



LifeNet4Families

# Annual Report

Prepared By :

**Denise Brown**  
President & CEO

Presented By :

**Anthony Carriuolo**  
Board Chair

[www.LN4F.org](http://www.LN4F.org)

# Letter from the CEO

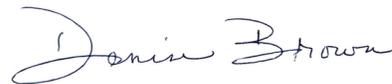
Dear Friends,

As I reflect on 2025, I am reminded of the strength and resilience of our neighbors and of the responsibility we share as a community. This year brought one of the greatest increases in demand for services in LifeNet4Families' 40-year history. Rising rents, the SNAP benefits crisis, medical emergencies, job loss, and the increasing cost of living pushed more families, seniors, and working individuals into homelessness for the first time.

Throughout these challenges, LifeNet4Families remained a steady and compassionate place of support. Each day, our doors opened to people seeking not only food, showers, and safety, but dignity, encouragement, and a path forward. Thanks to the dedication of our staff, volunteers, and partners, we served tens of thousands of meals, distributed thousands of pantry bags, supported over 4,484 case management visits, assisted 738 individuals with SNAP applications, and helped 145 individuals and families in our Safe Parking Program, including 63 children. Together, we celebrated more than 122 clients achieving housing stability.

Behind every number is a story of perseverance and hope. None of this would be possible without our extraordinary team, our 1,783 volunteers who contributed over 6,571 hours of service, and the partners and supporters who continue to stand with us. As we look ahead, we remain guided by a simple belief: every person deserves stability, dignity, and hope. Together, we will continue showing up for our neighbors and reminding them that they are not alone.

With gratitude,



Denise Brown  
CEO



***"The measure of a society is how it treats its most vulnerable members."***

**-Mahatma Gandhi**

# Board of Directors

The LifeNet4Families Board of Directors serves with generosity, care, and a deep commitment to our mission. We are sincerely grateful for their steady leadership, thoughtful guidance, and willingness to share their time and expertise in service of our neighbors and the broader community.

We are equally thankful for the many volunteers who support us throughout the year. From serving meals and packing pantry bags to assisting with programs and offering a compassionate presence, their dedication strengthens our work and reminds our clients that they are seen, valued, and supported by their community.



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Chair  
Berger Singerman LLP



**Erika Royal**  
Vice Chair  
The Royal Influence



**Chris Ambs**  
Treasurer  
Self-Employed



**Luciano Todeschini**  
Secretary  
Pivatory



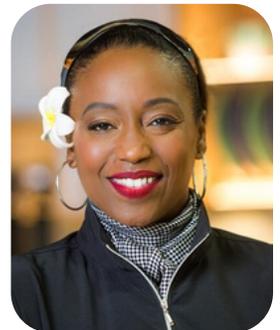
**Denise Brown**  
Board Member  
LifeNet4Families



**Kate Goldman**  
Board Member  
Baptist Health



**Ken Kappner**  
Board Member  
The Partnering Group



**Rocki Rockingham**  
Board Member  
GE Appliances

# About Us

For forty years, LifeNet4Families has stood as a beacon of hope, stability, and dignity for individuals and families experiencing hunger, homelessness, and crisis in Broward County. What began as a simple effort to feed neighbors in need has evolved into a multi-service organization providing essential resources, personalized support, and compassionate pathways toward long-term stability.



**At the heart of our mission is a belief that every person deserves to be treated with respect and care, no matter their circumstances. Each day, our campus becomes a lifeline for thousands of individuals who rely on us for hot meals, groceries, showers, hygiene supplies, mail services, and a safe place to begin rebuilding their lives.**

**Just as importantly, LifeNet4Families offers connection, a warm welcome, a conversation, a sense of belonging. For many, we are the first doorway back to stability and hope.**

# Our Mission

LifeNet4Families empowers individuals and families on their journey out of homelessness by providing essential services, pathways to stability, and opportunities for reintegration.



# Our Initiatives

1

## COMMUNITY CAFE

Nourishment, Dignity, and a Daily Foundation for Stability

2

## MOBILE PANTRY

Bringing Food, Stability, and Support Directly to the Community

3

## CASE MANAGEMENT & HOUSING NAVIGATION

Walking Beside Every Client on Their Path to Stability

4

## SAFE PARKING & PARKING LOT PROJECT (PLP)

Safety, Stability, and a Path Forward for Families Living in Their Vehicles

# COMMUNITY CAFÉ

Every morning, before the sun rises, LifeNet4Families' Community Café begins preparing the hot, nutritious meals that thousands of our neighbors rely on for survival, comfort, and connection. For many experiencing homelessness or extreme food insecurity, the Café is not only their first meal of the day, it is often their only meal.

