

2024 Winter 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

Table of Contents

Leadership Message	1
BRHPC Board of Directors	3
Nurse-Family Partnership.....	4
Get Covered Broward.....	6
Centralized Intake and Eligibility Determination	8
Housing Opportunities For Persons with HIV/AIDS	10
Tenant Based Rental Voucher Program	11
HIV Health Services Planning Council & Clinical Quality Management	12
Insurance Benefits Management Program.....	15
Health Insurance Continuation Program.....	16
Fingerprinting Services	17
Health Care Access Committee.....	18
Batching Cycles.....	19
Certificate of Need.....	19
Public Health Workforce Development Series.....	20
Social Media Collaboration	22
Awards & Recognitions	23
Florida Health Data Warehouse	24
Council on Accreditation.....	25

Leadership Message

From BRHPC's President & CEO, Michael De Lucca



I extend my heartfelt wishes for a joyful and healthy holiday season and a prosperous new year to you and your loved ones. This season invites us to reflect, express gratitude, and look forward to the year ahead. In 2024, we achieved remarkable milestones together, and I eagerly anticipate building on this progress to further enhance the health and well-being of our community in 2025.

Welcoming Our Newest Board Member: I am delighted to welcome **Sandra L. Barry**, Executive Director of the Light of the World Clinic, as our newest Board Member. Since joining the clinic in 2001, Mrs. Barry has been instrumental in its growth, expansion, and success. Under her leadership, the clinic has significantly increased patient services, strengthened community partnerships, and expanded its capacity to serve the growing uninsured population.

In addition to her work at the clinic, Mrs. Barry actively contributes to the community by serving on multiple boards and committees, furthering efforts to improve public health and wellness. Prior to her leadership at Light of the World Clinic, she owned a consulting firm advising medical manufacturing companies and Fortune 500 firms. She also gained valuable experience at Baxter International in Illinois.

We are honored to have Sandra join our Board of Directors, where her expertise and commitment will enhance our mission to improve the health and well-being of our service area.

2025 Open Enrollment Period: Don't Miss Out: The 2025 Open Enrollment Period is now underway! Don't miss the upcoming deadline—January 15, 2025—to choose an affordable health plan that starts coverage on February 1, 2025.

For personalized assistance with selecting and enrolling in a health plan or checking eligibility, contact BRHPC's Get Covered Broward Program at 1-800-794-2208. Our representatives offer one-on-one support in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole. This initiative, funded by the Health Foundation of South Florida and managed by BRHPC, helps residents find and enroll in low-cost health insurance plans. After January 15, changes or enrollments will only be available for those who qualify for the Special Enrollment Period

BRHPC is currently awaiting the final decision from the Chancery Court regarding the Insurance Assistance Benefits Program award through the State of Tennessee AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP). Chancellor l'Ashea L. Myles of the Civil Trial Court in Nashville, TN, will issue the decision. Once the award is received, BRHPC will promptly begin providing

statewide services.

Recognizing Dr. Claudia Serna's Achievements: Please join me in congratulating Dr. Claudia Serna, Chair of the Department of Public Health, who was recently honored by Nova Southeastern University's Division of Research & Economic Development at the 2024 External Funding Event. The ceremony, held on November 13th at the Alan B. Levan | NSU Broward Center of Innovation, celebrated her exceptional work on the Public Health Social Media Campaign sponsored by BRHPC.

Since 2017, Dr. Serna has collaborated with BRHPC to develop innovative social media campaigns, evaluate data, and implement strategies that amplify awareness of our programs and services. Her efforts have significantly increased BRHPC's visibility at local, state, and national levels, while driving more visitors to our website. We are excited to continue this fruitful partnership with Dr. Serna and Nova Southeastern University.

Closing Remarks: As we approach the new year, I want to thank our funders, Board of Directors, community partners, staff, volunteers, and interns for their unwavering support and dedication to our shared mission. Together, we continue to make significant strides in improving the health and well-being of residents across Florida and beyond.

Sincerely,



Michael De Lucca, MHM

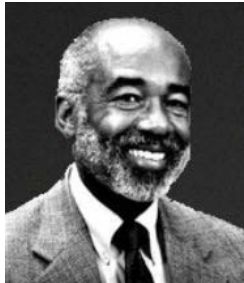
President & CEO

BRHPC Board of Directors

2024-2025



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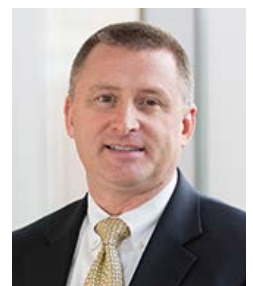
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Nurse-Family Partnership

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 and lives in Broward County in one of the following zip codes: 33311, 33313, 33319, 33023, 33024, 33025, 33060, 33064, 33069. All participants in 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 mothers.

