Clinical Quality Management (CQM) is a federal component of the Ryan White program. The CQM Team provides support to the Ryan White Part A Recipient (Broward County) and the network of contracted agencies providing care to clients living with HIV. A vital component of the CQM program is quality improvement projects. Quality improvement activities and projects aim to improve the process and quality of care.

Provider Appreciation Week February 5th -9th

Provider Appreciation Week is a week of informative sessions and virtual gatherings celebrating all the hard work Ryan White Part A providers have accomplished throughout the fiscal year 2023-2024. The week started with Ryan White Program Updates, followed by the Quality Awards presentation on Tuesday. During the award ceremony, we recognized the agencies that have shown improvement over the past year in the Ryan White Part A program. The remainder of the week consisted of three training workshops for the Ryan White Part A providers:



2023 PROVIDER APPRECIATION WEEK

Virtual Learning Sessions + More February 5 - February 9, 2024 1:00 PM - 2:00 PM Zoom Conference Call

Join us for a week of informative sessions and virtual gatherings as we celebrate all of the hard work you have accomplished this year!

Wed. 2/7: "Beyond the Binary: LGBTQ+ & Gander Diversity in HIV/ADS Advesary" by Tollion Ingam Thurs. 2/8: "Tips for Implementing the Positive Paren Project into Praction" by Januiter Medites anth Pris. 2/7: "Self-Care Resiliency & Stress Management for Healthcare Providers" by Sanya Winjth

Mon. 2/5: Ryan White Update:

Tues. 2/6:Quality Awards Presentation

Beyond the Binary: LGBTQ+ & Gender Diversity in HIV/AIDS Advocacy, Positive Peers: A nationwide app connecting young people with HIV to each other & retaining them in care, and Self-Care, Resiliency & Stress Management for Healthcare Providers. For the Beyond the Binary workshop, Trillion Ingram, a Ryan White Part C medical case manager at Empower U Community Health Center, led the conversation on the history of LGBTQ+ and provided tips to help improve the overall care of LGBTO+ individuals. Jennifer McMillen Smith is a licensed independent social worker who created an app that connects young people living with HIV, which helps to retain them in care. She shared the process of creating her app and the many features that made it successful with the youth population. Lastly, we ended the week with a self-care and stress management session for the providers, led by a licensed mental health counselor, Sonya Wright.

Contact the CQM Support Staff at 954-561-9681 x 1295 | <u>quality@brhpc.org.</u>

Recognition of BRHPC Planning Council Support Staff

Lorenzo Robertson, HIVPC Chair, and Von Biggs, HIVPC Vice Chair presented the planning council support team, **Dr. Gritell Berkeley Martinez** and **Maunika Patel** with an "Unsung Hero Award" for unwavering devotion, steadfast commitment, and dedication.



For more information on the HIV Health Services Planning Council & Clinical Quality Management, contact **Dr. Gritell Berkeley Martinez** at <u>Gmartinez@brhpc.org</u>.

Insurance Benefits Management Program

About the Program

BRHPC achieved a record high this Open Enrollment by verifying and enrolling over 9,200 eligible clients for the Premium Assistance program with monthly premiums exceeding \$12 million. The increased enrollment is due in part to the Federal Poverty Level requirement being lowered from 75% to 50% for the 2024 policy year. Coupled with rule changes that went into effect January 1st, 2024, requiring all program participants to utilize the Enroll.BRHPC.org site to advise BRHPC staff of their selection of insurance carrier and pertinent information.



Additionally, this requirement to utilize the Enroll site is to advise BRHPC staff when a client's eligibility has been renewed and to create new enrollment in order to resume premium payments or initiate a reinstatement. To accommodate the rule changes, enhancements to the site have been added such as an Eligibility Renewal link which is a simplified form for eligibility renewal. Also, the Enroll site now has the capability to allow for easier document uploads making is efficient and straightforward for the clients to submit required documents to the program and/or the Marketplace.

The Insurance Benefits Management System (IBMS) has undergone modifications for quality improvement functionality and reporting to allow for work queues and staff task assignment capabilities. The system has enriched its features to easily identify and resolve enrollment and payment issues to identify any discrepancies expeditiously preventing any delays to enrollments/payments. The Enroll site and the IBMS are continually reviewed and enhanced to provide the client with the best possible experience.

