



2025

# WINTER NEWSLETTER



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

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# A Letter from the President & CEO

## A Leadership Message



As the holiday season approached, Broward Regional Health Planning Council (BRHPC) embraced the spirit of celebration, connection, and reflection on another successful year of service to our community. Throughout the final months of the year, staff came together to recognize accomplishments, strengthen relationships and celebrate the people who make our work possible.

**October** kicked off with a fun and creative Halloween pumpkin-decorating activity organized by department. This team-building event showcased the creativity, collaboration, and camaraderie that define our workplace culture, while providing an opportunity for staff to engage with one another outside of their day-to-day responsibilities.

In **November**, we celebrated our annual Pie Week in honor of Thanksgiving. Staff shared an array of homemade and store-bought pies, creating a warm and welcoming space to connect and express gratitude.

We closed out the year in **December** with a festive Spirit Week, where employees donned their favorite holiday sweaters, socks, and hats. The season culminated in our Holiday Luncheon—a meaningful opportunity to thank our team for their dedication and hard work throughout the year.

Over the past decade, BRHPC has responsibly stewarded more than \$1.15 billion in federal, state, local, and foundation funding to deliver innovative, high-impact health and human services across all 67 Florida counties. We are grateful for the trust our funding partners place in us and are committed to ensuring these resources are managed with the highest standards of accountability, efficiency, and full compliance with all federal, state, and local requirements.

I would like to thank our board members, funders, employees, leadership, community partners, volunteers, and interns for their continued commitment to our organization. Together, we have achieved remarkable progress, and I look forward to another year of innovation and impact as we serve our community. Thank you for your continued trust and partnership.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Michael De Lucca'. The signature is stylized with a large, looping 'M' and a trailing flourish.

Michael De Lucca, MHM  
President & CEO

# BRHPC's December Holiday Celebration





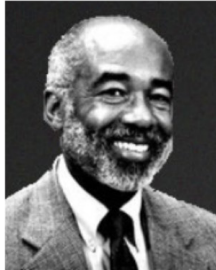


# BRHPC Board of Directors

2025-2026



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**Pamela B. Africk**  
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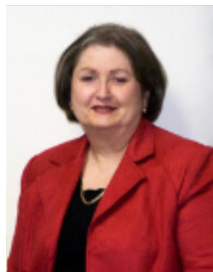
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MBA



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MBA



**Albert C. Jones**  
MA



**Leilani Kicklighter**  
MBA, ARM, RN



**Ronald E. Moore**  
MD

# Nurse-Family Partnership

## Program Overview

The Nurse-Family Partnership (NFP) Program works to reduce the risk of pre-term labor and deliveries. The program is aimed at improving prenatal care, decreasing infant mortality rate, and promoting breastfeeding in the community. NFP works with at-risk first-time mothers. The goal of NFP is to implement early interventions for these women to improve health outcomes in the mothers and infant developmental score. 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:

- Low income
- At Risk concerns (Domestic Violence, Low Educational Scores, Mental Health concerns)
- 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 Nurse Family Partnerships. The program has grown from just assisting first-time mothers, to including any potential mother in a high-risk situation.

The NFP program is administered through a partnership between BRHPC and the two hospital districts of Broward County: Broward Health and Holy Cross Health. The hospital districts 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. NFP has seven (7) nurses in total providing the NFP Model. 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.

## Education

The team took place in education aimed at increasing knowledge for Children Mental Health screenings; as well as Breastfeeding for the Neonatal Intensive Care Unit (NICU) and beyond. Both education helps promote care of the infant and their needs.

At the Enhancing Outcomes: ***NFP Education & Training for the Broward Health Point Maternal Health*** Program session, our Program Director showcased the NFP home-visiting model and its impact on the community. NFP nurses also participated in the event, where they were recognized for exceeding key outcomes—including enrollment and program retention.





A big congratulations to our team for their continued commitment to helping families thrive!

### NFP Model Developer Site Visit

Broward NFP recently welcomed the State Practice Manager for a review of our program's outcomes and overall impact. We're proud to share that Broward ranked #1 in Florida for FY 24–25 with:

- 101 new client enrollments
- 77 babies born

Thank you to our dedicated team for continuing to deliver the NFP model with exceptional quality and care!



