



BMSD Newsletter—November 2021

OIC of South Florida celebrates 20th Anniversary

Broward County contractor OIC of South Florida recently celebrated its 20th Anniversary and kicked off a series of yearlong festivities. Contracted by Broward County, OIC's Social Enterprise Division (OIC-Si) team cleans 40 bus shelters a day, power washes community sidewalks, and provides weekly lawn maintenance in the BMSD, maintaining approximately 42 properties. In addition to beautifying the BMSD community, the OIC-Si division hires participants who



have been trained through OIC's workforce development programs. OIC serves Broward and Miami-Dade Counties and will be launching community initiatives such as Youth-led YouTube Series and its community-focused podcast. To learn more



about OIC-Si, please visit oicsfl.org/social-enterprise-division/

Community Events

LIBRARY

STEM for Kids: Lobe Your Brain (Online)
 • Saturday, December 4, 11-12 pm
 Learn how your brain works and make a neuron craft!
 Register: <http://lib.nova.edu/stem>

Let My People Vote: Returning Citizens - South Florida Social Justice Common Read
 • Saturday, December 4, 3-4:30 pm
 • African American Research Library and Cultural Center
 • 2650 Sistrunk Blvd
 Fort Lauderdale 33311
 Series brings together key South Florida institutions & organizations with missions related to the advancement of Black history, education, advocacy, racial, social justice.
<http://broward.libnet.info/event/5685154>

PARKS

Hayride: includes S'mores goodie bag
 • Friday, December 3, 6:30-9 pm
 • Samuel Delevoe Park
 • 2520 N.W. Sixth Street
 Fort Lauderdale 33311
 • 954-357-8801

Reserve Online \$4/person ages 3 and up – Preregistration, prepayment required @ park office or Webtrac.Broward.org

Silver Bells Senior Social Program Winter Celebration
 • Thursday, December 9, 11-1 pm
 • Samuel Delevoe Park
 • 2520 Sistrunk Blvd
 Fort Lauderdale 33311
 • 954-357-8801

For seniors, the celebration of accomplishments at the year and holidays.

Winter Moneyland: Toy giveaway
 • Sunday, December 12, 1-4 pm
 • Roosevelt Gardens Park

Parent Toy Registration
<https://forms.gle/RmMbmQ2cBBSh7mPR8>



Josie Bacallao, retiring from Hispanic Unity of Florida



“During the past 17 years, I have been honored to be part of our HUF Family and contribute to this organization, which has served more than 300,000 families and children in search of freedom and opportunity. And I am above all proud and grateful to the HUF Family that made this possible including our dedicated staff, supportive board members, engaged volunteers, program partners and generous funders and donors.” Josie.

This dynamic Community leader and influencer has left an indelible mark in our community. Josie served since 2003 as the President/CEO of a BMSD partner, Hispanic Unity of Florida. Thanks to Josie’s vision, leadership, and immigrant advocacy, Hispanic Unity was recognized in 2016 with the Affiliate of the Year Award from the National Council of La Raza (NCLR), and in 2015 the agency was recognized with the Southeast Affiliate of the Year Award. NCLR is the largest Latino advocacy and civil rights organization in the country.



Last year Ms. Bacallao chaired the Ethnic & Cultural Subcommittee for the Broward County Complete Count Census 2020 Committee. She was named to the Broward County Women’s Hall of Fame and received United Way of Broward County’s Human Services Professional Award.

Josie is married and they have a tuxedo cat, Rafaela. We thank Josie for her service!

2020 Census Redistricting Data Summary File

Recently, the U.S. Census Bureau released the 2020 Census Redistricting Data (Public Law 94-171) Summary File to states and the public in an easier-to-use format. Redistricting is the process of drawing boundaries for political districts in the United States every 10 years. The redistricting process re-balances districts to account for population shifts, thus ensuring equal representation. In 2021, per state law, counties in Florida must redraw its County Commission districts to account for changes in population since the last decennial census. In 2018, Broward County’s voters approved an amendment to the Broward County Charter that modified the County’s approach to redistricting. This amendment reinforces the County’s policy of protecting voting rights by prohibiting racial or partisan gerrymandering. Gerrymandering is the manipulation of electoral districts to favor or disfavor a particular person or group.

The Broward County Charter also requires the County to retain a public Florida college or university to draw the County Commission districts. Florida International University (FIU) was chosen to draw the new Broward County Commission districts. Several Redistricting Community meetings were held throughout Broward County in September and October and provided residents the opportunity to participate and comment on the proposed plans.