For more information on Insurance Enrollment contact 1-844-441-4422 and for Program Eligibility contact 1-844-381-2327.

Support Services for Veterans and Families

About the Program

Broward Regional Health Planning Council is funded by a grant between the Advocate Program, Inc., and the US Department of Veterans Affairs to provide supportive services to veterans. The Support Services for Veterans and Families (SSVF) program has a primary goal of rapid re-housing for Veterans and their families.

BRHPC provides case managers to coordinate SSVF case management and rapid rehousing efforts for veterans and their families. Case Managers (CM) also assist SSVF participants in



transitioning from homelessness to permanent, stable housing arrangements or supported housing arrangements.

BRHPC SSVF case managers serve as the primary point of contact in the coordination of services, on behalf of the clients. They are responsible for the referral and follow up with local community service providers, as well as fellow SSVF partner agencies working in concert to assist with the successful housing outcomes for the program participants.

Supportive Services Include

- Assertive Outreach
- Ongoing Case Management
- Housing Stability and Counseling
- VA Benefit & Health Care Acquisition
- Public Entitlement & Disability Benefit Attainment

Client Testimony

- Emergency & Temporary Financial Assistance
- Income Support: Educational, Vocational & Employment
- Legal Services

A veteran was recently evicted and was homeless along with his daughter. The veteran's eviction was a significant barrier to his housing stability. The CM worked tirelessly with the veteran and used community partners and resources to advocate for the veteran. The CM assisted the veteran with finding an apartment complex that accepted his rental application, even though the veteran had a recent eviction on his credit report. The property manager even requested a larger security deposit due to the recent eviction. The veteran finally became permanently housed with his daughter, and they were even allowed to move in before the beginning of his lease. The CM is working to get the veteran and his daughter furniture and continues to assist them until the veteran is back on his feet.

Do You Need or Know Someone Who Needs SSVF Services?

Veterans experiencing homelessness in Broward County and in need of housing assistance, call the Advocate Program at 305-704-0200, 211 Dade or Veteran Helpline at 786-227-5842. For more information, contact SSVF Program Administrator, Sharon Alveranga-Jones at <u>smcdonald@brhpc.org</u>.

Health Insurance Continuation Program

Program Overview



The Health Insurance Continuation Program (HICP) is a phenomenal program offered through Broward Regional Health Planning Council. The program is designed to ensure continuity of quality health care for clients that are HIV positive. The program provides funding for primary care services and assist clients that do not have sufficient health care coverage or financial resources to manage treatment for HIV/AIDS.

Ryan White Part A funding is used to provide coverage for medical services and copayments for prescriptions. The Ryan White Part A program provides assistance for clients that reside in Broward County.

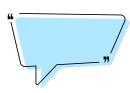
The HICP 2023-2024 fiscal year has come to an end. HICP has communicated with providers and clients about how urgent it is to submit all invoices by the deadline. HICP wants to ensure all invoices are paid and the client is not responsible for pending payments on any medical invoices. HICP has and will continue to communicate with clients to review any invoices that might be pending to submit for payment before the deadline.

HICP has been able to assist clients with immediate surgeries that providers wanted payment for before medical services. HICP has been able to negotiate with providers that the client is covered once a copy of the invoice is submitted after service.

New Contract Year Begins

March 1, 2024, starts the new fiscal year for HICP. Clients are encouraged to update their profile and ensure the HICP office has a current address, telephone contact, valid health insurance card, and year-end ACA tax credit document on file and/or are submitted to Natalie Lewis, HICP Coordinator, as soon as possible. Thank you for your cooperation.

Client Testimonials



"Thank you for making this happen, I was worried I would not be able to have surgery because I couldn't afford to make payment."

"Thank you for taking the time to let me know which bills have been paid and which ones haven't. Also, for reminding me that everything is due soon, I had totally forgot."

Contact Natalie Lewis, HICP Program Coordinator for more information at <u>Nlewis@brhpc.org</u>.

Fingerprinting Services Provided at BRHPC

Level II Background Screenings Available at BRHPC

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).