### Upcoming Events

The NFP team will be participating in several conferences to expand our knowledge into Maternal & Child Health. One Conference is High Risk & Critical Care Obstetrics in the Community.

**Staff Contact: Maxine Pink, NFP Director**

Email: [Mpink@BRHPC.org](mailto:Mpink@BRHPC.org).



# Housing Opportunities for Persons With AIDS

## Program Overview

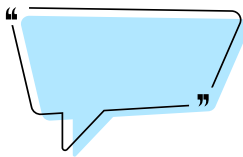
The Housing Assistance Program at the Broward Regional Health Planning Council (BRHPC) helps improve housing stability for individuals and families in need through the Housing Opportunities for Persons with HIV/AIDS (HOPWA) program. For more than sixteen years, the program has supported eligible low-income Broward County residents, those earning 80% or less of the Area Median Income (AMI) by providing rent, utility, and mortgage assistance, along with permanent housing placement services.

During the current contract year, October 2024 through September 2025, the Housing Assistance Program at Broward Regional Health Planning Council (BRHPC) has provided assistance to more than 258 unduplicated clients, distributing over \$378,730 in short-term rental, permanent housing placement, utility, mortgage, and emergency hotel voucher assistance to help prevent homelessness.

BRHPC continues to collaborate closely with the local HOPWA Grantee and the City of Fort Lauderdale's Housing and Community Development Division to identify and implement more effective ways to deliver services to the community. The agency also partners with local HOPWA providers—including Care Resource, Mount Olive Development Corporation (MODCO), and SunServe—to offer training, technical assistance, and coordinated service delivery to better serve clients.

## Client Testimonial

The client came to the office seeking assistance with relocation. The client's landlord refused to make necessary repairs to accommodate the client, and the matter was referred to Legal Aid for resolution. However, the client and landlord were unable to reach an agreement.



Due to the landlord's threat of eviction, the client found another property to move into. The client's application was reviewed promptly to prevent homelessness. After receiving assistance, the client called to thank both the Reviewer and her Supervisor, expressing gratitude and saying, "This program always finds a way to support people when they are in dire need."

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

**Staff Contact: Sharon Alveranga-Jones, Director of Housing**

Email: [Smcdonald@BRHPC.org](mailto:Smcdonald@BRHPC.org).

# Tenant Based Rental Voucher Program

## About the Program

The Tenant-Based Rental Voucher (TBRV) Program expands affordable housing options for low-income individuals and families by allowing participants to choose and lease safe, decent, and affordable rental units. The program provides a monthly rental subsidy that moves with the client, enabling them to live in any qualifying housing unit of their choice within Broward County. Clients are required to contribute a portion of their income toward rent. To qualify, applicants must meet the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) income requirements and HOPWA (Housing Opportunities for Persons with AIDS) eligibility criteria:

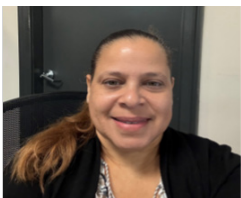
- Be HIV positive (any person in the household).
- At or below 80% of the area's median income.

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 the program's goals and looks forward to establishing even more objectives for the upcoming year!

## New Employee Spotlight



**Julissa Christopher** is a new team member at BRHPC, bringing over 19 years of experience in customer service within the healthcare industry. She has worked with durable medical equipment (DME) companies, insurance providers, and several hospitals, developing a strong background in client relations and problem-solving. Julissa finds great satisfaction in helping others and takes pride in providing effective solutions to clients. She is excited for the

opportunity to serve with BRHPC and to support clients through rental assistance programs. In her free time, Julissa enjoys spending time with family and friends. She is also active in her church community, where she volunteers by providing transportation for elderly members, fellowshiping, and offering prayers—a role she considers a true blessing.

**Staff Contact: Sharon Alveranga-Jones, Director of Housing**

Email: [Smcdonald@BRHPC.org](mailto:Smcdonald@BRHPC.org)

# Centralized Intake & 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 clients 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 unshakable dedication and passion to serve the HIV community along with the various Ryan White Networks of collaborative organizations, community partners, and clients. Clients consistently commented about the professionalism, supportive referrals, and compassionate engagements they experienced and expressed their genuine appreciation for the services rendered and accommodation made by some of the most exceptionally caring and client-focused staff.

