



2026 Spring Newsletter

Broward Regional Health Planning Council

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Hollywood, FL 33020

954.561.9681
www.BRHPC.org

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A Letter from the President & CEO

A Leadership Message



As we welcome the spring season, BRHPC remains committed to advancing health planning, improving access to care, and strengthening the systems that support the well-being of our community. This time of year provides an opportunity to reflect on our progress, celebrate collaboration, and look ahead to the important work still to come.

One of our key recent milestones was BRHPC's Annual Public Services Impact and Effectiveness Meeting, held as part of our contract with the Florida Department of Health. This meeting provided an opportunity to review the quality, effectiveness, and status of the many programs and services we provide to the community. We were grateful for the participation of elected officials, board members, community partners, consumers, funders, providers, and staff. Their perspectives, feedback, and engagement are essential to ensuring that our work remains responsive, relevant, and grounded in the needs of the communities we serve.

In addition to this important meeting, BRHPC continues to move forward on several initiatives that support our mission, including community health planning, workforce development, program monitoring, and collaboration with partners across Broward County. These efforts reflect our ongoing commitment to accountability, transparency, and meaningful community impact.

We are thankful for the continued dedication of our staff, Board of Directors, partners, and stakeholders. Your support makes it possible for BRHPC to respond to community needs and pursue opportunities that improve public health and quality of life.

As we move through the season, we look forward to building on this momentum and continuing our work together in service to the community. We remain encouraged by what we have accomplished together and optimistic about the opportunities ahead to make a lasting difference in the lives of those we serve.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive 'M' followed by a long horizontal stroke that loops back under the 'M'.

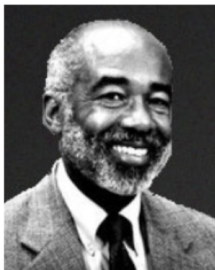
Michael De Lucca, MHM
President & CEO

BRHPC Board of Directors

2025-2026



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Vice Chair



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MBA, CPA
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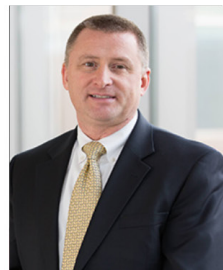
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Matt Hughes
MBA



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, Broward Health (the North Broward Hospital District), and Holy Cross Health. Nurse home visitors are employed by the health systems, while the Program Nurse Supervisor is employed by BRHPC and oversees the program and nurses for the program. NFP has seven (7) nurses in total; four (4) from North Broward Hospital District and three (3) from 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 (FAHSC).

Education

NFP Broward will be attending several educational training courses. The team participated in training to help support Social-Emotional Development. This training will boost awareness for Ages and Stages Questionnaire focusing on Social and Emotional Development in children.

Graduation and Program Impact

We are proud to share that the team has achieved an impressive retention rate of 85% this fiscal year (2025–2026). As a result of this strong engagement, 22 clients

have successfully graduated from the program since the start of the fiscal year. Participants consistently share how the program has helped them build confidence and expand their knowledge in caring for their children. Many of these new mothers have also set meaningful financial and educational goals. We are excited to see continued success, with several clients returning to the workforce and others pursuing further education. These outcomes reflect the program's ongoing commitment to empowering families and supporting long-term stability and growth.

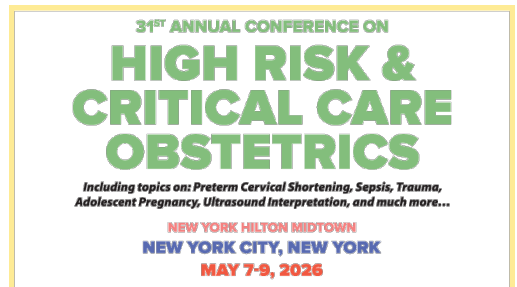
Client Testimonial

"I am very grateful for the program. She was very helpful to us from the time I was pregnant and throughout the growth and development of my son until he was 2 years old. My nurse was always available for any questions or information even if it was not related to the program. The evaluations at each stage were fundamental for me as a new mother, they served as a guide.

