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**THE COUNTY'S**

**MISSION:**

*To deliver excellent public service that enhances quality of life and addresses our community's needs now and in the future.*

**DIVISION**

**INFORMATION**

**Community Assistance**

534 West Lake Mary Blvd.  
Sanford FL 32773  
Phone: (407) 665-2300



**Community Development**

534 West Lake Mary Blvd.  
Sanford FL 32773  
Phone: (407) 665-2300

Tish Crampton	31 Years
Cathy Schubert	27 Years
Ana Magluta	11 Years
Joyce McBride	1 Year
Luis Albelo	1 Year

**Front Page News**



**BLACK HISTORY MONTH CELEBRATION**

February 10, 2017, the Community Services Department held its Annual Black History Celebration. Staff members were treated to a feast of southern cuisine such as: collard greens, potato salad, fried fish and an array of desserts. In the words of author, Maya Angelou, "we all should know that diversity makes for a rich tapestry, and we must understand that all threads of the tapestry are equal in value no matter what their color." The Community Services Department provides services to many of our most vulnerable citizens, and we recognize the value of these differences not only with our team members but with external customers as well.



**MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR**

Greetings from the Community Services Department!!!



We are planning a number of exciting events! Our 4th Annual Homeownership Fair is Saturday, June 3, 2017. Stay tuned for the more information on our Annual Back to School Bash, July 29, 2017. Our desire is to positively impact the community and we seek to provide programs and services that do just that!

**KUDOS to the best team in the world—the Community Services Department!!!!**

Also, the Community Services Department is taking an in depth look at our programs and will be working with a consultant to do a Needs Assessment. I encourage all of you to participate and provide feedback as, again, we want to provide needed programs and services!

*"You have two hands. One to help yourself, the second to help others."*

- Unknown

## Around the Divisions

### Community Assistance Division

### Veteran Services

**Touring the new Orlando USO** – Veteran Services Officer Ed Burford, together with Seminole County Board of County Commissioners Chairman, John Horan, recently had the honor and privilege to be given a guided tour of the new USO at the Orlando International Airport (OIA), by OIA USO Chairman Charles Rogers. One significant difference in the OIA USO from the others, is that the OIA Authority was adamant that all veterans be allowed to utilize the facility; other USO's only allow Active Duty and Retired access. Burford stated that this USO exceeds any USO that he had seen. It opened in September 2016 and is averaging over 100 guests daily and has supported over 7500 guests since cutting the ribbon. It is open from 6:00 AM to 10:00 PM (0600 hours – 2200 hours) 365 days a year. It is staffed by 400 volunteers (and parking is free for volunteers).

**Mission United is now open for business.** Mission United is an element of the United Way to support veterans, and it is open for business. Any current or former military personnel can call 2-1-1 and tell the receptionist that they are a veteran and they will be immediately connected to a veteran's counselor. They will receive timely and relevant information concerning employment, events, financial, education, health, housing and legal direction. Mission United is the starting point for Veterans to connect with community services. For more information call 2-1-1 or go to [www.211MissionUnited.org](http://www.211MissionUnited.org) or text 'mission' to 898-211.



## Around the Divisions

### Community Assistance Division

#### Community Assistance

##### Shelter Plus Care

As Seminole Shelter Plus Care continues to make great progress towards ending chronic homelessness, a unique partnership has developed within the Seminole County community. One of the most important elements to housing the homeless is locating units within Seminole County. Sandy Harvey of The Reserve of Wekiva Bend Condos has been instrumental in our everyday efforts of eliminating homelessness by providing such services. Ms. Harvey currently is the leasing entity for The Reserve of Wekiva Bend community. In the past two years Ms. Harvey has helped us secure housing for a number of clients we serve. She has donated items like food, furniture, appliances and clothing to our clients in hope of making their transition off the streets smoother. Ms. Harvey goes above and beyond by making our clients feel welcome and at home. She truly understands the clients that we serve and their needs. It's a pleasure to spotlight Sandy Harvey as an example of a leader in the community that is contributing to improving lives in Seminole County.



#### Housing and Financial Assistance

##### Team Terrific!

The Financial Assistance Team is nothing short of **resilient**. Resilient is defined by Webster's as *being able to recoil or spring back into shape after bending, stretching, or being compressed*. This team has seen several personnel changes and continue to provide excellent customer service to the residents of Seminole County. Within this last quarter, we have welcomed new staff, Ms. Rose Banks, who has truly been an asset to an already awesome team. Ms. Shaina (pronounced Shay'na) Holder, who continues to quietly affect change with her suggestions, and Ms. Jennifer Ortiz who continues to find EVERY available resource to ensure her participants are in the know. In this last quarter, Rose and Shaina have completed over 349 intakes for various programs. Jennifer has assisted in the housing of a homeless family and found outside resources to minimize this family's out of pocket expenses. This family was displaced for several months and now has a place to call home. She has also stepped in to assist whenever called upon. The Financial Assistance team is but a small part in the Community Services Department, but I like to think that we stand just as tall.