The NFP program is administered through a partnership between BRHPC and two hospitals in the county: **Broward Health and Holy Cross Health**. The hospitals directly employ the nurse home visitors for the program, who are trained and report to the Program Nurse Supervisor, which is employed directly through BRHPC. Broward NFP has a total of eight nursing positions; 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.

New Employee



Anabella Ellis has been a nurse for twelve years, beginning her career in pediatrics, where she found inspiration in witnessing the resilience of children. Her journey took a personal turn when she became a mother, gaining firsthand appreciation for the vital role nurses play in recovery and early parenting. During that time, she also benefited from the guidance of a lactation consultant, who helped her navigate the challenges of breastfeeding—an experience that deepened her understanding of maternal care.

This pivotal moment led Anabella to transition into postpartum nursing, where she educated mothers on breastfeeding, safe sleep practices, and self-care. Her passion for supporting families continued to grow, ultimately inspiring her to join the NFP Program as a Holy Cross Health Nurse Home Visitor. In this role, she is excited to guide new mothers from the start of their journey, providing essential support to ensure healthy pregnancies, safe births, and strong parent-child connections. Anabella takes great pride in contributing to the well-being of mothers and their babies, empowering families during such a transformative time.

Education

Several nurses from the NFP team recently attended a specialized breastfeeding class

offered by the (MIECHV). All new nurses have successfully completed the required training for both NFP and MIECHV, ensuring they are well-prepared to provide comprehensive support to families. The breastfeeding course, aligned with the Baby-Friendly Hospital Initiative, is tailored specifically for community-based providers. It meets the rigorous standards set by the U.S. Breastfeeding Committee's (USBC) Core Competencies in Breastfeeding Care and Services, as well as WHO/UNICEF guidelines and Florida Healthy Start training requirements.

NFP Broward Diaper Drive

The NFP team recently hosted a successful diaper drive for the community, made possible through the generous support of our funders and partners. We extend our heartfelt thanks to the Maternal, Infant, and Early Childhood Home Visiting Program (MIECHV), Jim Moran Foundation, The DeLuca Foundation, and Rogers Foundation for their invaluable contributions to this event. In collaboration with our dedicated nurses and community partners, Broward Health and Holy Cross Health, NFP was able to serve over 150 families, providing essential items such as diapers and baby wipes. Additionally, NFP offered car seat safety education, including guidance on selecting the appropriate car seat for each child's age and distributing "Look Back" safety signs.

Families also received vital information about resources such as Child Health Insurance through KIDCARE, Food Stamps, WIC, and Adult Health Insurance options, in preparation for the 2025 Open Enrollment Period. This event exemplifies the power of community collaboration to support families in need.



Upcoming Events

The NFP team will be participating in several conferences to expand their knowledge of Home Visiting policies. The National Home Visit Conference in Washington DC held in February 2025 will focus on enhancing high quality services and being a component of early childhood education. The team will also experience Plenary Sessions in perinatal advances and care while attending the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN) Conference in Orlando in June 2025.

For more information contact the Program Nurse Supervisor, **Maxine Pink** at mpink@brhpc.org.

Get Covered Broward

2025 Open Enrollment Period

Broward Regional Health Planning Council's Get Covered Broward Program continues its mission of improving access to health coverage through a partnership with the Health Foundation of South Florida. Get Covered Broward works tirelessly to raise awareness about the availability of low-cost health insurance options in Broward County through community events, meetings, social media, and paid media advertisements and campaigns. Open Enrollment advertisements are currently running on WLRN-NPR, Pandora Radio and social media in English, Univision Radio in Spanish and WLRN Radyo Lekol in Haitian Creole.

The 2025 Open Enrollment Period began on November 1, 2024, and will run until January 15, 2025. Get Covered Broward is committed to helping residents navigate their coverage options, answer questions, and assist with plan selection. Whether you are uninsured or seeking more affordable health insurance, this is your opportunity to secure coverage. Our team will help check your eligibility, guide you through the enrollment process, and find the best health plan for your needs. Assistance is available seven days a week in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole by calling **1-800-794-2208**.

Important Dates:

- **January 1, 2025:** Coverage starts for those who enroll in or change plans by December 15, 2024, and pay their first premium.
- **January 15, 2025:** Open Enrollment ends. This is the last day to enroll in or change Marketplace health plans for the year. After this date, you can enroll in or change plans only if you qualify for a Special Enrollment Period.
- **February 1, 2025:** Coverage starts for those who enrolled in or changed plans between December 16, 2024, through January 15, 2025, and pay their first premium.