The only thing I would like is that it could expand to Miami Dade County since I have interested friends who would be very helpful. In a country like this that has all materials, there is a great need for help like this at that stage where women feel so vulnerable and most of the time what they need most is to be able to talk to someone who understands them and lifts their spirits. Thank you very much to my nurse who was more than that, a friend and part of the family, Marcia missed her very much. Thank you all for the great work you do every day." - Marcia, NFP Participant

Upcoming Events

The NFP team will be participating in conferences to expand our knowledge in High-Risk Pregnancy with a focus on Postpartum care for critical clients. Also, we will be attending the Association of Women's Health, Obstetric, and Neonatal Nurses (AWHONN) June 2025 in Orlando Florida and Zero to Three held in Baltimore in October 2025.



Staff Contact: Maxine Pink, NFP Director

Email: Mpink@BRHPC.org.

Housing Opportunities for Persons With HIV/AIDS

Program Overview

The Housing Assistance Program at the Broward Regional Health Planning Council (BRHPC) provides critical housing support services to the community through the Housing Opportunities for Persons with HIV/AIDS (HOPWA) Program. Our dedicated team continues to work diligently to prevent homelessness and promote housing stability for individuals and families in need.

Through the Housing Assistance Program – Short-Term Rental, Mortgage, and Utility (STRMU) and Permanent Housing Placement (PHP) components, BRHPC assisted 50 unduplicated clients between October 2025 and December 2025. During this period, more than \$88,404 was provided in rental assistance, utility payments, and emergency hotel vouchers to help clients avoid homelessness.

BRHPC works closely with the local HOPWA grantee, the City of Fort Lauderdale Housing and Community Development, to enhance service delivery and improve outcomes for the community. We also collaborate with partner agencies including Care Resource, Broward House, Minority Development and Empowerment, Mount Olive Development Corporation (MODCO), and SunServe. Through these partnerships, we provide training, technical assistance, and coordinated services to strengthen the regional response and better serve our clients.

Client Success Story

A client arrived at the office visibly distressed after being served an eviction notice earlier that morning for three months of unpaid rent. Her financial hardship began when her daughter relocated out of state to start her own family and was no longer able to assist with household expenses. Recognizing the urgency of the situation, staff immediately referred the client to Legal Aid, where negotiations with the landlord were initiated to prevent the eviction from proceeding. Simultaneously, the Housing team reviewed the client's eligibility and application documentation.

Through the Housing Opportunities for Persons with HIV/AIDS (HOPWA) program administered by the Broward Regional Health Planning Council, the client's delinquent rent was paid, successfully preventing eviction and stabilizing her housing. Because the client is unable to work and increase her income, she has made the proactive decision to secure a roommate to help share ongoing household expenses and maintain long-term stability. The client shared the following statement: "Thank you to the entire housing team for their work on my application. Because of the program's assistance, I could keep my home while I found a roommate to share the rent."

As we enter the second quarter of the current fiscal year, the HOPWA team remains committed to another successful year of serving people living with HIV/AIDS in our community and continuing our mission to prevent and end homelessness.

Staff Contact: Sharon Alveranga-Jones, Director of Housing

Email: Smcdonald@BRHPC.org.

Tenant Based Rental Assistance Program

About the Program

The Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) Program expands access to affordable housing for low-income individuals and families by providing a portable rental subsidy. This subsidy allows eligible participants to select and lease safe, decent, and affordable housing units of their choice within Broward County, provided the unit meets program requirements.

The monthly rental assistance is attached to the participant rather than a specific property, enabling mobility and housing choice. Participants are responsible for paying a calculated portion of their adjusted household income toward rent, with the program subsidizing the remaining approved amount directly to the landlord.

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 continued housing stabilization efforts, the Housing Case Manager provides comprehensive support to promote long-term self-sufficiency. Services include, but are not limited to, conducting home visits; developing, implementing, and monitoring individualized housing plans in collaboration with the client; providing budgeting guidance and financial literacy support; coordinating community resources and benefits; and maintaining consistent stability and progress toward identified goals.

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!

A Story of Recovery, Resilience, and Stability

After experiencing the loss of a close family member, one of our clients faced an overwhelming emotional setback. Struggling to cope with the grief, he began drinking heavily, which ultimately led to the loss of his employment and the

abandonment of his rented home. Within a short period of time, he found himself without stable housing and at serious risk of homelessness.

With steady encouragement and support from his case manager, the client made the courageous decision to seek help. He voluntarily entered a treatment program and successfully completed it. Throughout this process, his case manager provided consistent guidance to ensure he had the resources and structure needed to continue his recovery journey.



Following treatment, the client transitioned into recovery housing, where he was able to focus on rebuilding his life in a stable and supportive environment. He initially secured part-time employment and, through determination and commitment to his recovery, progressed to full-time employment.