Level II background checks provide a comprehensive view of an individual's background, including a thorough examination of criminal history. This deeper scrutiny reduces risks, ensures legal compliance, and instills confidence in decision-making, making them valuable for roles and situations where accuracy and security are paramount. Whether it's for employment, professional licensing, or other essential needs, our Live Scan Services adhere to the highest industry standards, offering you fast, secure and thorough results.

Live Scan allows for electronic submission of fingerprint screens, with results within 24 to 48 hours. Additional services such as photo submission to the AHCA clearinghouse are available at BRHPC. 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.

Need to be Fingerprinted?

BRHPC's fingerprinting clientele include hospital employees, guardian ad litem programs, doctors' offices, non-profit and social service agencies, colleges, universities and more. BRHPC is committed to maintaining the highest ethical standards and using advanced technology to deliver timely results, ensuring safety, trust and confidence in every interaction. Fingerprinting clients must bring a valid ID and the identifying number for the organization requesting fingerprints (ORI, OCA).

Our goal is to provide accurate and reliable background information and maintaining the highest ethical standards using advanced technology to deliver timely results. We accept cash or business checks only.

If you are in need of electronic background screening submissions & quick results, BRHPC can help you. Walk-ins are welcome or call **954-561-9681** to schedule an appointment. Fingerprinting services are available Monday through Friday between 8:30am and 4:30pm at 200 Oakwood Lane, Suite 100, Hollywood, FL 33020.

Health Care Access Committee Meeting

Committee Facilitation

BRHPC serves as a neutral facilitator for the Health Care Access Committee with the purpose to improve access to health care for the residents of Broward County, through establishing, implementing, and measuring goals and benchmarks in many areas of health, such as maternal and child health, mental health, primary care and health care access. The members of the committee represent various facilities, agencies and/or departments within the County.

Quarterly Updates

Over the past quarter, the committee received an updated version on the 2023 Broward County Health Profile. The Profile provides a synopsis of Broward County health indicators. It is a compilation of statistics at the county and state levels; including population demographics, socioeconomic factors, leading causes of death, infectious diseases, maternal and child health, healthcare utilization, healthcare access and prevention quality indicators.

The committee also received a presentation on Chapter II and Chapter III of the Broward County Health Plan. Chapter II outlines community health status through five broad health categories: Maternal and Child Health, Behavioral Health, Oral Health, School Health and Morbidity and Mortality. Chapter III provides an overview of health resources currently available in Broward County. Additionally, the committee received program success data covering several months for the Nurse-Family Partnership Program and information on future Public Health Workforce Development Series.

Community Partners Include

- American Cancer Society
- Broward Community and Family Health Center
- Broward Health
- Broward Healthy Start Coalition
- Broward County Public Schools •
- Broward County Government •
- Broward Sheriff's Office •
- Children's Services Council .
- Community Care Plan •
- Community Foundation of Broward
- Consumers
- Jack and Jill Center
- FIIPANY
- Florida International University

Ready to Join the Committee?

Email Yolanda Falcone at Yfalcone@BRHPC.org to be included in the email distribution list. All meetings are held on the fourth Monday of every month at 10am virtually through Microsoft Teams. Upcoming meeting dates: March 25 and April 22, 2024.

- Florida Blue
- Florida Department of Health Broward County
- Health Foundation of South Florida
- Holv Cross Health
- Humana
- Light of the World Clinic
- Memorial Healthcare System
- Nonprofit Executive Alliance of Broward
- Nova Southeastern University
- South Florida Regional Planning Council
- Sunshine Health
- United Way of Broward County
- Volunteers
- Interns

Public Health Workforce Development Series

About the Series

The Public Health Workforce Development Series is a series of seminars conducted by Nova Southeastern University's Dr. Kiran C. Patel, College of Osteopathic Medicine (KPCOM) Department of Public Health Program and Broward Regional Health Planning Council. This program aims to provide valuable and educational workshops about important skill sets for those in the public health field.

April Workforce Development Series

The next Workforce Development series is scheduled for **Wednesday, April 3rd, from 12pm to 1pm.** Dr. Joy Siegel will be presenting on "Tapping into Resilience and Purpose as we Age".

About the Presentation: What if the best of life is only accessed with time, wisdom, and maturity? How do we ensure that we embrace aging instead of fighting it? Tapping into personal resilience can be the super power that makes our later years the most personally satisfying and fulfilling. Applying that resilience to a sense of purpose can help us have a life that is fulfilling, adaptable, and nimble as we transition through life's twists and turns. Join



us for a presentation driven by the belief that the best is yet to come.