In 2025, the Community Café continued to experience a dramatic surge in demand, driven by rising living costs, reduced benefits, and the ongoing shortage of affordable housing. The Café served tens of thousands of individually plated, restaurant-quality meals this year, offering a dignified dining experience to everyone who walked through our doors. For individuals and families facing unimaginable challenges, a warm meal can be the turning point that begins restoring physical health, emotional stability, and hope.

## Client Impact:

- 145,000+ hot meals served in 2025
- Significant increase in first-time visitors seeking food support
- Many clients using the Café as their entry point into deeper services such as case management, housing navigation, and documentation assistance



# MOBILE PANTRY

In a year marked by rising grocery prices, reduced benefits, and widespread food insecurity, LifeNet4Families' Mobile Pantry continued to serve as a critical lifeline for families and individuals across Broward County. This program reaches deeply into neighborhoods where hunger is often hidden, where parents skip meals to feed their children, seniors choose between groceries and medication, and working families struggle to stretch limited incomes.

Operating across 28 distribution sites, the Mobile Pantry delivered thousands of grocery bags packed with nutritious, shelf-stable foods, fresh produce, and essential household items. In 2025 alone, the program distributed tens of thousands of bags, helping stabilize households who otherwise would not have enough to eat.

## Program Impact in 2025:

- 44,000+ pantry bags distributed throughout the community
- Families allowed to visit the pantry weekly when experiencing severe food insecurity
- Increasing reliance on the Mobile Pantry as a primary food source
- Strong demand from seniors, single parents, large households, and workers unable to access daytime food programs

## Meeting Families Where They Are:

The Mobile Pantry ensures that lack of transportation does not become a barrier to nutrition. It supports:

- Families with young children
- Seniors living on fixed incomes
- Mixed-status households
- Families juggling work, childcare, and multiple jobs



# CASE MANAGEMENT

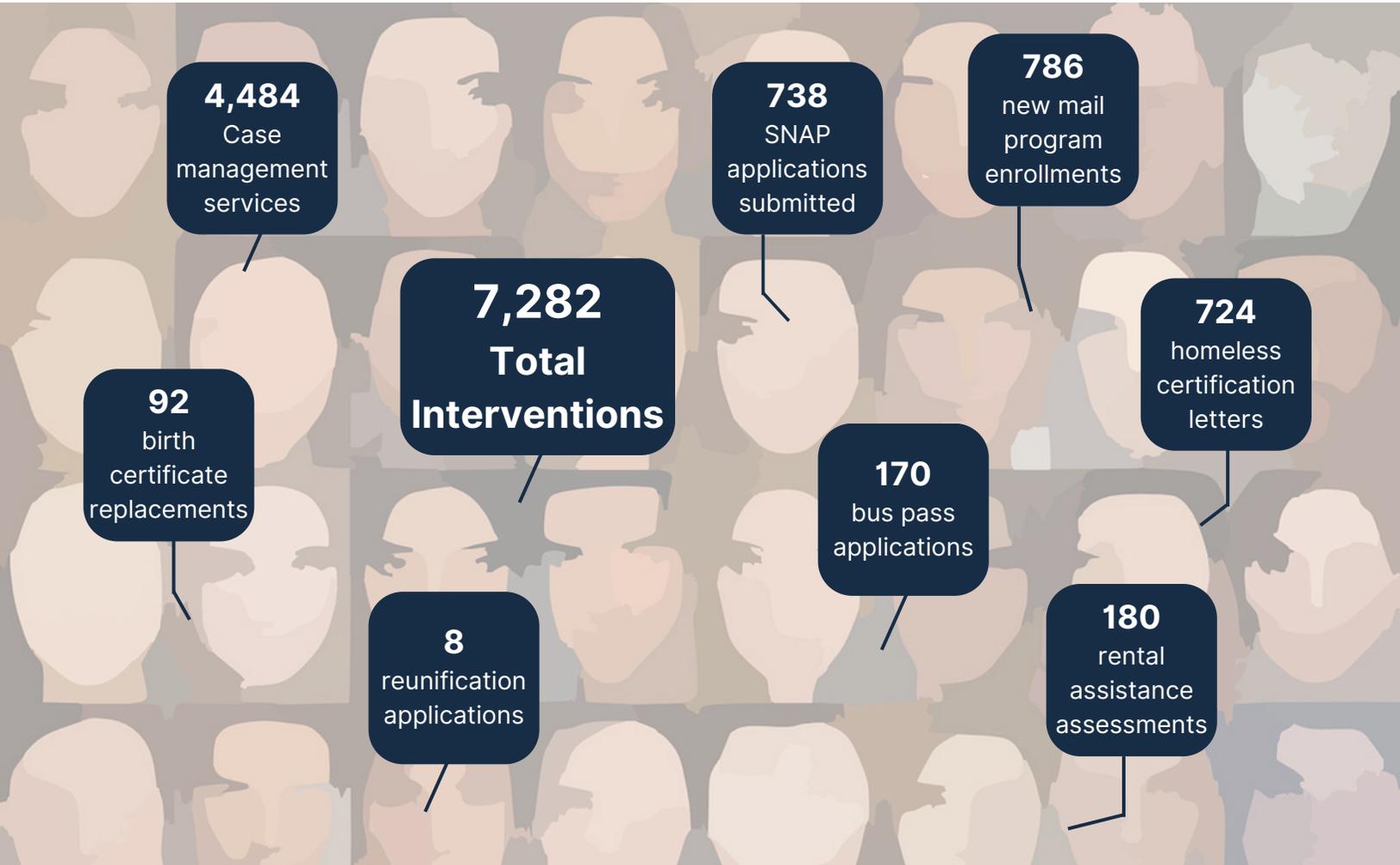
At the core of LifeNet4Families' mission is the belief that no one should have to navigate crisis alone. Our Case Management and Housing Navigation program embodies this commitment, providing hands-on support, individualized action plans, and compassionate guidance to thousands of people striving to regain stability.