Hours of Operation Include:

- Monday through Friday from 8am - 8pm
- Saturday 8am - 5pm
- Sunday 12pm - 8pm

Community Engagement

This quarter, the Get Covered Broward Program actively participated in several community events. At each event, the team distributed educational materials in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole, detailing eligibility criteria, application processes for low-cost insurance plans, and the Open Enrollment hotline. Get Covered Broward participated in the following events:

- **The Community Health Fair** at the Dorothy Mangurian Comprehensive Women’s Center held on November 2, 2024
- **Broward Nurse-Family Partnership Diaper Drive** at BRHPC held on November 9, 2024
- **The 13th Annual Thanksgiving Holiday Mobile-Food Distribution** at the Washington Park Community Center held on November 23, 2024
- **10th Annual Sistrunk Holiday Event** at the L.A. Lee YMCA/Mizell Community Center held on December 14, 2024



New Team Member



The Get Covered Broward Program is excited to introduce Barbara France as the new ACA Enrollment Coordinator. Barbara brings extensive knowledge, exceptional customer service skills, and multilingual abilities to the team. Her diverse cultural insights and dedication will further enhance the program’s mission to assist residents with health coverage eligibility and enrollment questions. The program looks forward to the significant contributions Barbara will make in helping Broward County residents access affordable health insurance. For more information on the ACA Enrollment Program, contact ACA Enrollment Coordinator, **Barbara France** at bfrance@brhpc.org. For assistance in enrolling in a health insurance plan or additional information, 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.

An integral part of the success of CIED is the unshakeable dedication and passion to serve the HIV community along with the various Ryan White Networks of collaborative organizations, community partners and clients. Clients consistently comment about the professionalism, supportive referrals, and compassionate engagements they experienced and expressed their genuine appreciation for the services rendered and accommodations made by some of the most exceptionally caring and client-focused staff.

CIED staff are finalizing the Quality Improvement Project for 2024 /2025. Our goal involves actively engaging clients to better understand the journey to viral load suppression and those complicated factors and barriers that impact adherence to treatment over a three-month period. Information will be shared as the project ends December 31, 2024.

We encourage all Ryan White Part A clients to actively engage with CIED staff, case managers, and providers of medical and supportive care services as we unite and continue assisting consumers during the Medicare and the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Marketplace open enrollment periods throughout the month of December. The Medicare open enrollment period ends December 7, 2024 and the ACA Marketplace open enrollment period ends December 31, 2024. ACA Marketplace plans must be selected and finalized by December 15, 2024 for coverage beginning January 1, 2025.

Congratulations to Jasmin D. Shirley



Congratulations to Jasmin Shirley, selected as Green Blazer Award recipient, and being recognized for decades of service at the 15th Anniversary Gala & Celebration of Community Based Connections, Inc. on December 7, 2024.

This Winter, CIED team members welcome fresh ideas and new intervention strategies that better engage our clients and provide exceptional services. CIED will reactivate its Consumer / Peer Advisory Board. We encourage consumers to join our special focus group sessions with staff as we explore, re-imagine, and improve client-focused services. If interested in developing new and innovative strategies and solutions, please call the CIED Office to reserve your seat at the table with Jasmin Shirley at 954-561-9681, x 1203.

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 East Oakland Park Blvd., Floor 2
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33306 | 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 Andrews Avenue, Wilton Manors, FL 33311
954-568-7373 | M,W,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-F, 8:30am - 5:00pm

Broward Health Point at Comprehensive Care Center

1101 NW 1st Street
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311 | 954-467-0880
M-Th, 8:30am - 5:00pm & F 8:30am - 12pm

Memorial Primary Care Center (Medical & Case Management)

5647 Hollywood Boulevard,
Hollywood, FL 33021
954-276-1616 | M-W, 8:30am - 5:00pm

Poverello (Food Bank)

2056 N. Dixie Highway
Wilton Manors, FL 33305 | 954-561-3663
M, T, Th & F, 8:30am - 5:00pm

FDOH (ADAP)

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

*** All CIED sites are closed the third Friday of each month ***

For more information on the CIED Program contact Jasmin Shirley at Jdshirley@brhpc.org.

Housing Opportunities For Persons with HIV/AIDS

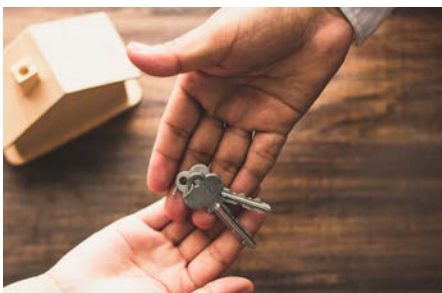
About the Program

The Housing Assistance Program at BRHPC provides services to the community under the Housing Opportunities for Persons with HIV/AIDS (HOPWA) program. For the last fifteen 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 September 2024, the Housing Assistance Program at BRHPC provided over 262 unduplicated clients with over \$573,730.30 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 has also cooperated with local HOPWA agencies such as Care Resource, Mount Olive Development Corporation (MODCO), and SunServe to offer training, technical assistance, and service coordination.