CIED team members welcome fresh ideas and new intervention strategies to better engage clients and provide exceptional services. The Consumer / Peer Advisory Group was reactivated in March 2025. The Advisory Group, comprised of ten (10) diverse individuals with a wealth of insight and lived experiences, shares relevant information with BRHPC to enhance services delivered by CIED staff. We encourage consumers to join our special focus group sessions along 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, Extension 1203.

CIED Team members are actively preparing clients for the Affordable Care Act (ACA) Marketplace open enrollment period beginning November 1, 2025, and ending January 15, 2026. We highly encourage clients to prepare early and select the best 2026 ADAP-approved health insurance to meet their needs on or before December 15, 2025, for coverage to begin effective January 1, 2026. Any enrollment finalized after December 15th begins coverage effective February 1, 2026. There is no passive enrollment; all eligible clients must enroll annually in the Premium Assistance Program to obtain premium payment and other related insurance support services. Clients can access the website at [www.Enroll.BRHPC.org](http://www.Enroll.BRHPC.org) or call 844-441-4422 for information and assistance with plan selection and enrollment processes. Early preparation and documents required are key. There are many changes to the ACA federal legislation that shall impact clients in 2026, including but not limited to a dual shock of new enrollment barriers and a looming "affordability cliff" that will make coverage prohibitively expensive when enhanced Premium Tax Credits (ePTCs) expire at the end of 2025.

The holiday season is a joyous time of year to reflect and be thankful for life, fellowship, love, and family. The entire CIED Team expresses sincere gratitude and will continue to display core character traits and behaviors that ensure positive outcomes to all we serve.



empathy, commitment, logic, persistence, compassion, professionalism, efficient, caring, accountability, and servant leadership. Together Everyone Achieves More.

## **Ryan White Part A - Twelve (12) Provider Locations and Hours of Service**

### **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  
Oakland Park, FL 33334  
954-561-6900 | W: 8:30am – 5:00pm

### **AHF – Fort Lauderdale (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

### **BCFHC - Central Broward**

1229 NW 40th Ave.  
Lauderhill, FL 33313  
954-583-4710

### **BCFHC - Hollywood**

5010 Hollywood Blvd., Suite 100-B  
Hollywood, FL 33021 | 954-967-0028

### **BCFHC - West Park**

5801 W. Hallandale Beach  
Blvd., West Park, FL 33023 | 954-966-3939

### **BCFHC (RW Part A Dental)**

162 N. Powerline Road  
Pompano Beach, FL 33069 | 954-970-7067

### **Broward House (Case Management Only)**

2800 N. Andrews Ave.  
Wilton Manors, FL 33331  
954-568-7373 | M-F: 8:30am-5:00pm

### **Broward Regional Health Planning Council**

200 Oakwood Lane,  
Suite 100 Hollywood, FL 33020  
954-566-1417 x 1242/1279 | M-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-F: 8:30am – 5:00pm

### **Children Diagnostic and Treatment Center**

1401 S. Federal Highway  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33316 | 954-728-8080

### **Community Rightful Center (Case Management Only)**

1801 N University Drive, Suite 210  
Coral Springs, FL 33071  
305-754-5701 | 954-815-1192

### **Comprehensive Care Center (Medical & Case Management)**

1101 NW 1st Street  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311 | 954-467-0880  
Monday - Friday: 8:30am - 5:00pm

### **Latinos Salud (Case Management Only)**

1101 NW 1st Street, Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311  
954-765-6239

### **Legal Aid Services of Broward County**

491 N. State Road 7, Plantation, FL 33317  
954-765-8950

### **Memorial (Medical & Case Management)**

5647 Hollywood Blvd., Hollywood, FL 33021  
954-276-1616 M, T, W: 8:30am - 5:00pm

### **Nova Southeastern University (RW Part A Dental)**

1201 W. Cypress Road  
Fort Lauderdale, FL 33309 | 954-262-7530

### **Paul Hughes (ADAP)**

205 NW 6th Ave., Pompano Beach, FL 33060  
954-566 -1417 Ext. 1242 or 1279

### **Poverello (Food Bank)**

2056 N Dixie Hwy.  
Wilton Manors, FL 33305 | 954-561-3663  
Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 8:30am-5:00pm