## Around the Divisions

### Community Development Division

## Community Development and Compliance



### Home Purchase Assistance Program Update:

Community Development held two lender workshops this quarter—January 12th and January 12th and March 9th. Between the two workshops, 25 lenders either renewed their certification or became new certified lenders with Seminole County.

Also, in March we closed our 22nd Purchase Assistance file since the fiscal year began on October 1<sup>st</sup>.

### Community Development Grant Process

The Community Development Division issued a Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA) in January to give area non-profit organizations the opportunity to apply for Seminole County's CDBG, HOME and ESG funds. Agencies can apply to provide a variety of services to Seminole County including youth programs, mental health services, childcare, homeless services and affordable housing. Two technical assistance workshops were held in January to outline the requirements for each grant. Representatives from 25 different agencies attended the workshops. Fourteen (14) applications were submitted before the February 28<sup>th</sup> deadline. A committee of 5 dedicated county employees volunteered to serve on our Application Review Committee. The committee is responsible for reading, ranking, and scoring each grant application after hearing presentations from each agency. Agency presentations were held April 4-5, 2017. The committee scores will be submitted to management for approval.

The programs selected for funding will ultimately become part of the FY 2017-2018 One Year Action Plan, which describes how Seminole County plans to use its federal funds. Once the Action Plan is prepared, it is posted for public comment, approved by the Board of County Commissioners and ultimately sent to HUD for approval.

We also had the NOFA (Notice of Funding Availability) process for the City of Sanford's CDBG program. Technical assistance workshops were held February 21st and March 8th. Representatives from 14 agencies attended. Eight applications were received before the March 31st deadline. The applications have been screened for eligibility by staff and will be given to the Sanford CDBG Advisory Board for their review. The Advisory Board will meet next quarter to have agency presentations and scoring of the grant applications.



SEMINOLE COUNTY'S COMMUNITY SERVICES DEPARTMENT  
INVITES YOU TO COME TO A  
**HOMEOWNERSHIP FAIR**  
Sat., June 3, 2017  
10 a.m. to 2 p.m.  
Sanford Middle School  
1700 South French Avenue • Sanford, FL 32771  
FREE EVENT

YOUR ONE STOP LOCATION TO LEARN ABOUT  
HOMEOWNERSHIP IN SEMINOLE COUNTY

- Meet lenders, nonprofit developers, housing counseling agencies and realtors. See what housing options are available in Seminole County.
- Join a class on how to fix up your home, how to handle finances, foreclosure prevention, etc.
- Fun for the whole family! Food will be available. Activities and prize drawings will be held throughout the day.

For more information, please call 407-665-2300 or visit  
<http://www.seminolecountyfl.gov/comsrs/comdev/>

Logos for Seminole County, Duke Energy, Sanford, and University of Florida are included at the bottom.

### Seminole County Community Services Department

Invites you to come to our

### 4th Annual Homeownership Fair

Saturday, June 3, 2017

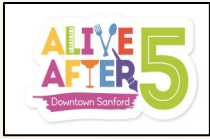
10am to 2pm

Sanford Middle School

1700 South French Avenue

Sanford, Florida

## Other News



### ALIVE AFTER 5 CHILI CHAMPION

We congratulate our very own Jeff Aldridge for his Champion "Chili from Delhi" that won the City of Sanford Alive-After-5 Chili Cook-off on January 12, 2017. In the event, using his 10 Gallon Kettle, Jeff transported a mountain of ingredients (pictured below) into the Indian/American sensation.



On Wednesday, January 25th the Community Services Department participated in the Great Tornado Drill.



## Other News

### [Coast2Coast Rx Program](#)

#### **Seminole County celebrates over 2.2 million in Savings on Prescription Costs**

Sanford, FL – March 22, 2017 – **The Coast2CoastRx** program has saved Seminole residents \$2,291,682.70 dollars since the launch of the **Coast2Coast Rx** Card discount prescription program. The complimentary discount prescription card program provides residents and their families with a number of benefits that produce immediate discounts on prescriptions as well as dental, vision, veterinary and hearing services. **The Coast2Coast Rx** card allows all consumers, regardless of income, age, or health status to participate in the program and save on the cost of their medications.

The discount card also offers discounts diabetic supplies and equipment as well as pet prescriptions. Anyone in Florida can download a card of their county or any nearby county to use the card at all chain pharmacies and many independent pharmacies. Residents who would like to participate in the free **Coast2CoastRx** prescription savings program can print a card here: <http://www.coast2coastrx.com/counties/fl/seminole/>

Specifically, Seminole County residents have seen an average of 63% savings on their prescriptions when they present the card. There are currently 7,803 utilizing members within the county.