Client Success Story



The client visited the office seeking assistance with relocation due to unresolved issues with their landlord, who refused to make necessary repairs to accommodate the client. The client was referred to Legal Aid to address the matter, but despite efforts, an agreement with the landlord could not be reached. Facing threats of eviction, the client identified a new property to move into.

To prevent homelessness, the client's application was reviewed and processed promptly. Grateful for the swift support, the client later called to thank both the Reviewer and her Supervisor for expediting the process. The client expressed their appreciation, saying, "You always find a way to support me."

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

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

Tenant Based Rental Voucher Program

About the Program

The Tenant Based Rental Voucher Program (TBRV) increases affordable housing choices for low-income individuals and families, enabling participants to choose and lease safe, decent, affordable rental units, and provides a monthly rental subsidy that stays with the client in any housing unit of their choice within Broward County. The client is responsible for using a portion of their income to contribute to rent. Clients must meet the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development income and HOPWA eligibility criteria:

- Be HIV positive (any person in the household)
- At or below 80% of the area's median income

The TBRV Program case managers assist clients in achieving self-sufficiency through development of Individualized Housing Stability Plan which:

- Identifies client housing instability
- Create objectives and goals for independent living
- Provide supportive services

Through ongoing psycho-social case management, advocacy, coordination of benefits, and follow-up housing stability work that includes but is not limited to home visits, creation, and monitoring of housing plans with the client, and budgeting, the housing case manager works with clients to ensure reaching self-sufficiency. The TBRV Program has made strides in working towards its goals and looks forward to establishing even more objectives for the upcoming year! TBRV continues to make advances in admitting new clients.

Two New Housing Case Managers



Rommel Jean-Louis is fluent in Creole, Spanish, and Portuguese; this and his previous work experience in sales and customer service will be a great asset to the TBRV team! Rommel has great interpersonal skills he is looking to share with the team from being a leader in his church and having worked as a radio host, teacher, and basketball coach. In his spare time, Rommel enjoys playing sports, playing music, and ballroom dancing with friends; Rommel does it all!

Melissa Thomas comes to the TBRV team with experience in housing, having worked for the City of Fort Lauderdale's Section 8 Program. Melissa's knowledge of the Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) policies and procedures makes her an amazing asset to the TBRV team! She also has experience working for the Broward Clerk of Courts, so her attention to detail and commitment to serving the community is just what the HOPWA TBRV team needs.

We are confident that both Melissa and Rommel will do great work here!

For more information, contact Program Coordinator, **Tiffani Pierson** at tpierson@brhpc.org.

HIV Health Services Planning Council & Clinical Quality Management

Planning Council Support

During the Fall 2024 Quarter, the Broward HIV Health Service Planning Council (HIVPC) made significant strides in outreach and community engagement to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS.

In September, the Community Empowerment Committee (CEC) hosted the **Ageing Gracefully** event on National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day at the E. Pat Larkin Community Center. The event, attended by 60 participants, featured a mix of games and testimonials to educate and entertain the aging population of Broward County. It was organized in partnership with Broward House, the Florida Department of Health, and the Ryan White Part A Office.



On November 2, the CEC hosted a **Community Health Fair** to connect Ryan White Part A Providers with consumers. The event also focused on raising awareness about ACA enrollment, which began on November 1. It featured a range of services, HIV advocacy, and community engagement, with attendees also enjoying raffle prizes. The event was supported by numerous agencies, including The Pride Center, Broward House, Broward Regional Health Planning Council (BRHPC), Legal Aid of Broward, and many others.



Additionally, the **Priority Setting and Resource Allocation (PSRA)** Committee completed two cycles of fund reallocation, ensuring that resources were distributed effectively to meet the community's needs. This process focused on core and support services, including medical case management, mental health services, and legal assistance. During its December 4, 2024, meeting, the Council approved the reallocation of \$659,336 for Part A Core and Support Services and \$734,336 for Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) Core and Support Services, totaling \$1,393,672.

On December 10th, the **World AIDS Day Proclamation** was held at the Governmental Building, where the Board of County Commissioners formally acknowledged World AIDS Day. On the same day, the HIVPC, in collaboration with the Ryan White Part A Office, shared information about the HIVPC with the public at the Broward County Human Services Department Governmental Building. These initiatives have strengthened our community and continue to provide essential support and resources to individuals affected by HIV/AIDS.



Clinical Quality Management

The Clinical Quality Management Support team has been collaborating with the Ryan White Part A (RWPA) providers on their Quality Improvement Projects (QIPs) for the fiscal year 2024-2025, with a primary focus on viral suppression. The RWPA providers are currently working on the third intervention of their project cycle before moving into the data collection and evaluation phase. The Clinical Quality Management Support team offers technical assistance through meetings and valuable resources such as the Center for Quality Improvement and Innovation (CQII).