About the Speaker: Dr. Joy Siegel is a gerontologist and healthcare consultant who has worked with community-based organizations, universities and hospitals, Medicare Advantage, and Medicaid providers to design programs to retain, engage, and improve wellbeing. She has worked with leading innovators in the healthcare space designing and implementing programs to address social connections, fall prevention,

loneliness mitgation, and functional skills. Dr. Joy also develops credentialing content for clinicians, administrators, and allied health professionals, creating content including Insights into Aging, Compassionate Care, Increasing Patient Satisfaction, and Addressing Moral Injury. Her recent professional articles include Virtual Programming for Older Adults and Preventative Care, and Geriatric TBIs Responsive to Virtual Therapies. She recently created the new training series on Alzheimer's disease and Related Dementias for the State of Florida. Dr. Joy teaches in the Public Health Program at NSU's Kiral C. Patel's College of Osteopathic Medicine. She is on the Board of the Alliance for Aging and serves as the Co-Chair for the New Face of Aging Conference.

RSVP to this seminar by emailing <u>Workforce@brhpc.org</u> to receive the meeting link.

May Workforce Development Series

The May Workforce Development series is scheduled for Wednesday, May 1st, from 12pm to 1pm.

Lisa Elsinger will be presenting on "Mind Your Spine: Ergonomic Strategies to Promote Energy, Focus, and Functional Fitness."

About the Presentation: Your workspace setup is a key contributor to your ability to function at work and in life outside the workplace. A workstation adapted to your needs contributes to reduction of pain and injury risk, increased ability to focus and work productively, and to your overall health and well-being. This session will enable you to learn how to modify any workspace, and to take Purposeful Pauses – regular micro-breaks to gain strength, mobility, posture, and maintain energy during your busy days. You may be surprised at how small actions can produce significant positive results.



About the Speaker: Lisa Elsinger leads all health and well-being initiatives for Broward College employees, delivering innovative programming and providing tailored support services, including ergonomic workstation setup and remediation. She is a facilitator of an 8-week mind-body skills session through the Center for Mind-Body Medicine, a certified trainer for the QPR Gatekeeper Suicide Prevention Course, president of the Broward College chapter of the Association of Florida Colleges, and a graduate of the Women Leading Broward

program. Her course: Mindfulness in the Post-Pandemic Classroom, has been completed by over 100 faculty members. She promotes the joy of movement through teaching yoga at LA Fitness and yoga-based functional training at the Broward College Institute for Public Safety. Along with a student services colleague, she co-produced Broward College's first annual Mental Health Symposium in 2023.

RSVP to this seminar by emailing <u>Workforce@brhpc.org</u> to receive the meeting link.

Save the Date for Future Seminars

- Wednesday, June 5, 2024 from 12pm 1pm: T. Lucas Hollar, PhD, Associate Professor, Department of Public Health, NSU KPCOM
- **Tuesday, July 9, 2024 from 12:30pm 1:30pm:** Debra Cohn Steinkohl, Assistant Professor, Family Medicine & Public Health, NSU KPCOM; Director of Early Clinical Rotations & Community Service; Course Director ECPE, Community Service, BPH Seminar, BPH Outreach
- Wednesday, September 11, 2024 from 12pm 1pm: Sandra Veszi Einhorn, Executive Director, The Coordinating Council of Broward

Ready to Present?

If you are interested in being a speaker for our 2024 series, email <u>Workforce@brhpc.org</u> and include your name, organization, title and public health topic you would like to discuss. All seminars are held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 12pm to 1pm or on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 12:30pm to 1:30pm. We look forward to adding your presentation to the calendar.

Social Media Collaboration

BRHPC & NSU

BRHPC continues to work in partnership with Dr. Claudia Serna, PhD, MPH, MBA, MPH Chair/ Director & Assistant Professor at the Public Health Department, Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine (KPCOM) at Nova Southeastern University (NSU) on social media campaigns that are distributed across BRHPC's social media channels. BRHPC's Public Information Officer, Nicole Cohen and Dr. Serna have been working together since 2017 to evaluate, implement and disseminate new social media strategies to increase awareness.