With assistance from the Broward Regional Health Planning Council through the Tenant-Based Rental Assistance (TBRA) program, the client was able to secure stable housing once again. Today, he is working full-time and has regained his footing—both personally and financially.

Our case manager will continue to provide comprehensive case management services to support his housing stability, sustained recovery, and long-term self-sufficiency.

As we move forward, stories like this remind us that recovery is possible, stability can be restored, and with the right support system in place, individuals can reclaim their independence and thrive.

As we enter the second quarter of the current fiscal year, the HOPWA team remains committed to another successful year of serving people living with HIV/AIDS in our community and continuing our mission to prevent and end homelessness.

Staff Contact: Sharon Alveranga-Jones, Director of Housing
Email: 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 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 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 continues to provide a wealth of insight; lived experiences; and 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 actively engaged clients during the Marketplace Open Enrollment Period from November 1, 2025 – January 31, 2026, to select and enroll in ADAP-approved health insurance plans for 2026. Unfortunately, newly proposed changes to the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP) policies statewide that became effective March 1, 2026, have significantly impacted clients. CIED staff remain actively involved in assisting clients with vitally important information they will need to make informed decisions regarding health insurance coverage, premium and co-payment assistance, access to medications, pharmaceutical assistance programs, and other options and resources that may meet their needs.

2025-2026 RW Part A program period culminates on February 28, 2026. CIED staff are finalizing and submitting all service delivery reports. A snapshot of our client data indicates more than 8,010 unduplicated clients received 25,151 services for the program year March 1, 2025 – February 28, 2026. More than 6,380 provider assessments and over 164 online assessments were electronically submitted and processed for eligibility recertification. CIED met all contract deliverables and outcome measures. Broward Regional Health Planning Council received an official notice from Broward County Health Care Services Division to continue providing CIED services for the next programmatic year 2026/2027 that begins March 1, 2026, through February 28, 2027. Congratulations to the entire CIED Team for another great year.

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. Spring is the season of a new beginning for all and best wishes for continued strength and courage as we SPRING ahead with good health and wellness for all.

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

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, Dental, & 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, Dental and Case Management)

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 (Medical, Pharmacy and Case Management)

1101 NW 1st Street

Fort Lauderdale, FL 33311 | 954-467-0880

M - F 8:30am - 5:00pm

Memorial Physician Group (Medical & Case Management)

5647 Hollywood Boulevard, Hollywood, FL 33021

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

Poverello (Food Bank, Medical, Case Management)

2056 N. Dixie Highway

Wilton Manors, FL 33305 | 954-561-3663

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

FDOH (ADAP, Pharmacy and Disease Intervention Specialist)

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 ****

Staff Contact: Jasmin D. Shirley, CIED Program Director

Email: 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. By helping with out-of-pocket costs such as co-payments, deductibles, and coinsurance, HICP supports continued access to medical care and other covered services. HICP also works closely with clients, medical providers, and case managers to help clarify billing requirements, review insurance documents, and support the payment process.

Quarter Closeout and Support Activities

As the 2025–2026 contract year came to a close, HICP focused on helping clients review insurance claims, obtain their Explanation of Benefits (EOBs), and identify any outstanding balances requiring follow-up before year-end closeout. Staff provided direct assistance to clients who needed help accessing insurance portals, understanding claim activity, locating insurance documents, and determining what information was still needed to move a request forward. Staff also explained what remained the client’s responsibility after insurance adjudication and when additional follow-up was still needed. When needed, HICP worked with provider billing offices to resolve issues that delayed review, including missing EOBs and incomplete billing forms or statements that required correction before payment could move forward.

Follow-up continued after payment was issued when additional time was needed for checks to be mailed, received, and posted to the provider’s billing system. This quarter highlighted the importance of early follow-up, clear communication, and accurate documentation in supporting smoother claim resolution at the end of the contract year. HICP also continues to remind clients and providers that payments are issued directly to providers and that posting times may vary depending on a provider’s internal billing cycle.

Client Year-End Reminders

- Submit billing documents within 60 days of the date of service.
- Include complete billing details, such as the EOB, CPT and diagnosis codes, patient responsibility, and provider billing address.
- Monitor your insurance portal regularly and download documents as they become available.
- Keep copies of bills and insurance notices for your records.
- Remember that HICP issues payments directly to providers.