Recently, the Behavioral Health Network received training from Dr. Francine Cournos on “People Who Are Triply Diagnosed: HIV, Substance Use, and Other Mental Illnesses.”

The training saw over 54 registrants, including behavioral health providers from the Virgin Islands.

For the upcoming Medical Provider Network meeting in January, the Clinical Quality Management Support team will host an in-person meeting featuring a special educational session on “Integrating HIV and Aging Guidelines into Practice,” presented by Dr. Eugenia L. Siegler, a geriatrician with extensive experience in HIV treatment and care. Dr. Siegler, an Emerita of Clinical Medicine Professor at Weill Cornell Medicine, will deliver this presentation, sponsored by the Northeast/Caribbean AIDS Education and Training Center Program (AETC). This informative session is designed for our Broward RW Part A prescribing providers, who will receive CME credit for attending. Please see the flyer for more details.

For more information on the HIV Health Services Planning Council and Clinical Quality Management Program, contact **Dr. Gritell Berkeley Martinez** at Gmartinez@brhpc.org

The flyer features a dark blue background with a white ECG line graphic. At the top, a circular inset shows a healthcare professional in a white coat interacting with an elderly patient wearing a face mask. The main title is in white and light blue text. Below the title, the presenter's name and affiliation are listed. The event details, including CME credits, date, time, and location, are provided in white text. Contact information is highlighted in a light blue box. Logos for HIVPC, AETC, and Broward County are at the bottom.

Integrating HIV and Aging Guidelines into Practice

by Dr. Eugenia L. Siegler
Geriatrician and NECA AETC faculty
Professor Emerita of Clinical Medicine Weill Cornell Medicine

CME Credits Provided
Date: January 9, 2025
Time: 1:15pm-4:30pm
Location: Broward Regional Health Planning Council
200 Oakwood Lane, Suite 100
Hollywood, FL 33020

CONTACT US :
954-561-9681 x 1295
quality@brhpc.org

HIVPC
AETC AIDS Education & Training Center Program
Northeast/Caribbean
BROWARD
TREAT HIV BEAT HIV
www.white.rwpa.org

Insurance Benefits Management Program

About the Program

BRHPC and the Insurance Benefit Management team are in the throes of Open Enrollment!

The [Enroll.BRHPC.org](https://enroll.brhpc.org) website has new features utilizing a decision tree design and by answering a few questions in the beginning, this approach will ensure the client is using the correct form and prevent feeling of being overwhelmed with too much information at one time. It should only take about 10 minutes to complete, leaving plenty of time to enjoy the holiday season.

Numerous events and trainings were done to communicate the importance of actively enrolling in premium assistance by entering their insurance information through the [Enroll.BRHPC.org](https://enroll.brhpc.org) site or by calling 844-441-4422 and we've seen a marked increase of traffic to the site and increased call volume. Additional outreach efforts include phone calls, emails and text messages. To date, we have approximately 65% of enrollments having been received for 2025.

There is still a week left to go for policies starting January 1st and anticipate the remainder to enroll in this last week.

If clients miss the December 15th deadline, Open Enrollment with the Federally Facilitated Marketplace will continue until January 15th, 2025, for policies starting February 1st, 2025.

Need help with Medicare?
Go to Medicare & Enrollment >>
Medicare Assessment Form 2024



ABOUT THE PROGRAM

Insurance Premium Assistance Services

Participants **MUST Enroll In Premium Assistance Annually**. Enroll online at <https://enroll.brhpc.org>, over the telephone by calling 1-844-441-4422 or [calling your County Health Department](#). This is REQUIRED even if you enrolled with an agent/broker, navigator, case manager, etc.

Enrollment and reenrollment in the premium assistance program is required prior to each calendar year regardless of the type of insurance enrolled in, including marketplace/Affordable Care Act (ACA), employer sponsored insurance, or COBRA.

Insurance Enrollment Assistance is provided by our partner **American Exchange**

For Agents, Brokers, Navigators, Certified Application Counselors, Assistants and Case Managers you can **Register Now** for resource access.

For more information on Insurance Enrollment contact **1-844-441-4422** and for Program Eligibility contact **1-844-381-2327** or visit [Enroll.BRHPC.org](https://enroll.brhpc.org). Our website contains information on the 2025 Open Enrollment Period, information about the program, resourceful links, outreach materials and more.

Health Insurance Continuation Program

Program Overview

HICP provides financial assistance to participants who meet the program's eligibility criteria and maintain enrollment in an ADAP approved ACA Marketplace plan. HICP assists with co-payments, deductibles, and coinsurance; without the funding participants may struggle to access medical care and pharmaceuticals. HICP assists participants with overcoming financial barriers, provides access to comprehensive care, support for medication adherence, and reduces health disparities.