### **Specialty Care Center (Medical & Case Management)**

1111 W. Broward Blvd., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33312  
954-463-7313

### **State Road 84 (ADAP)**

2421 SW 6th Ave., Fort Lauderdale, FL 33315  
954-467-4700 Ext. 5633  
ADAP: 954-213-0623  
Thursday and Friday: 8:30 am- 5:00 pm

**Staff Contact: Jasmin D. Shirley, CIED Program Director**

Email: [Jdshirley@BRHPC.org](mailto:Jdshirley@BRHPC.org)

# Health Insurance Continuation Program

## Program Overview

The Health Insurance Continuation Program (HICP) provides financial assistance to eligible clients enrolled in approved Marketplace health plans. The program helps cover out-of-pocket medical costs—such as co-payments, deductibles, and coinsurance—to ensure individuals can continue receiving the care and services they need. HICP also works directly with clients, medical providers, and case managers to support accurate billing and timely processing throughout the year.

## Highlights

As the new contract year begins, HICP has focused on helping clients access and understand their online insurance accounts, including how to locate claims and Explanation of Benefits (EOBs). Many individuals shared that they were unsure how to navigate their insurance portals or interpret their claim information, and staff provided step-by-step guidance to support them.

HICP also strengthened coordination with provider billing teams. Several offices requested assistance with understanding required documentation or when claims must be submitted to insurance before being sent to HICP. These conversations helped reduce delays and improved accuracy in billing submissions.

## Key Updates for Clients and Providers

### Required Documentation

*To ensure timely processing, all bills submitted to HICP must include:*

- An itemized billing statement or CMS-1500 form
- The EOB from the client's insurance
- CPT/procedure codes
- Diagnosis codes
- The provider's billing/remit address

*Missing EOBs or incomplete coding remain the most common reasons why HICP must request additional information before processing a payment.*

### Submission Timelines

- Billing documentation must be submitted within 60 days of the date of service.
- All services must occur between March 1, 2025 – February 28, 2026.
- No documents can be accepted after February 28.

### Provider Communication

Clients are encouraged to notify their providers before upcoming appointments. This

helps ensure the office submits claims to the insurance plan first, preventing delays in HICP's review of the remaining balance.

## Service Eligibility

HICP continues to assist clients and providers with understanding which services are eligible for assistance. When services fall outside allowable outpatient coverage, staff offer clarification and guidance to help providers submit appropriate documentation.

## Program Improvements and Support Activities

Throughout the season, HICP increased outreach to clients who needed help retrieving insurance documents or understanding their billing. Staff provided individualized support, including portal assistance and contacting providers for corrected statements when needed. HICP also reiterated requirements to provider billing offices and offered additional clarification on documentation standards, common billing errors, and ways to avoid processing delays. These efforts improve efficiency while reducing the burden on both clients and provider staff.

## Client Provider Testimonials

- *"I couldn't figure out how to access my EOB. Thank you for walking me through it—I finally understand what my insurance paid."* — Client
- *"Thank you for explaining what was missing from the bill. This will help our office submit everything correctly next time."* — Provider
- *"I felt overwhelmed trying to sort through my medical bills. Your support helped me feel more in control."* — Client
- *"We appreciate your follow-up and patience. It made a big difference for my client."* — Case Manager

## Tips for Clients

- Check your insurance portal regularly for new claims or EOBs.
- Inform your provider early that HICP may help with your out-of-pocket costs.
- Submit documents as soon as they become available.
- Keep copies of bills and insurance letters for your records.
- HICP issues payments directly to providers, not clients.

## Need Assistance?

**Staff Contact: Natalie Lewis, HICP Coordinator**

Email: [NLewis@BRHPC.org](mailto:NLewis@BRHPC.org)



# Get Covered Broward

## Overview

BRHPC continues to provide enrollment assistance through a partnership with the Health Foundation of South Florida. Get Covered Broward raises awareness about the availability of low-cost health insurance in Broward County through meetings, events, social media and paid advertisements featured on Pandora, Univision Radio and various radio stations.