Staff Contact: Natalie Lewis, HICP Coordinator

Email: HICPsubmit@BRHPC.org

Get Covered Broward

Program Overview

BRHPC continues to provide health insurance enrollment assistance through its partnership with the Health Foundation of South Florida. Through the Get Covered Broward program, BRHPC works to increase community awareness of affordable health insurance options available in Broward County. Outreach efforts include participation in community meetings and events, social media engagement, and paid advertising campaigns on platforms such as Pandora, Univision Radio, and other local radio stations. During the 2026 Open Enrollment Period, the program successfully enrolled 1,270 clients in affordable health insurance plans, helping connect residents to essential coverage and care.



Over the past quarter, Get Covered Broward participated in Broward HealthPoint in collaboration with the City of Lauderhill’s Stay Healthy Together event on Saturday, February 21, 2026. The event provided the community with access to medical services and a free, family-friendly environment focused on promoting health and wellness. As part of its outreach efforts, Get Covered Broward distributed multilingual educational materials in English, Spanish, and Haitian Creole. These materials provided information on eligibility requirements, explained the application process for affordable health insurance plans, and highlighted the program’s dedicated assistance line, 1-800-794-2208, where individuals can receive personalized, one-on-one enrollment support.

Residents seeking assistance with enrolling in an affordable health insurance plan, or those who would like additional information, are encouraged to call 1-800-794-2208.

Staff Contact: Barbara France, Outreach Enrollment Specialist

Email: Bfrance@BRHPC.org

HIV Health Services Planning Council & Clinical Quality Management

Spring 2026 Quarter Highlights from the Planning Council Support

January 2026: Responding to ADAP Changes

In January, critical updates were proposed to the AIDS Drug Assistance Program (ADAP), prompting the Planning Council to take immediate action to address potential impacts on Ryan White clients and the local system of care.

The Council reviewed statewide and local implications and received updates from Parts A, B, C, D, F, and FQHC partners. The Priority Setting and Resource Allocation (PSRA) Committee evaluated detailed cost analyses and funding scenarios presented by the Recipient's Office. In response, the Local Pharmacy Advisory Ad-Hoc Committee was reinstated to support ongoing reviews and recommendations.

February 2026: Leadership Transitions & Strategic Planning

The Broward County HIV Health Services Planning Council (HIVPC) ushered in new leadership, electing Shawn Tinsley as Chair and Franchesca D'Amore as Vice-Chair for FY2026–2028.

On February 2, Planning Council Support Staff conducted a leadership orientation covering governance responsibilities, operational structure, and key functions of the Council, with participation from the Part A Office to provide additional guidance.

To close out FY25–26, the Council held its Annual Retreat on February 26 at Broward Regional Health Planning Council (BRHPC). Members reviewed comprehensive Needs Assessment data from Part A, Part B, and community-level sources. Through facilitated discussions, members analyzed service gaps, identified emerging trends, and explored priorities to inform the upcoming fiscal year.

The Council also reflected on major accomplishments, including allocations and reallocations, policy and procedure enhancements, and expanded community engagement efforts.

The retreat concluded with reflections from outgoing Chair Lorenzo Robertson and Vice-Chair Von Biggs (FY2022–2026). The new leadership presented them with awards in appreciation of their commitment, leadership, and dedicated service.

March 2026: New Fiscal Year, Key Policy Updates

As the new fiscal year begins, the PSRA Committee proposed eligibility adjustments

and service category considerations to strengthen system sustainability. The Planning Council approved adjustments to Federal Poverty Level (FPL) thresholds within select categories. The Committee also began preparations for allocations for the upcoming fiscal year.

The Council looks forward to sharing continued updates throughout FY26–27. Visit www.browardhivpc.org for resources, meeting information, and the latest developments.



Members and stakeholders engaged in discussion during the Priority Setting and Resource Allocation (PSRA) Committee meeting, February 2026.



Planning Council members, community stakeholders, and presenters gathered at the HIVPC Retreat on February 26, 2026.



From left to right: Franchesca D'Amore, newly elected HIVPC Vice-Chair; Von Biggs, outgoing HIVPC Vice-Chair; Lorenzo Robertson, outgoing HIVPC Chair; and Shawn Tinsley, newly elected HIVPC Chair at the HIVPC Retreat.



Shade-Ann Isidore, HIV Health Planner; Danielle Liao, CQM Health Planner; Dr. Berkeley Martinez, Director of Planning & Quality Management; and Mandy Lacroix, HIV Health Planner, at the HIVPC Retreat.