HICP continues to exceed the level of service provided to the participants. HICP does this by listening to the participants and what their needs are in relation to the program. Following the collaboration with the medical providers of the participants to best service the participants, not a single relationship between HICP and medical provider office is the same because not a single medical provider practice operates identical. This ongoing FY HICP has partnered up with an additional 29 medical providers from 149 at the start of the FY, HICP has worked with a total of 178 medical providers this FY. When HICP staff and the medical provider practice collaborate, HICP staff work with a variety of medical provider staff members from the physician, the medical biller, office manager, to front desk staff to preserve the partnership with the medical provider for the participant.

BRHPC has been awarded the contracted funds to provide the Health Insurance Continuation Program (HICP) services for next year. A major change implemented in the services provided by HICP for the next Fiscal Year, all participants must be orientated and educated on the rules, processes, timelines, and limitations of HICP as the first service provided by the program. One of BRHPC's newest initiatives to remove barriers focus on helping participants reduce their exposure to medical debt through developing orientation materials to assist participants with choosing the best fit health insurance plan for them. Another effective strategy that is incorporated into the orientation and training materials is for participants to set up online accounts with their insurance plan so that they can monitor claims as they come in and make sure that they provide copies to HICP rather than waiting on providers to send invoices on the client's behalf or calling the customer service number on the back of their health insurance card to the claims mailed to their home. HICP Staff will ensure that new and current participants are familiarized with the HICP process through orientation and education.

Client Testimonials

- "Thank you so much for the quick response, much appreciated!"
- "I'm very grateful to all of you, may God bless all of you and Merry Christmas to the entire programs."
- "Many thanks for your assistance here."

Contact Natalie Lewis, HICP Program Coordinator for more information at NLewis@brhpc.org.

Fingerprinting Services

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

Committee Facilitation

BRHPC serves as a neutral facilitator for the Health Care Access Committee, dedicated to improving healthcare access for Broward County residents. The committee focuses on implementing, measuring goals and benchmarks across various health areas, including maternal and child health, mental health, primary care and overall healthcare access. The committee is comprised of members representing a diverse range of facilities, agencies and departments within the County.

Quarterly Updates

In the past quarter, the committee received several key presentations on the U.S., Florida and Broward’s Healthcare Workforce Shortage Review and Memorial Healthcare System’s 2024-2027 Community Health Needs Assessment Implementation Strategy. Additionally, the committee received program success data from the Nurse-Family Partnership Program and the Get Covered Broward Program, along with information on upcoming 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
- FLIPANY
- Florida International University
- Florida Blue
- Florida Department of Health Broward County
- Health Foundation of South Florida
- Holy 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

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 10 am virtually through Microsoft Teams. *Upcoming meeting dates: January 27, February 24 and March 24, 2025.*

Batching Cycles

Hospice: Second Batching Cycle 2024

Description	Dates
Summary Need Projections Published in F.A.R.	8-02-24
Letter of Intent Deadline	8-26-24
Application Deadline	9-25-24
Completeness Review Deadline	10-02-24
Application Omissions Deadline	10-23-24
Agency Initial Decision Deadline	12-20-24

Nursing Home and ICF/DDs: Second Batching Cycle 2024

Description	Dates*
Summary Need Projections Published in F.A.R.	10-04-24
Letter of Intent Deadline	10-21-24
Application Deadline	11-20-24
Completeness Review Deadline	11-27-24
Application Omissions Deadline	12-18-24
Agency Initial Decision Deadline	2-14-25

**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.*

Certificate of Need

Updates Coming in February 2025

On February 14, 2025, the Agency for Health Care Administration will advise on the decision for the following Certificates of Need:

- **CON #10837** to Broward SNF LLC to establish a new community nursing home up to 365 beds in Service Area 10.
- **CON #10838** to TBO Holdings LLC to establish a new community nursing home up to 160 beds in Service Area 10.

Public Health Workforce Development Series

About the Series

The Public Health Workforce Development Series, facilitated by Nova Southeastern University's Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine (KPCOM) Department of Public Health Program in partnership with the Broward Regional Health Planning Council, offers a dynamic lineup of seminars designed to enhance the skill sets of public health professionals. Each session provides valuable insights into critical areas of public health practice.

Our target audience includes consumers, providers and purchasers of health information practitioners employed in local and state government public health agencies; practitioners employed in non-governmental organizations or community-based agencies; practitioners who serve in community health centers, and community health workers; individuals employed in private industry whose work intersects with governmental public health, including medical, pharmaceutical, and environmental health workers, and NSU alumni served in roles described above.

Call for 2025 Speakers: Share Your Expertise

Are you a public health professional with a passion for teaching and a wealth of experience to share? The Public Health Workforce Development Series is seeking speakers for the 2025 program. This is an excellent opportunity to contribute to the field of public health by educating and inspiring your peers.