Social media serves as a powerful tool for organizations to spread information to the public. BRHPC's has an online presence on Facebook, X (*formerly known as Twitter*), LinkedIn and Instagram. These social media campaigns help increase awareness of critical public health topics, BRHPC's programs and services, visibility of BRHPC at the national, state and local level and attracted visitors to the BRHPC website.

Interns Developing Social Media Campaigns

Alianys Rodriguez and Daniella Martinez are interning with BRHPC for another semester. Alianys and Daniella continue assisting in the development of social media campaigns and analyze data from each social media platform's respective built-in tracking tools for organic (unpaid) posts and boosted (paid) posts. They track key performance indicators for each social media platform which are measured by the number of posts, reach, likes, impressions and engagements.

Last semester, Alianys and Daniella created an evidence-based social media campaign focusing on the awareness of influenza. They submitted an abstract, "Assessing the Impacts of Social Media in Educating Individuals on the Importance of Influenza Prevention" to the NSU 2024 Undergraduate Student Symposium, a selective and competitive forum. We are proud to announce, Alianys and Daniella's abstract was selected and they will be participating in the 2024 Undergraduate Symposium. They will develop a poster presentation and present their findings at the Symposium on April 3, 2024.

Congratulations, Alianys and Daniella! We look forward to seeing your poster presentation and wishing you the best of luck.



New Campaigns

This semester, they developed two additional social media campaigns.

- The first campaign highlighted BRHPC's and NSU's Public Health Workforce
 Development Series. The messages varied from thanking the 2023 speakers, reaching out to future presenters for the 2024 series, spotlighting upcoming presentations and providing details about the Workforce Development Series.
- The second campaign provided an overview of **Heart Health Month** by providing health statistics, education on maintaining a healthy lifestyle and the importance of physical activity and nutrition.

As social media continues to grow as a primary source of information for many individuals, it is crucial to recognize its potential to spread accurate and essential information on various public health topics.

Results of the Social Media Campaigns

For each social media campaigns, The Public Health Workforce Development and Heart Health Month, there were four posts created and shared on each of BRHPC's social media platforms. Free posts were shared on Instagram, LinkedIn and X (*four posts per platform; a total of 12 posts*). The same posts were shared on Facebook as a paid (*boosted*) post (*total of four posts*). The total amount spent on each paid campaign was \$200.00.

- Public Health Workforce Development Results: 12 Free Posts Reached 626 individuals and the 4 Paid Posts Reached 7,671 individuals.
- Heart Health Month Campaign Results: 12 Free Posts Reached 556 individuals and the 4 Paid Posts Reached 6,967 individuals.

Quotes from our Interns



"I am grateful for interning at BRHPC, where I have learned to effectively communicate health information, raising awareness and promoting healthier lifestyles within our community." - Alianys Rodriguez, NSU Public Health Major



"I am thankful for this opportunity with BRHPC because it has allowed me to gain valuable experience in health promotion and prevention, to keep those around me healthy!" - Daniella Martinez, NSU Public Health Major

Snapshots of The Public Health Workforce Development Campaign



Snapshots of The Heart Health Month Campaign



For more information on BRHPC's social media's channels, contact Public Information Officer, **Nicole Cohen** at <u>Ncohen@brhpc.org</u>.

Council on Accreditation

Overview

The COA accreditation process is an independent, objective, and reliable verification that organizations and programs qualify for the confidence and support of their stakeholders. It involves a detailed review and analysis of an organization's or program's administrative functions and service delivery practices. These standards emphasize services that are appropriate, coordinated, culturally competent, evidence-based and that are provided by a skilled and supported workforce. All are measured against international standards of best practice. The COA reaccreditation process does not differ from the COA accreditation process. The whole process typically takes 12 to 18 months for Private Organization Accreditation Programs.

BRHPC Has Been Accredited Since 2016



BRHPC is proud to announce that our organization has been accredited twice, since 2016. BRHPC's COA accreditation has increased BRHPC's ability to standardize processes and improve methods of communication, particularly through the monthly Performance Quality (PQI) Committee meeting, the quarterly subcommittee meetings and the weekly Executive Committee Meetings. The quarterly subcommittee meetings are broken down into four subcommittees which include: Human Resources,

Risk and Prevention Management, Staff Training and Development and Management Information System (MIS). The next PQI meeting is scheduled for Friday, March 15th and the subcommittees are scheduled to meet on Wednesday, April 17th.