Clinical Quality Management

Spring 2026 Quarter Highlights from the Clinical Quality Management

January 7, 2026: Oral Health Network Training

The Oral Health Network kicked off the year with a continuing education (CE) training focused on identifying and addressing risky substance use in dental settings. The training addressed providers' concerns about patients arriving at appointments under the influence and the need for practical tools to handle these situations.

Participants learned strategies for recognizing risky substance use, conducting brief interventions, and connecting patients to treatment resources. The session also introduced screening tools and shared guidance on implementing SBIRT (Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment) in dental settings. The discussion concluded with strategies for maintaining professional boundaries while helping patients access appropriate care.

January 13, 2026: Behavioral Health Network Training

The Southeast AETC hosted a CE training on SBIRT. The session reviewed validated screening tools such as AUDIT, DAST, and TAPS, and highlighted communication techniques that support effective and non-judgmental conversations about substance use.

The training reinforced the network's commitment to consistent, evidence-based practices that support early identification, brief intervention, and referral to treatment.

January 21, 2026: Quality Network Updates

The Quality Network meeting focused on progress and challenges related to ongoing

Quality Improvement Projects (QIPs). Agencies shared updates on their work with clients and discussed strategies for improving engagement and data collection.

Participants highlighted the value of the current six-week meeting schedule for maintaining project momentum and discussed opportunities to improve the toolkit and PDSA cycles for the upcoming year. Agencies also emphasized the importance of collaboration, particularly for smaller organizations that may benefit from partnering with larger agencies.

The Clinical Quality Management (CQM) team discussed ways to provide additional support, including adjustments to office hours and greater flexibility with project timelines when needed.

Next Steps

Quality Network members will soon present the final results of their Fiscal Year 2025–2026 Quality Improvement Projects, highlighting strategies, lessons learned, and outcomes from their initiatives. The CQM team is also preparing to wrap up its internal quality improvement project focused on data quality.

The flyers are from both Southeast AETC trainings held in January for the Behavioral Health Network and Oral Health Network, respectively.

January 13, 2026
At 2:00PM-3:15 PM
VIA Zoom

SCREENING, BRIEF INTERVENTION, AND REFERRAL TO TREATMENT (SBIRT) FOR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

Key Objectives:

- Identify two screening tools for risky substance use.
- Implement two communication strategies for brief interventions to address risky substance use.
- Identify one resource to refer a client to treatment for risky substance use.

SEAETC REGISTER HERE

Mail: quality@brhpc.org
Tel: 954-561-9681 x 1295

The Southeast AETC is pleased to offer **One (1) continuing education credit** for the following disciplines: Dental, Dietetics, Medical, Nursing, Pharmacy, Physician Assistant, Psychology, and Social Work.

SCREENING, BRIEF INTERVENTION, AND REFERRAL TO TREATMENT (SBIRT) FOR SUBSTANCE USE DISORDER

Facilitated by: Katy Schmidt, OTD, OTR/L

Key Objectives:

- Identify two screening tools for risky substance use to utilize in dental practice.
- Implement two communication strategies for brief interventions to address risky substance use in dental practice.
- Identify one resource to refer a dental patient to treatment for risky substance use.

Wednesday, January 7, 2026
3:00pm-4:15pm EST
SEAETC Register Here

CONTACT US

Mail: quality@brhpc.org
Tel: 954-561-9681 x 1295

The Southeast AETC is pleased to offer **One (1) continuing education credit** for the following disciplines: Dental, Dietetics, Medical, Nursing, Pharmacy, Physician Assistant, Psychology, and Social Work.

Staff Contact: Dr. Gritell Berkeley Martinez, HIV Health Services Planning Council and Clinical Quality Management Program Director

Email: Gmartinez@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

January 2026: Athena Hall, PhD, MPH

Assistant Professor, Public Health, NSU KPCOM

Presentation Title: From Passion to Position: Collaboration as a Workforce Strategy in Public Health

February 2026: Karen Basedow, D.C.N., RDN, LDN, CDCES, FNAP

Assistant Professor, Department of Public Health, NSU KPCOM

Presentation Title: The Silent Epidemic: Cracking the Code on Bone Health

March December 2026: Natalia Soares Quinete, PhD, MS

Associate Professor, the Institute of Environment, Department of Chemistry and Biochemistry at Florida International University (FIU)

Presentation Title: PFAS Environmental Fate and Public Health Implications: What We Need to Know

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 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 professional experience and credentials.

