

Broward   
**2-1-1**™  
Get Connected. Get Answers.



# Agents of Change

It is always good to know help is just a phone call away. Last year in Broward County, dialing 2-1-1 was a much needed life line for over one hundred and thirty thousand people who picked up the phone to reach out for help; an increase of thirty four percent over the prior year. Almost fifty percent of these calls were for basic needs such as housing, food, utilities and rent/mortgage assistance.

2-1-1 Broward is a non-profit organization serving Broward County residents since 1995, providing information, referral, crisis and suicide intervention, and telephone counseling for people experiencing personal problems, emotional distress or any other type of crisis.

The services provided are free, confidential and available twenty four hours a day, three hundred and sixty five days a year. 2-1-1 Broward serves every individual and family in Broward, no matter how big or small their concern. Every call is answered by a trained, degreed counselor who listens to the callers concerns, offers emotional support, identifies their needs and links them to appropriate programs that can provide them with short term relief or start them on the road to long-term recovery.

On Tuesday, February 9<sup>th</sup> at the Westin Fort Lauderdale Hotel beginning at 11:30 a.m., 2-1-1 Broward will host its Annual "Agents of Change" Awards Luncheon. In Austin Powers' "Shagedelic" style, four "groovy" supporters will be honored for their roles in helping the organization achieve a higher degree of effectiveness. Tony Segreto will serve as emcee for the event.

The 2010 "Agents of Change" honorees are Community Foundation of Broward; Mark Kukulski of Starwood Resorts, and Nova Southeastern

University's College of Pharmacy. In addition, the organization will present Lynne Wines of CNL Bank with the 2010 Board Ambassador Award. Lynn has been a dedicated partner to 2-1-1 Broward both personally and in conjunction with CNL Bank.

2-1-1 Broward relies on the support and partnership of the entire community. "Partnership is key to our philosophy," says, Sheila Smith, President, CEO of 2-1-1 Broward. "We will continue to build upon the strong relationships we have with health and human service providers, funders, government agencies, corporations and community groups in order to offer quality access to information to services and provide community-wide data can be used for planning purposes."

In addition to the general 2-1-1 Helpline, 2-1-1 Broward operates five specialty helplines: Homeless Helpline, the gateway to accessing homeless services in Broward County; Hotline for Children with Special Needs, the single source for information and referrals for children and families of children with developmental/physical disabilities birth to twenty two years old; TeenSpace2-1-1, a safe, anonymous helpline for youth; Behavioral Health INFOLine, the front door entry to child and adolescent mental health services; and Touchline for Seniors, offers free, daily reassurance calls to seniors age sixty and over who live alone.

For more information about 2-1-1 Broward or the upcoming "Agents of Change" Awards Luncheon, contact Laurie Sallarulo at 954-390-0493 or visit [211-broward.org](http://211-broward.org). 