How to Apply: To be considered, email Workforce@brhpc.org with the following information:

- Your availability (seminars are held on weekdays from 12:00 PM to 1:00 PM).
- A brief overview of your proposed presentation topic and its relevance to public health practice.
- A summary of your professional experience and credentials.

Why Participate? The Public Health Workforce Development Series is more than just a learning opportunity—it's a platform for collaboration, innovation, and growth. By participating as an attendee or speaker, you'll contribute to a vibrant professional community dedicated to advancing public health and making a lasting impact on the communities we serve. We look forward to collaborating with passionate professionals like you and featuring your expertise in the 2025 series!

Needs Assessment - We Want to Hear From You!



We Want to Hear From You! For next year's workshops, we are conducting a Needs Assessment to assess the possible topics for professional development. Please scan the QR Code to take the brief survey.

2024 Series Speakers

We would like to thank all of the participants in the series and the following speakers for their presentations to the community:

Von Biggs, Holy Cross Health

January 2024: Normalizing the Conversation Surrounding HIV

Robert Hill, Jr, MPH, PMP, American Heart Association

February 2024: Well-Being Works Better in the Workforce

Lea Nehme, MPH, NSU KPCOM

March 2024: Alcohol Use Severity among Hispanic Emerging Adult College Students: Examining the Roles of Traditional Gender Roles, Drinking Motives and Nativity Status

Dr. Joy Siegel, NSU KPCOM

April 2024: Tapping into Resilience and Purpose as we Age

Dr. Lisa Elsigner, Broward College

May 2024: Mind Your Spine: Ergonomic Strategies to Promote Energy, Focus and Functional Fitness

T. Lucas Hollar, PhD, NSU KPCOM

June 2024: The Administrative Determinants of Health

Debra Cohn Steinkohl, NSU KPCOM

July 2024: Shaping the Future of Public Health Workforce to Master Soft Skills through Service Learning

Priya Krishnakumar, PhD, RDN, LDN

August 2024: Effective Community-based Nutrition Interventions for the Management of Chronic Diseases

Sandra Veszi Einhorn, The Coordinating Council of Broward & The Nonprofit Executive Alliance.

September 2024: How Housing Insecurity is a Major Public Health Issue

Dr. Venessa Walker, Walker Chiropractor and Wellness Center

October 2024: Stress Management Techniques

Shawntel Anderson, FLIPANY

November 2024: A Creative Workforce for Helping Seniors: From Community Member to Team Member

Jessica Lerner, Community Care Plan

December 2024: Navigating Medicaid in Florida: An Overview of Services and Health Plan Benefits

Social Media Collaboration

BRHPC & NSU

Since 2017, the Broward Regional Health Planning Council (BRHPC) has partnered with Dr. Claudia Serna, PhD, MPH, MBA, Chair/Director and Associate Professor at the Department of Public Health at Nova Southeastern University's Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine (KPCOM), to create and execute impactful social media campaigns.

Collaborating closely with BRHPC's Public Information Officer, Nicole Cohen, the team has developed, evaluated, and refined strategic approaches to leverage social media as a powerful tool for public health communication. BRHPC actively engages audiences across platforms such as Facebook, X (formerly known as Twitter), LinkedIn, and Instagram to disseminate vital public health information.



Dr. Serna's contributions to this collaboration were recently recognized at Nova Southeastern University's 2024 External Funding Event on November 13th at the Alan B. Levan | NSU Broward Center of Innovation. She was honored for her exceptional work on the Public Health Social Media Campaign, sponsored by BRHPC, which has significantly boosted awareness of public health issues and amplified BRHPC's programs and services.

These campaigns play a pivotal role in promoting critical health topics, increasing BRHPC's visibility at local, state, and national levels, and driving traffic to the organization's website to ensure valuable resources reach the communities that need them most. BRHPC is proud to continue this impactful partnership with Dr. Serna and NSU KPCOM.

"Thank you Broward Regional Health Planning Council for your support in spreading public health information via social media. I'm thrilled to share my work, funded by you, that was recognized at the 2024 External Funding and Provost Event hosted by Nova Southeastern University." - Dr. Claudia Serna

Connect with BRHPC on Social Media

Facebook: www.facebook.com/BRHPC

Instagram: www.instagram.com/brhpchealth

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/15558612/admin/dashboard

X: www.x.com/BRHPCHealth

Awards & Recognitions

Green Blazer Awards



On December 7th, Community-Based Connections commemorated 15 years of service to children and families in Broward County. The Green Blazer Awards Gala and Celebration was held at the Renaissance Hotel in Fort Lauderdale. This inspiring event recognized outstanding accomplishments by staff, celebrated organizational milestones, and honored individuals for their dedication to community service. We are thrilled to share that **Jasmin D. Shirley**, CIED Program Director was among the distinguished honorees. Jasmin was nominated for her exceptional contributions to the community and her alignment with their mission of service. She proudly received the coveted Green Blazer Award alongside other remarkable community leaders.