Staff Contact: Nicole Cohen, Public Information Officer

Email: Ncohen@BRHPC.org

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 VI of the Broward County Health Plan. Chapter VI sets annual community health priorities, identifies community interventions, and measures progress attaining to health improvements.

Additionally, the committee received a presentation on the 2024 Financial Data Review of Broward County, Miami Dade and Palm Beach County. The committee also reviewed 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

Sustainability

Strengthening Partnerships for New Opportunities

In addition to our Broward County and statewide projects, we remain committed to strengthening partnerships and collaborations that position us to pursue newly funded opportunities. These relationships are essential to expanding our impact and ensuring we can respond effectively to evolving community and public health needs. By working closely with community organizations, agencies, and statewide partners, we are able to build on shared expertise, align resources, and create innovative solutions that extend the reach of our work. This collaborative approach enhances our ability to secure and implement new initiatives that support long-term growth, sustainability, and meaningful outcomes for the communities we serve.

Organizational Stability & Affordable Housing Initiative

Sustainability is a cornerstone of our business philosophy. BRHPC's affordable housing initiative resulted in the purchase of multi-family housing in Oakland Park and Hollywood. Each city sets their affordable housing rates which BRHPC utilizes, preserving affordable housing for Broward County residents with low and moderate income. The housing vacancies are focused on vulnerable populations including seniors, college students and low-income individuals who cannot afford the median rent in Broward County.



Oakland Park

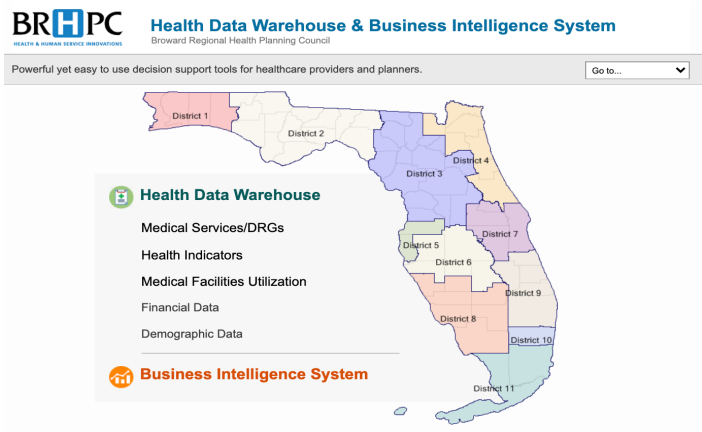


Hollywood

BRHPC's Data Warehouse

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.

BRHPC's Data Warehouse subscription provides access to a wide range of reports, including hospital and nursing home data, along with other valuable reporting tools. These reports allow users to manipulate and customize the data to better meet their needs, making it easier to identify specific information and export the results they are looking for. This access supports more efficient data analysis, reporting, and decision-making by providing flexible, user-friendly options for retrieving relevant healthcare data.

For more information about BRHPC's Data Warehouse, email Utilization@BRHPC.org.

Broward County Health Plan

Chapters I - VI - Are Available on BRHPC's Website



BRHPC develops and updates the Broward County Health Plan to assist community programs and agencies with health and community planning. This dynamic document is continually revised to ensure it contains the most current information. Covering a wide range of topics, from labor force statistics to immunization rates, the Health Plan reflects the broad scope of issues affecting public health and highlights the correlation between socioeconomic and community health. The information in the Health Plan is targeted to leaders in the following areas: local governments

and other policymakers, healthcare administrators, healthcare providers, healthcare funders, healthcare professionals, healthcare researchers, consumers and other stakeholders and public and private healthcare financiers. The Health Plan is divided into six chapters to address the multifaceted healthcare system in Broward County. All six chapters have been updated and are available on BRHPC's website. To view the Broward County Health Plan, visit: www.BRHPC.org/broward-county-health-plan.

Farewell Trevor!

Happy Retirement!

Thank you, **Trevor Parson**, for your ten years of dedicated service to BRHPC's Maintenance Team. Over the past decade, your hard work, reliability, and commitment have played an important role in supporting our organization and helping to ensure that daily operations ran smoothly. Your contributions have not only helped maintain our facilities, but have also made a lasting impact on the overall success and efficiency of BRHPC. We are truly grateful for the care and pride you brought to your work each day, and for all you have done throughout the years. You will be greatly missed, and we wish you continued success, happiness, and fulfillment in your next chapter.