The 2026 Open Enrollment Period started on November 1, 2025, and ends on January 15, 2026. Throughout the past quarter, the program participated in several community outreach events, distributing multilingual educational materials in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole. These resources outlined eligibility criteria, the application process for low-cost health insurance plans, and promoted the **phone number: 1-800-794-2208**, where individuals can get one-on-one assistance. The events included:

- Somerset Prep North Lauderdale Academy's Community Health Fair held on Saturday, October 25, 2025
- Town of Pembroke Pines Community Health Fair held on Saturday, November 8, 2025
- World AIDS Day Event held on Monday, December 1, 2025 from 9am - 3pm
- ***Save The Date: Broward HealthPoint, together with the City of Lauderhill, is proud to launch Stay Healthy Together bringing medical care and a free family friendly event to the community on Saturday, February 21, 2026 from 10am - 2pm at Ken Thruston Inverrary Community Center.***



For assistance in enrolling in an affordable health insurance plan or additional information, call 1-800-794-2208.

**Staff Contact: Barbara France**, Outreach Enrollment Specialist

Email: [Bfrance@BRHPC.org](mailto:Bfrance@BRHPC.org)

# HIV Health Services Planning Council & Clinical Quality Management

## Planning Council Support

During the Winter 2025 Quarter, the Broward HIV Health Services Planning Council (HIVPC) continued its commitment to outreach, education, and community engagement to raise awareness about HIV/AIDS across Broward County.

In September, the Community Empowerment Committee (CEC) hosted the **Aging Gracefully** event in recognition of National HIV/AIDS and Aging Awareness Day at the E. Pat Larkins Community Center. The event welcomed 75 participants and featured an interactive presentation by Nova Southeastern University dental students on HIV, Oral Health, and Aging. The students shared practical oral care tips, addressed common barriers, and engaged with attendees through a Q&A session. Participants also enjoyed a lively Jeopardy-style game that blended HIV knowledge, Planning Council awareness, and fun pop culture trivia. The event concluded with a heartfelt testimonial from a community member about her journey of aging with HIV, followed by a “Wisdom Tree” activity where participants shared words of encouragement and personal reflections.

On November 30, the HIVPC tabled at CAN Community Health’s World AIDS Day concert, **“No Day but Today,”** held at Las Olas Park. Planning Council members provided vital information about the Council’s work, available resources, and opportunities for community involvement.

The **Priority Setting and Resource Allocation (PSRA) Committee** also made major progress this quarter, completing two cycles of fund reallocations to ensure resources were aligned with community needs. These adjustments prioritized core and support services—including medical and behavioral health, oral health, substance abuse-out patient, and medical case management. At its December 4, 2025, meeting, the Council approved reallocations totaling \$658,525, including \$574,025 for Part A Core and Support Services and \$84,500 for Minority AIDS Initiative (MAI) Core and Support Services. During the December 4th meeting, Planning Council members watched a memorial video honoring HIVPC members who have passed away. The video included heartfelt reflections from current members and community leaders celebrating the dedication, vision, and hard work of those whose efforts laid the foundation the HIVPC stands on today.

On December 2nd, the HIVPC, in partnership with the Ryan White Part A Office, hosted an informational table at the Broward County Human Services Department to share details about the Council’s mission and promote community engagement. Additionally, on December 9th, the Broward County Board of County Commissioners formally

recognized World AIDS Day with an official proclamation at the Governmental Center. Together, these initiatives highlight the HIVPC's ongoing efforts to strengthen community engagement, promote awareness, and ensure that individuals affected by HIV/AIDS receive the support and services they need.



## Clinical Quality Management

### Winter 2025 Quarter Highlights from the Clinical Quality Management

This quarter, the Clinical Quality Management (CQM) team facilitated several dynamic network meetings focused on improving service delivery, care coordination, and client outcomes across Broward County.

#### Provider Network Activities

**Medical Case Management Network:** The team conducted a comprehensive review of the 2026 Affordable Care Act (ACA) Open Enrollment Updates, ensuring a thorough understanding of upcoming changes and initiatives. In addition, they engaged in detailed discussions regarding Medical Case Management Activities, focusing on optimizing the processes involved in managing patient care. The team also examined potential enhancements to the Service Delivery Model (SDM), aiming to improve efficiency and effectiveness. These conversations centered on strategies to enhance access to services, improve care coordination among providers, and elevate the overall client experience, ensuring that efforts are aligned with best practices and future goals.



**Medical Provider Network:** Highlights included ACA Open Enrollment Updates and an Integrated Primary Care and Behavioral Health SDM Discussion. The session also featured the Northeast/Caribbean AETC presentation by Dr. Grant Ellsworth, “Anal Cancer Prevention: Current Challenges and Controversies,” which addressed prevention strategies for individuals with HIV. A representative from AHF also shared an insightful case study related to the AETC training on the “Mechanics of Secondary Anal Cancer Prevention.”