The evening was filled with joy and celebration as we reflected on the impact of dedicated individuals like Jasmin, whose commitment to making a difference inspires us all. Congratulations Jasmin on this well-deserved honor!

Employee of the Quarter



As the sole Clinical Quality Management (CQM) Health Planner in the HIV Planning Council Department, **Danielle Liao** has shouldered the majority of the deliverables and coordinates with CQM consultants, Dr. Jeff Beal and Debbie Seifer. Her unwavering dedication, innovative approach, and outstanding contributions have significantly elevated our clinical quality management efforts, enabling us to meet all our monthly deliverables.

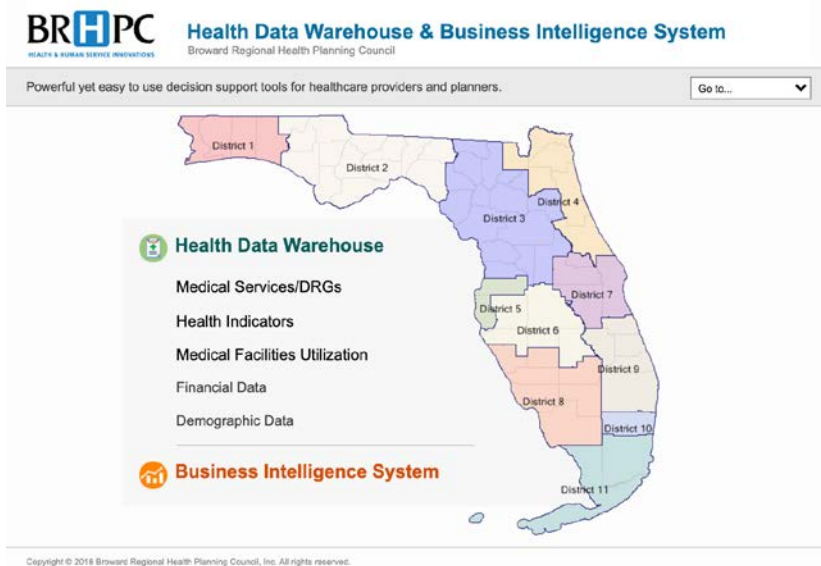
Danielle's commitment to excellence extends beyond her technical expertise; her collaborative leadership style has fostered strong partnerships with our consultants, the County Office, and the Ryan White Part A network members. She has an excellent sense of time management and consistently exceeds expectations by completing projects and objectives on schedule. She provides technical assistance to Network providers during the quality improvement process and facilitates all network meetings. Additionally, Danielle presented at the Ryan White National Conference in August 2024.

Her exemplary achievements, coupled with her unwavering dedication, have earned Danielle the title of Employee of the Quarter, a recognition truly befitting her remarkable contributions to our team and mission. Congratulations, Danielle, on this well-deserved honor!

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.

For more information on the Data Warehouse, contact **Nicole Cohen** at Ncohen@brhpc.org.

Council on Accreditation

Overview



BRHPC is honored to announce its third consecutive national reaccreditation from the Council on Accreditation (COA). Initially accredited in 2016, BRHPC has successfully maintained this recognition every four years, showcasing its unwavering dedication to delivering exceptional health and human services. Through innovative planning, direct services, evaluation, and capacity building, BRHPC continues to set the standard for excellence at national, state, and local levels.

COA Accreditation, a service of Social Current, is a rigorous evaluation process that examines an organization's programs, services, management, and operations to ensure compliance with international best practice standards. This achievement reflects BRHPC's commitment to providing culturally competent, evidence-based, and outcomes-driven services through a highly skilled and well-supported workforce.

To uphold its accreditation, BRHPC implements a robust Performance and Quality Improvement (PQI) framework, including monthly PQI meetings and quarterly subcommittee reviews focused on critical areas such as Human Resources, Staff Training and Development, Risk Management and Safety, and Management Information Systems (MIS). These continuous evaluations ensure that policies, procedures, and service delivery meet and exceed the highest standards of care, enabling BRHPC to remain responsive to the evolving needs of the community.

The reaccreditation process entailed a detailed review, starting with the submission of comprehensive documentation demonstrating adherence to COA standards. This was followed by on-site interviews conducted by trained Peer Reviewers who assessed the organization's compliance.

COA Accreditation represents a commitment to accountability and continuous improvement, providing a framework to elevate both service delivery and organizational administration. With over 2,000 organizations in the U.S. and Canada accredited or pursuing accreditation, COA is recognized as a leader in setting benchmarks for community-based behavioral health care and social service organizations.

For additional information on COA Accreditation, visit www.social-current.org.

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