

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- 1 Message from the Director
- 2 Around the Divisions
- 3 Around the Divisions (cont.)

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

Prosecution Alternatives for Youth (P.A.Y.)

Seminole County Juvenile Justice Center
190 Bush Blvd.
Sanford, FL 32773
Phone: (407) 665-5360



Employee Service Milestones This Quarter:

- Carrie Longworth-10 years
- Cora Yon-8 years
- Ed Burford-7 years

Front Page News



2nd Annual Back 2 School Bash

Seminole County Community Services Department in conjunction with over 30 community partners, including Florida Department of Health in Seminole County, Harvest Time International, and A Gift for Teaching, hosted the 2nd Annual Back to School Bash. The free event was held on Saturday, August 15th from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the Florida Department of Health in Seminole County, 400 West Airport Blvd. in Sanford.

The Back to School Bash provided services to more than 272 families and 546 children on-site. Over 700 back packs with school supplies were distributed to children entering Seminole County Public Schools Kindergarten through 12th grade during the 2015-16 school year. Other free services provided included School Physicals, Dental Screenings, Birth Certificate, and Haircuts. The event also featured a raffle of six (6) Gift Baskets donated by Safehouse of Seminole. Families also enjoyed a free lunch prepared by the Sanford Police Department; face painting, family fitness boot camp and a performance by a local dance troupe.

The event was very successful in educating the public on the various resources in Seminole County while providing much needed services for families and children. As a result of this event 60 families were assisted with vaccinations for their children; 25 children received School Physicals; 59 children received a dental screening; and 75 persons received free haircuts. A Birth Certificate was also provided for one (1) individual.

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR



VALMARIE H. TURNER
COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

Greetings from the Community Services Department!

As we start the new fiscal year, we are also evaluating the goals and objectives outlined in our Strategic Plan. The Leadership Team of the Department has worked diligently over the past year to meet – and exceed – many of the goals established. Several new programs have been developed and/or implemented – Microenterprise Loan Program, CDBG – City of Sanford, Service Cube, and the Family Self Sufficiency Program.

We are also improving the delivery of our services by becoming paperless as the Community Assistance Division is now – mostly – paperless. The PAY Division is in the final stages of becoming paperless and the Community Development Division will begin working with the Information Services Department over the next few months.

Lastly, I would like to welcome the newest members of our team: Steve Fussell, Renee Minus, and Lisa Booth.

“I alone cannot change the world, but I can cast a stone across the waters to create many ripples.”
– Mother Teresa

Around the Divisions

Community Assistance



On September 4th, the Community Services Department celebrated the retirement of Jennifer Lawrence at the Extension Services auditorium. Ms. Lawrence has dedicated 35 years of service to Seminole County by working in various positions and departments. Most of this time was spent in Community Services. Jennifer's numerous skill sets, knowledge, mentoring, wit and compassion will truly be missed throughout Seminole County Government.



Congratulations to Shanika Preston for earning her Masters of Business Administration with a concentration in Business and Product Management from Northcentral University. Shanika has also been promoted to NSP Project Manager I. In her new role, Shanika will be developing and tracking activities, projects and strategies in grant funded programs, concentrating on the Neighborhood Stabilization Program.

Veterans Services



Ed Burford, County Veterans Services Officer, has been selected as one of *Orlando Business Journal's (OBJ)* 2015 distinguished Veterans of Influence Award honorees. He is among the 26 community leaders who were honored at OBJ's annual Veterans of Influence Awards Luncheon on Wednesday, September 30th. An independent panel selected them as having had the most dramatic impact on the community this past year. What makes this group unique from other *Orlando Business Journal* honorees is that each of the Veterans has served our country as a member of the U.S. Armed Services.

Prosecution Alternatives for Youth (P.A.Y.)



Seminole County ranks sixth in Florida civil citation study

"Stepping Up: Florida's Top Civil Citation Efforts" reveals more civil citations would increase public safety investment battling serious crime.

TALLAHASSEE, FL (July 16, 2015) A study released by one of Florida's top civil citation experts and supported by state and national juvenile justice reform organizations ranked Seminole County as the sixth-best civil citation effort in the state.

P.A.Y.'s Civil Citation Program, which began in 2012 in partnership with the Seminole County Sheriff's Office, was recently recognized among the top 20% of those in the state in terms of number of clients offered this opportunity, services provided, and recidivism rate.

Around the Divisions

Community Development



Community Development Names a New Division Manager: Steve Fussell began his new role of Community Development Manager on August 3rd. Steve is a certified Project Management Professional (PMP), Six Sigma Black Belt trained and ITIL V3 foundation certified. Steve's experience includes project/program/portfolio management and process architecture at the Fortune 500 level and in the public sector. Steve is a Magna Cum Laude graduate of Rollins College where he holds a Masters degree in Corporate Communication and Technology. Steve has taught undergraduate courses at Rollins College that include project management, business process management, strategic planning and organizational design.



Great Response for the Homeowner Rehabilitation Program! A huge THANK YOU to all the Community Services Staff that helped intake and sort 76 applications for this program during the application acceptance period on August 13th and 14th. The Homeowner Rehabilitation Program is intended to meet the housing needs of very low, low, and moderate income households and to expand preservation of affordable housing in Seminole County. This program is designed to provide funds in the form of an interest free, deferred payment loan to qualified homeowners with needed repairs and/or alterations to improve their health, safety and well-being, and to contribute to the structural integrity and preservation of their owner-occupied home. Seminole County manages this program by leveraging funding from the State Housing Initiatives Partnership (SHIP), Home Investment Partnerships (HOME), and Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) programs.

Community Development Delivers the Goods! Community Development Staff went into overdrive this past quarter to meet several critical deliverables and stretch objectives. On September 30th, Seminole County met HUD's HOME Deadline Compliance requirements with zero shortfall! Additionally, our very own HUD Administrator, Carmen Hall, moved Heaven and Earth to complete the massive HUD mandated 5 year Consolidated Plan and 1 year Action Plan for Seminole County. Kudos also for CD Staff meeting the HUD goal of "1.5 times of its current CDBG allocation amount in its line of credit, 60 days prior to the end of the program year". Deidra Hembree, CPD Representative-HUD, congratulated Community Development by writing "I would also like to extend a personal appreciation to Seminole County staff for the time and effort put forth in closely monitoring this requirement for compliance."

AFLAC?! No... AHAC!!: The Affordable Housing Advisory Committee (AHAC) began meeting in August to leverage their collective wisdom so they can make recommendations and create new policies that encourage the creation of affordable housing. To accomplish this, the 11 member AHAC is tasked with reviewing established policies, procedures and ordinances, as well as land development regulations and Seminole County's Comprehensive Plan. Individual members are appointed by the Seminole County Board of County Commissioners and their efforts are a critical component of improving housing outcomes in the County and the Region.

Community Outreach



Teen Court Staff delivering donations to Meals on Wheels



Scenes from the 2nd Annual Back to School Bash