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 an objective, independent, and reliable validation of an agency's performance. The accreditation process involves a detailed review and analysis of an organization's administration, management, and service delivery functions against international standards of best practice. The standards driving accreditation ensure that services are well-coordinated, culturally competent, evidence-based, outcomes-oriented, and provided by a skilled and supported workforce. COA Accreditation demonstrates accountability in the management of resources, sets standardized best practice thresholds for service and administration, and increases organizational capacity and accountability by creating a framework for ongoing quality improvement.

To achieve accreditation, BRHPC first provided written evidence of compliance with the COA Accreditation standards. Thereafter, a group of specially trained volunteer Peer Reviewers confirmed adherence to these standards during a series of on-site interviews with trustees, staff and clients.

Based on their findings, COA Accreditation's volunteer-based Accreditation Commission voted that BRHPC had successfully met the criteria for accreditation.

COA Accreditation, a service of Social Current, is an independent, not-for-profit accreditor of the full continuum of community-based behavioral health care and social service organizations in the United States and Canada. Over 2,000 organizations — voluntary, public, and proprietary; local and statewide; large and small — have either successfully achieved accreditation or are currently engaged in the process.

To learn more about COA Accreditation, please visit www.social-current.org.

Fingerprinting Services

About the Service

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.

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. 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 2026

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.

Social Media

BRHPC & NSU Collaboration

Social media has become a powerful tool for organizations to disseminate information to the public. 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 increased traffic to the BRHPC website and strengthened 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

**January
National Blood Donor
Month**

General Requirements:

- Be 17 years of age or older
- Weigh at least 110 pounds
- Be in good health, feel well, and not be on antibiotics

Why you Should Donate:

- Can save multiple lives
- Only takes an hour
- Can find out your blood type

BRHPC

February is
**National Cancer
Prevention Month**

Protect your skin from the sun

Maintain a healthy weight and regularly exercise

Visit your healthcare provider and get routine cancer screenings

Quit smoking or do not start in the first place

BRHPC

February is
**Children's Dental
Health Month**

Brush your child's teeth morning and night with fluoride toothpaste

Support them with brushing until their skills improve

Let them drink tap water that includes fluoride

BRHPC

**March
National Nutrition
Month**

- Follow food safety guidelines to reduce chances of sickness
- Quench your thirst by drinking more water
- Incorporate regular physical activity to be healthy
- Plan meals to help reduce food waste

BRHPC

**March
National Kidney
Month**

- Regularly meet with your healthcare team to maintain your kidney health
- Take medicine as prescribed by your doctors
- Aim for or maintain a healthy weight
- Aim to sleep for 7 to 8 hours per night

BRHPC

Manage stress! Stay active!

Visit your healthcare provider!

February is
**American Heart
Month**

BRHPC

Take medication as prescribed!

Eat healthy foods!

Quit smoking!

These social media posts play an important role in supporting community health education by raising awareness of key public health topics and connecting audiences with reliable information they can use in their daily lives. By sharing monthly topics and campaign messages, BRHPC is able to engage the community in meaningful ways and reinforce the importance of prevention, wellness, and public health action. After earning her bachelor’s degree, Laura plans to pursue a Master of Public Health with a concentration in epidemiology, further building on her commitment to improving community health outcomes.

Be sure to check out these posts on BRHPC’s Facebook, X, LinkedIn, and Instagram pages, and see a sample of the posts below.

BRHPC and NSU Collaboration Published in Cureus

We’re proud to share that our article, Leveraging Social Media for Population Health Promotion: Evaluation of a Year-Long Nonprofit Public Health Campaign, has been published in Cureus. Cureus is a peer-reviewed open-access medical journal that provides broad access to research and scholarly work.



This collaborative effort was authored by **Michael De Lucca, President & CEO of Broward Regional Health Planning Council; Nicole Cohen, Public Information Officer, BRHPC; Claudia A. Serna, PhD, DDS, MPH, MBA, Chair of the Department of Public Health at the Dr. Kiran C. Patel College of Osteopathic Medicine at Nova Southeastern University; and Rohan M. Patel, Doctor of Osteopathic Medicine and Master of Public Health Student.**

This publication reflects the strength of collaboration between BRHPC and NSU and our shared commitment to advancing public health research, innovation, and community engagement. The article will also appear in PubMed Central in approximately six weeks.

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