**Behavioral Health Network:** The Behavioral Health team convened for a comprehensive discussion on the Ryan White Part A (RWPA) Mental Health and Substance Use Service Delivery Models. The primary focus of this meeting was to enhance care coordination and foster integration between behavioral health services and medical care, thereby ensuring clients receive holistic and seamless support. Please see the photos below capturing moments from the in-person meeting

**Quality Network:** The CQM team hosted a Quality Network Office Hour, providing agencies with collaborative guidance on strengthening HIV case management, enhancing client engagement, and advancing continuous quality improvement initiatives.



**Staff Contact:** Dr. Gritell Berkeley Martinez, HIV Health Services Planning Council  
and Clinical Quality Management Program Director  
Email: [Gmartinez@BRHPC.org](mailto:Gmartinez@BRHPC.org)

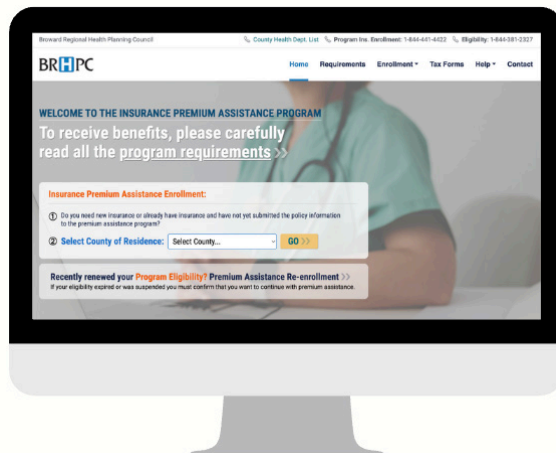
# Insurance Benefits Manager Services

It's that time of year and BRHPC and the Insurance Benefit Management staff are in the annual fray of Open Enrollment for 2026!

Numerous events and trainings have been 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**.

To date, we have approximately 6,000 enrollments received for 2026 and receiving additional enrollments everyday for those who applied directly with the marketplace.

Open Enrollment with the Federally Facilitated Marketplace will continue until January 15th, 2026, for policies starting February 1st.



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 about the 2026 Open Enrollment Period, the premium assistance program, resourceful links, outreach materials and more.

**Staff Contact: Cristy Kozla**, Director of Premium Assistance  
Email: [Ckozla@BRHPC.org](mailto:Ckozla@BRHPC.org)

# Public Health Workforce Development Series

The Public Health Workforce Development Series is a virtual seminar series is a collaborative initiative between Nova Southeastern University's (NSU) Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine (KPCOM) Department of Public Health and the Broward Regional Health Planning Council (BRHPC). Designed for professionals in the public health field, these interactive workshops provide essential skills, knowledge, and insight to support career growth and improve community health outcomes.

## Thank You to Our Quarter One Speakers

### **October 2025: Dr. Nisha Vijayakumar**

Assistant Professor, Public Health, NSU KPCOM

*Presentation Title: Invisible Invaders: How Microplastics Are Impacting Our Health*

### **November 2025: Li (Jean) Zhang, Ph.D., M.S., M.A.**

Assistant Professor, Department of Public Health, NSU KPCOM

*Presentation Title: Studies on Health Effects of Flavonoids and Flavonoid-Rich Foods*

### **December 2025: Carlos Gabriel Arias, MSCi**

Assistant Professor, Department of Public Health, NSU KPCOM

*Presentation Title: Communicate Disease Control: A Disease Intervention Specialist's Perspective*

## Target Audience

Our target audience includes 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 2026 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 2026 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](mailto:Workforce@BRHPC.org) with the following information: your availability (*seminars are held on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays from 12:00pm to 1:00pm*), a brief overview of your proposed presentation topic and its relevance to the public health practice and a summary of your

# Certificate of Need

BRHPC has overseen the Certificate of Need (CON) Program for Broward County since its establishment in 1982. The Florida Agency for Health Care Administration website describes the program as follows. The CON program is a regulatory process that requires certain health care providers to obtain state approval before offering certain new or expanded services. CON Batching Cycles are posted on the BRHPC website, [www.BRHPC.org](http://www.BRHPC.org). BRHPC collaborates with all healthcare facilities planning to establish or expand their services in Broward County.

