

## Our Partnership with the Dan Marino Foundation

The Broward County Property Appraiser's Office is excited to partner with the Dan Marino Foundation to host a meaningful internship program for adult students with developmental disabilities. This intern initiative was designed to provide eight students with on-site practical experience and training in areas related to their specific field of study.

Utilizing the valuable skills learned during the internship, the interns working in our Customer Service Department are now able to assist homeowners with processing exemptions and researching exemption eligibility. Under the guidance of one of our Customer Service Representatives, one of our interns helped property owners file for Homestead Exemption and explained the benefits of this important tax-saving exemption. The interns in our IT Department work with our staff setting up computers, replacing toner cartridges throughout the office, backing up data files and answering help desk requests from our appraisers. Our Residential Department is fortunate to have two interns who have been researching property information to assist our Value Adjustment Board team. With supervision, these interns have been pulling comparable sale information and researching characteristics of various comparable properties. After compiling this data, they organize the information into packets for our team members to review and approve, and then use as they prepare for Value Adjustment Board hearings.

BCPA is fortunate to have each of these interns and their job coach working side-by-side our staff through a hands-on approach to gain valuable job skills. Our sincere appreciation to the Dan Marino Foundation for partnering with BCPA on this important endeavor. My staff and I look forward to continuing this partnership.

## **Exciting News Coming from Our IT Department**

Our IT Department has been hard at work developing a new and improved website. This website will be responsive to both tablets and phones meaning you will have access to important property information wherever you may be. The website will still contain all the important information you are accustomed to but include modern search features, easy to use applications and additional data specific to each property. We are in the testing phase of this website and will be sending it out to various stakeholders in the community for beta testing in the coming weeks.

If my office can ever be of assistance to you, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at 954.357.6904 or by email at martykiar@bcpa.net

Take care.

Marty Kiar

