



March 2023 Newsletter

Dear Community Members,

Spring is here and Broward County celebrated our beautiful environment with two great events, early in the month, the 21st Annual Water Matters Day and the 46th Annual Waterway Cleanup. Thank you to all those who participated. We also recognized National 311 Day with appreciation for our call takers at our call center. Finally, we celebrated Women's History Month recognizing the amazing efforts of all women, both past and present that make a difference in our lives and in the world.

Broward County's Human Services Department

Broward's Human Services Department provides a multitude of services for anyone in our community that needs assistance. The work our staff does, day in and day out is above and beyond to help those in need. I want to take the time and showcase the many services provided by our Human Service Department, which includes the Community Partnership Division, Crisis Intervention and Support Division, Broward Addiction Recovery Division (BARC), Family Success Administration Division (FSAD), Elderly and Veterans Services Division, and Housing Options, Solutions and Supports Division (HOSS).

- [Community Partnership Division](#) provides services to vulnerable residents through funding opportunities, quality services and collaborative solutions. Through grant funding opportunities for public and private entities, the Division oversees contracts for both Children Services Administration Section (i.e., behavioral health, special needs, youth housing and more for children and families in need) and Health Care Services Section (i.e., behavioral health, therapeutic interventions, special population and more for adult healthcare needs).
- [Crisis Intervention and Support Division](#) meets the needs of children, adults and families in crisis with timely, coordinated and quality services. The division's areas of work include Justice Services which coordinates alternative justice program to reduce costs associated with the incarceration of non-violent offenders (i.e., Juvenile Civil Citation, Broward Youth Reentry program and more) and the Nancy J. Cotterman Center that is the only accredited Children's Advocacy and certified Rape Crisis Program in the County.

- [Broward Addiction Recovery Division](#) provides services that heal individuals and families impacted by substance abuse. This includes assessments, detoxification, medication assisted treatment, residential treatment services and more with a dedicated team of doctors, counselors, caseworkers and mental health specialists.
- [Family Success Administration Division](#) aids individuals and families in achieving economic success and social stability. They provide emergency assistance (short term rental/utilities), emergency rental assistance (Covid related), electric bill assistance, water bill assistance and a financial capability program.
- [Elderly and Veterans Services Division](#) empowers elders, Veterans and their families with support that promotes self-sufficiency and aging in place. This includes services for individuals 60 and older through community care for the elderly, home care for the elderly, adult day care programs and much more. Additionally, Veterans Services helps Veterans applying or appealing decisions for federal VA benefits. During emergency activations this division is also tasked with ensuring all clients have an emergency plan.
- [Housing Options, Solutions and Supports](#) is the new Homeless Initiative providing services to the homeless population from coordinated entry and assessment to permanent housing solutions. Some of the new services provided include, trained medical professionals near major areas of concern (i.e., Broward Blvd. Bus Terminal) on a weekly basis to treat individuals that may need medical assistance, or the new [Broward4Homeless.org](#) website/app that provides anyone access to all services.

With a budget of approximately \$175 million, which includes about \$98 million from our General Fund dollars and a combination of state and federal appropriations, the Human Services Department is tasked with a major feat to enhance the quality of life for Broward County residents through innovative and integrated health and human services programs. I want to personally thank each member of this Department for their hard work and dedication for some of the most vulnerable residents in our community.

For more information on all the services and programs available, visit [Broward.org/HumanServices](#). If you or anyone you know is in need of any type of assistance, please feel free to contact me at 954-357-7004 or LFisher@broward.org and I or my staff can direct you to the appropriate team member for assistance.

Celebrating 311 Day

This month, Broward County celebrated the amazing work that our 311-Call Center does, year around, for the residents and visitors in our community during this year's National 311 Day. Broward County's 311 Call Center provides a single point of contact for the services and programs offered by more than 60 agencies comprising Broward County government. In 2022, the 311 Call Center answered more than 342,000 calls. The Call Center handles calls in any language and has English, Spanish and Creole-speaking specialists on staff. It is open Monday through

Happy National 311 Day!



Friday, from 8:30AM to 5PM. For general inquiries and assistance, call 311 or 954-831-4000.

Conservation Pays

Broward Water Partnership Program (BPW) is a partnership of local governments, including 15 municipalities and water utilities who have come together to help save water, save money and protect the environment. Through its partnership with BPW, Broward County's Water and Wastewater Services Division offers rebates through a credit on the water bill for qualifying customers. Residents can apply for a rebate of up to \$100 for replacing old, inefficient toilets with WaterSense® certified High-Efficiency Toilets. Residents are encouraged to visit ConservationPays.com to check your eligibility and for further information.

I WANT A TOILET REBATE!



Get Paid to Save!



Up to \$600 rebates available to upgrade your irrigation system for efficiency*

*Apply Before You Buy!



Broward.org/IrrigationRebate



Additionally, Broward County offers residential irrigation rebates for qualifying homeowners in partner areas. The program application is currently live and there are four rebate options provided that will assist homeowners in achieving an efficient and digital, weather-based irrigation system. To check eligibility requirements please visit Broward.org/irrigationrebate.

Sea Turtle Nesting Season

Sea turtle nesting season has begun and runs through October 31. Three species of sea turtles typically nest on Broward's beaches. Residents and visitors are encouraged to stay away from nests. If you live along the beach, reduce the use of artificial lighting so as not to confuse sea turtles who may mistake the light for the moon reflecting on the ocean.



Last year, the Broward County Sea Turtle Conservation Program (BCSTCP) documented more than 3,650 nests on the County's 24-mile coastline (including the Dr. Von D. Mizell-

Eula Johnson State Park). To learn more about our wonderful sea turtle population visit Broward.org/NaturalResources/BeachAndMarine/SeaTurtles.

Reminders/Upcoming Events:



Earth Day is observed on April 22 and our Parks Department is hosting two special Earth Day events on 4/22. There are several other earth-friendly activities throughout the month of April. Visit Broward.org/Parks for more information.



Fleet Week Port Everglades will be celebrated April 23 - 30, 2023. Broward Navy Days, Inc. is anticipating visits to South Florida by four U.S. Navy ships. Visit BrowardNavyDaysInc.org for more information.



PREMO Survey- BCT is developing a Premium Mobility Plan to provide enhanced transit services for residents. Visit Broward.org/BCT/Premo to provide feedback.



Late Shift Connect- BCT's new program provides on-demand service for late-shift workers when regular transit hours are not available. Visit LateShiftConnect.org for more information.

Additional Resources:

- Business Resources: Broward.org/EconDev
- Broward County Libraries: Broward.org/Library
- Broward County Parks: Broward.org/Parks
- Mosquito Control Services: Broward.org/Mosquito

As always, I am truly thankful to serve you and Commission District 4 and everyone in Broward County as your Mayor. If I can ever be of assistance, please contact me at 954-357-7004 or LFisher@broward.org. Also, follow me ([@LamarPFisher](https://twitter.com/LamarPFisher)) on Twitter and on [Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/LamarPFisher).

Best regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lamar P. Fisher".

Lamar P. Fisher
Broward County Mayor
Commission District 4