## Hospice: First Batching Cycle 2026

Description	Dates
Summary Need Projections Published in F.A.R.	2-06-26
Letter of Intent Deadline	2-23-26
Application Deadline	3-25-26
Completeness Review Deadline	4-01-26
Application Omissions Deadline	4-22-26
Agency Initial Decision Deadline	6-19-26

## Nursing Home and ICF/DDs: First Batching Cycle 2025

Description	Dates*
Summary Need Projections Published in F.A.R.	4-03-26
Letter of Intent Deadline	4-20-26
Application Deadline	5-20-26
Completeness Review Deadline	5-27-26
Application Omissions Deadline	6-17-26
Agency Initial Decision Deadline	8-14-26

\*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.

# Employee of the Quarter



**Sharon Alveranga-Jones** joined BRHPC 20 years ago as an Administrative Assistant. Her ambition, drive, and craving for knowledge led her to pursue a BA in Health Administration and, further, MBA – Master’s in Business Administration. She now holds the well-deserved position of Housing Program Director. Sharon has worked on the Housing Opportunities for Persons with HIV/AIDS (HOPWA) Program since its inception in 2008. She is dedicated to her work, displays leadership qualities, and performs her duties with zeal and proficiency. These positive attributes awarded her the BRHPC Employee of the Quarter award. Congratulation Sharon, we are rooting for your continued success!



# Health Care Access Committee

## About the Committee

BRHPC serves as a facilitator for the Health Care Access Committee, established as a committee of the Coordinating Council of Broward. This committee aims to enhance healthcare access for Broward County residents by establishing and measuring specific outcomes and indicators over the coming years. The committee members include representatives from various facilities, agencies and/or departments within the community. All meetings are held on the fourth Monday of every month at 10am virtually through Microsoft Teams.

## Members of the Committee Include

- American Cancer Society
- Broward Community & Family Health Center
- Broward Health
- Broward Healthy Start Coalition
- Broward County Public Schools
- Broward Sheriff's Office
- Children's Services Council
- Cleveland Clinic
- Community Care Plan
- Community Foundation of Broward
- 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 Health Planning Council
- Sunshine Health
- United Way of Broward County
- Volunteers and Interns

## Quarterly Updates

Over the past quarter, the committee received a presentation on Chapter IV and Chapter V of the Broward County Health Plan. Chapter IV provides healthcare utilization data and Chapter V focuses on annual community health priorities, identifies community interventions, and measures progress attaining to health improvements. Memorial Healthcare System also provided a presentation on their year one 2024-2027 Implementation Plan. Additionally, the committee received program success data covering several months for the Nurse-Family Partnership Program and the Get Covered Broward Program, as well as information on the upcoming Public Health Workforce Development Series.

**Staff Contact: Yolanda Falcone, Manager of Administrative Services**

Email: [Yfalcone@BRHPC.org](mailto:Yfalcone@BRHPC.org)

# BRHPC's Data Warehouse

## About the System

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 and decision-making endeavors. These databases offer a wide array of health-oriented data sets, including hospital and nursing home utilization, health indicators and 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 about BRHPC's Data Warehouse, email [Utilization@BRHPC.org](mailto:Utilization@BRHPC.org).

## Council on Accreditation

### National Accreditation Since 2016



BRHPC continues to uphold its accreditation, having recently submitted its annual maintenance report. Nationally accredited by the Council on Accreditation (COA) since 2016, BRHPC has successfully renewed this distinction every four years, reflecting its steadfast commitment 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. For additional information on COA Accreditation, visit [www.social-current.org](http://www.social-current.org).

# Fingerprinting Services

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?