In the Process of a Third Accreditation!

BRHPC recently completed the Self-Study phase. This phase of the process provided an opportunity for our organization to develop and/or revise its policies, procedures and practices so that they can align with the applicable standards. BRHPC is now working on collecting and submitting documents into the COA Portal for the On-Site Evidence phase by April 22nd in preparation for the On-Site visit scheduled for May 6, 2024.

On-site, COA's Peer Reviewers will conduct activities intended to verify the information contained in the Self-Study and to confirm the implementation of the applicable standards. These activities include, but are not limited to, case record reviews, facility observations, onside document reviews, and staff, board members and client interviews.

At the conclusion of the Site Visit, the Peer Reviewers will determine the level of implementation for each assigned standard and send this information to COA.

Florida Health Data Warehouse

About the Systems



BRHPC's long-term strategy for expanding its Health
 Data Warehouse offers hospitals and healthcare systems the unique opportunity to be at the forefront of data-driven decision-making, comparing hospitals and procedures across specific counties and the entire State of Florida. The Health Data Warehouse is a collection of health information databases developed by BRHPC which are designed to assist hospital and nursing home administrators in their strategic planning & decision-making endeavors. These databases offer a

wide array of health-oriented data sets, including Hospital & Nursing Home utilization, health indicators & Emergency Department data, and Diagnosis-Related Groups (DRGs) data, as well as the financial and demographic databases.

The Medical Facilities Utilization Reporting System improves upon a manual reporting system that BRHPC continues to administer for over 40 years. These data sets are accessible online, improving program efficiency and overall functionality, giving users the ability to utilize data to make capacity and quality-related decisions. The database has the ability to generate 39 exportable and/or ready to print reports, having been expanded to become a strategic planning tool for administrators to review and assess variances in utilization.

The datasets in the Data Warehouse provide Healthcare Practitioners, Planners, Researchers and Policy-makers with a vulnerable community-planning tool to target initiatives, set benchmarks to increase healthcare access and quality, identify target areas for quality

improvement, establish healthcare system delivery policies and develop programs to address identified needs.

2023 Annual Utilization Report

The 2023 Annual Utilization Report is now available. If you are interested in a subscription to our Data Warehouse and would like more information, contact **Nicole Cohen** at <u>Ncohen@brhpc.org</u>.

2023 Annual Utilization Report



BREPC Prepared By: Broward Regional Health Planning Council 200 Datased Lane, Solts 100, Holywood, Ft 32020 [954:551:9681 [www.BRHPC.org

Batching Cycles

2024

Hospice: First Batching Cycle 2024

Description	Dates
Summary Need Projections Published in F.A.R.	2-02-24
Letter of Intent Deadline	2-26-24
Application Deadline	3-27-24
Completeness Review Deadline	4-03-24
Application Omissions Deadline	4-24-24
Agency Initial Decision Deadline	6-21-24

Nursing Home and ICF/DDs: First Batching Cycle 2024

Description	Dates*
Summary Need Projections Published in F.A.R.	3-29-24
Letter of Intent Deadline	4-15-24
Application Deadline	5-15-24
Completeness Review Deadline	5-22-24
Application Omissions Deadline	6-19-24
Agency Initial Decision Deadline	8-09-24

*Rule 59C-1.008(2)(a), 1. Florida Administrative Code, which requires the Agency to publish Fixed Need Pools in the Florida Administrative Register at least 15 days prior to the letter of intent deadline prevails in cases of conflict with Rule 59C-1.008(1)(g) F.A.C.



Bonita Springs Healthcare Services, LLC

Establish a new Hospice Program

Bristol Hospice – South Florida, LLC

Establish a new Hospice Program

Charis Healthcare Holdings, LLC

Establish a new Hospice Program

Heart'n Soul Hospice of Florida, LLC

Establish a new Hospice Program

Moments Hospice of Broward, LLC

Establish a new Hospice Program

Sabel Palm Hospice, LLC

Establish a new Hospice Program

BRHPC 200 Oakwood Lane, Suite 100 Hollywood, FL 33020

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