

Community Wellness



Affordable housing



Everyone counts



- Human Services helped fund services from 42 agencies serving 129,716 customers.
- The Edgar P. Mills Multi-Purpose Center in Fort Lauderdale, a \$20.3 million one stop facility for social services, was completed.
- Over 260,000 acres were sprayed to control mosquitoes throughout the County.
- A \$529,000 grant was used to implement quality child care standards.

The economic recession has resulted in unprecedented levels of homelessness and job loss across the nation and increased the demand for health and social services in local communities. Broward County remains committed to providing services, many of which are funded by grants that enhance quality of life and ensure community wellness.

During a time of shrinking budgets, the County's Human Services Department secured grant funding of \$24.9 million and realized cost savings by streamlining operations.

Homelessness and Affordable Housing

The Community Partnerships Division funded shelter and support services to 4,988 homeless persons, and helpline services to 20,630 callers. Approximately \$8.9 million was received from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) to provide services for the homeless. More than \$27 million was received to help reverse the effects of the foreclosure crisis. An additional \$1.08 million from the Broward Regional Health Planning Council was used to help residents facing the possibility of homelessness stay in their homes. The Housing Finance and Community Development Division provided tax credit match funding that allowed eight new affordable multi-family projects with more than 1,500 new residential units.

More than 140 foreclosed homes were purchased, rehabilitated and sold as part of the Neighborhood Stabilization Program. The Board of County Commissioners adopted a foreclosure registration and maintenance ordinance requiring vacant foreclosed homes to be properly maintained.

Through the Elder Housing First initiative, the County secured affordable housing for more than 100 adults. Community Care for the Elderly provided an array of services that enabled 99 percent of their clients to remain in their homes rather than receive institutionalized nursing home care. Veterans' benefit claims processed increased 42 percent.

The new Broward Housing Council produced an updated Countywide Affordable Housing Needs Assessment and conducted an Affordable Housing Summit that resulted in more than 30 recommendations.

Health Care and Social Services

The County's prescription drug discount program remains popular, with an average of 1,419 people per month saving \$201,159 over retail pricing at participating pharmacies. At least 6,700 HIV/AIDS customers benefited from a Ryan White grant that was more than \$200,000 larger than the previous year's funding.



Quality day care



Finding new friends

Health Care Services received \$275,000 to partner with Healthy Mothers, Healthy Babies Coalition of Broward County and institute a pilot program to address risk factors associated with infant mortality. The County received \$1.1 million from the Child Protection Team to provide risk assessment services to identify child abuse and neglect and make recommendations to ensure safe placement of children.

Broward Addiction Recovery Center expanded admission hours and reduced costs in detoxification, residential and non-residential service and outpatient services.

Grant funding for the Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP) grew from \$1.9 million to \$7.4 million in one year. The additional funding will assist approximately 27,079 households.

Broward County government was instrumental in coordinating the local 2010 Census effort, which helps determine funding for government and services.

Emergency Preparedness

Residents are encouraged to be active participants in preparing our community for an emergency. The Emergency Management Division's Web Site, www.broward.org/emergency, includes valuable information about what to do before, during and after an emergency of any type.

More than 1,000 first responders and emergency management stakeholders were trained in response and recovery procedures.

The County is using a \$23 million Hazard Mitigation Grant from the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) to strengthen county building roofs, doors and windows against high winds. A Mobile Damage Assessment application was launched, enabling residents to immediately report damage to their home using a cell phone or other mobile device.

Thankfully, Broward County did not experience a hurricane this year, but did provide refuge to displaced residents of Haiti following January's devastating earthquake. Port Everglades and Fort Lauderdale-Hollywood International Airport waived fees to expedite emergency relief operations.

Animals

Broward County Animal Care and Adoption increased its focus on successful adoptions to enhance quality of life for the animals of our community. The Fort Lauderdale Adoption Center underwent a significant renovation, inside and out. More than 5,600 animals were adopted, rescued or returned to their owners. More than 3,000 dogs and cats were vaccinated against rabies.