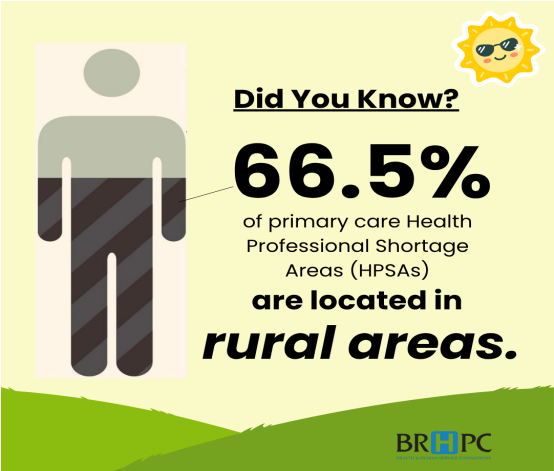
BRHPC's fingerprinting clientele include hospital employees, guardian ad litem programs, doctors' offices, non-profit and social service agencies, colleges, universities and more. BRHPC is committed to maintaining the highest ethical standards and using advanced technology to deliver timely results, 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.

# National Rural Health Day

BRHPC developed and coordinated a social media campaign in recognition of National Rural Health Day. Campaign content was posted throughout the week leading up to National Rural Health Day, as well as on the day itself. Posts were shared across all of BRHPC social media platforms, including Facebook, X, LinkedIn, and Instagram. In addition, BRHPC promoted the Florida Rural Health Transformation Roundtable Webinar by sharing the flyer on each social media channel.



Below are snapshots of the campaign posts featured on BRHPC’s Facebook page. The same posts and captions were also published on X, LinkedIn, and Instagram.

Social Media Platform	Individual Reach by Platform
Facebook	396
X	80
LinkedIn	226
Instagram	772
Total Reach	1,474 Individuals



Mike De Lucca, President and CEO and Nicole Cohen, Public Information Officer attended the Florida Rural Health Transformation Roundtable Webinar on Thursday, November 20, 2025, via Zoom.



# Social Media

## BRHPC & NSU Collaboration

Social media has become a powerful tool for organizations to disseminate information to the public. During the 2023-2024 fiscal year, BRHPC increased its social media presence through frequent posts on Facebook, X, Instagram and LinkedIn. BRHPC currently has over 5,700 followers across all platforms. Since 2018, **Nicole Cohen, BRHPC's Public Information Officer and Dr. Claudia Serna, PhD, DDS, MPH, MBA, Chair**, Director of Public Health, Director, Master of Public Health (MPH) and Associate Professor of Public Health, Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine, Nova Southeastern University, have collaborated to develop social media campaigns, evaluate data, and implement new strategies to enhance awareness of BRHPC's programs, services and important public health topics. These efforts have drawn more visitors to the BRHPC website and increased awareness of BRHPC at the national, state and local levels.



**Laura Restrepo-Cucunama** is a senior Public Health Major at Nova Southeastern University (NSU), with minors in Honors Transdisciplinary Studies and Health Informatics. She is currently working alongside Dr. Serna at NSU and Broward Regional Health Planning Council in developing monthly public health topics to share on social media and helping to share various social media public health campaigns. After graduating with her bachelor's degree, she plans to obtain her Master of Public Health with a concentration in epidemiology.



**Gianna Villaluna** is a current Masters of Public Health student at Nova Southeastern University. For National Rural Health Day (November 20th, 2025), she designed and formatted all of the images posted on Broward Regional Health Planning Council's social media page. These images communicated the importance of elevating healthcare access and quality for all rural communities in the United States. After completing her Master's degree, she hopes to apply to medical school and continue to use her knowledge and skills to uplift underserved communities.

## October

### Health Literacy Month

#### What is health literacy?

*"The extent to which individuals have the ability to find, understand, and use information and services to make well-informed health decisions"*



**1 in 10 people have the necessary skills to use and understand available health information.**



**People may struggle when it is:**



**Jargon-filled**



**Complex**



**Unfamiliar**

Source: [www.nrlm.gov/guides/info-health-literacy](http://www.nrlm.gov/guides/info-health-literacy)

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## November

### National Diabetes Month

- Diabetes occurs when your blood sugar is too high
- You are more likely to develop type 2 diabetes if:
  - You are overweight or obese
  - Have a family history of diabetes
  - Are not physically active and have pre-diabetes
- Work with your healthcare provider to create a plan that can help you reach and keep a healthy weight



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## December

### Safe Toys & Gifts Month

Remember to keep your kids safe these holidays with these tips:

- Avoid toys with small parts
- Inspect toys before purchasing
- Read the labels on the toys
- Watch children when they are playing with toys
- Pay attention to age recommendations



**BRHPC**

Follow BRHPC on Social Media  
Facebook | LinkedIn | X | Instagram

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