United Way of Broward County Launched a New Affordable Housing Initiative

The nonprofit organization identified affordable housing as the biggest challenge facing South Florida. They have made it their goal to reduce the housing gap. You can read more about it on the Broward Housing Council Newsletter. Go to [BrowardHousingCouncil.org/newsletter](https://www.browardhousingcouncil.org/newsletter), click the Fall 2021 edition, and look for Broward County News section. The United Way's initiative is of critical importance for our community. Last year's ALICE report (Asset Limited, Income Constrained, Employed) indicated that 257,000 Broward County households, many of which are people of color, are working families just one crisis away from not being able to make housing payments.

Affordable housing is generally defined as housing that costs the occupant no more than 30 percent of his/her gross income, including utilities. Research shows that the shortage of affordable housing costs the American economy about \$2 trillion a year in lower wages and productivity. Without affordable housing, families have constrained opportunities to increase earnings (see [hud.gov](https://www.hud.gov)).

Affordable housing is sometimes referred to as "workforce housing." Teacher aides, nursing assistants, retail workers, hotel clerks, government employees, and law enforcement are among some of the workers our community rely upon that need affordable housing. These workers, and many others, are experiencing the challenges of living affordably within our South Florida housing market.

Earlier this year, the Broward County Commissioners approved new policies aimed at increasing the availability of affordable housing units for residential development. Please see [Broward.org/BrowardNEXT](https://www.broward.org/BrowardNEXT) to learn more.

MyBroward App

With the **MyBroward App** you can use your cellphones or tablets to easily report and track service requests to the County.



Free COVID-19 Vaccines (Drive-Through Service)

Reverend Samuel Delevoe Memorial Park
2520 N.W. Sixth St., Fort Lauderdale 33311
Open 8 a.m. to 4 p.m., Tuesday thru Saturday, ages 12 and older. A parent or guardian must be present to sign the consent form for children 17 and under. The site is operated by Florida Department of Health in Broward County, in collaboration with the Broward Parks & Recreation, Broward Municipal Services District and Broward Sheriff's Office.



STAY CONNECTED

Get information on community meetings, events, job opportunities, programs, and more by connecting with the BMSD on

[Broward.org/MunicipalServicesDistrict](https://www.broward.org/MunicipalServicesDistrict)



Ph: 954-357-7794

Aging and Disability Resources Center (ADRC)	954-745-9779
Abandoned Vehicles (Private property)	954-357-9700
Abandoned Vehicles (Public property, street).....	954-764-4357
Animal Care.....	954-359-1313
Building Permits.....	954-765-4000 (option 1)
Building Code Enforcement	311
Bulk Pickup & Garbage Collection	954-765-4999 / 311
Business Taxes Receipts.....	954-831-4000
Broward County Housing Authority	954-739-1114
Child Abuse/Sexual Assault 24 Hr. Crisis Hotline	954-761-7273
Crisis	211
Code Violation.....	311
Consumer Protection	954-765-4400
County Information Hotline	311
Elderly and Veterans Services	954-357-6622
Environmental Response 24 Hr. Hotline	954-831-4000
Family Success Center.....	954-357-5001
Fire Code Violations	954-831-8210
Homeless Initiative	954-357-5099
Housing and Utilities Payment Assistance.....	954-357-5001
Household Hazardous Waste.....	954-765-4999
Law Enforcement (BSO)/Emergency	911
Law Enforcement (BSO)/Non-emergency	954-764-(HELP)4357
Minimum Housing Complaints	954-357-9700
Office of Economic and Small Business Development.....	954-357-6400
Property Appraiser Consumer Service and Exemptions	954-357-6830
Sidewalk Damage/Pot Holes	311
Solid Waste and Recycling	954-765-4999 / 311
Street Lights	800-468-8243
Tree Trimmer Complaints.....	954-765-4000 (option 2)
Unsafe Structures	954-765-4400
Weeds & Tall Grass.....	311
Zoning Information.....	311

Hello BMSD resident:

The Urban Planning Division occasionally sends out information by email to our BMSD community. If you don't have access to the internet and would like to receive BMSD info in the mail, please complete the slip below, detach from phone list, and mail to: **OR call 954-357-7794**

[Broward County Urban Planning Division \(BMSD\) | 1 North University Drive, Box 102 | Plantation, FL 33324](#)

Please add me to BMSD mailing list:

Last name _____ First name _____

Mailing Address _____

City _____ Zip Code _____

Phone # _____ Email _____