In 2025, the demand for case management rose sharply as more individuals and families faced homelessness, food insecurity, rising rents, and unexpected emergencies. Many were first-time visitors who had never engaged in social services before. Despite extremely limited staffing and overwhelming community need, our team continued to deliver life-changing support with dedication, creativity, and deep compassion.

## **Barriers & Challenges in 2025:**

- DCF ended SNAP reimbursement, leaving the cost burden on LifeNet
- Demand far exceeded available resources
- Many clients had little or no income
- Seniors and families increasingly displaced due to rising rents
- High rates of mental health struggles, trauma, and lack of stability



# Case Management Results



Behind every data point is a person navigating crisis with courage. In 2025, LifeNet4Families' case management team helped clients secure critical documentation, access benefits, reconnect with family, and take meaningful steps toward stability. These outcomes reflect not only the volume of services delivered, but the trust built, barriers removed, and lives supported through patient, compassionate care.

# PARKING LOT PROJECT

The Safe Parking & Parking Lot Project provides a structured, compassionate nighttime environment for individuals and families living in their vehicles. In 2025, the PLP remained one of LifeNet4Families' most transformative programs.

## 2025 Program Impact

- 145 individuals and families served
- 63 children served
- 122 clients achieved housing stability
- 22 average nightly participants
- 38-week average length of stay
- 100% received nightly hot meals and snack bags
- 100% received access to healthcare through Broward HealthPoint
- Over \$145,000 in rental and move-in assistance accessed



## SHOWERS & HYGIENE SERVICES



For individuals experiencing homelessness, access to something as simple as a shower can be life changing. Cleanliness affects physical health, emotional well-being, employability, and confidence. LifeNet4Families' Showers & Hygiene Services ensure that every person is met with respect and the opportunity to care for their basic needs in a safe, welcoming environment.

In 2025, hundreds relied on our showers and hygiene supplies as part of their daily survival. These services helped clients feel human again, restoring normalcy amid the challenges of living outdoors or in vehicles. For parents, a clean child means hope; for job seekers, it can mean a new beginning.

## ANCILLIARY SERVICES



For many individuals experiencing homelessness, barriers extend beyond food and shelter. Access to documentation and basic support services is often critical to rebuilding stability.

### Program Impact in 2025:

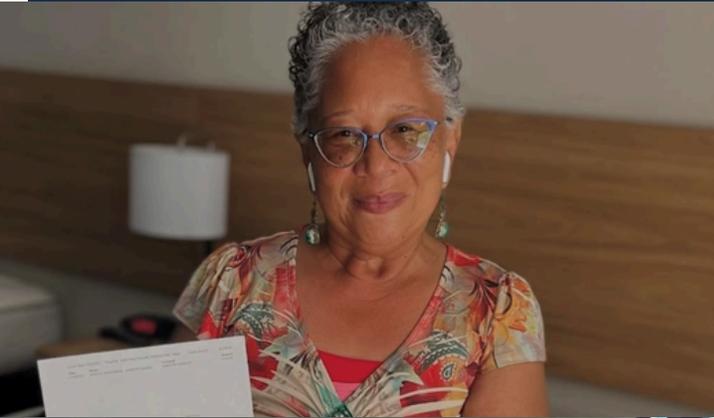
- 786 new Mail Program enrollments
- Hundreds relied on ongoing mail pickup
- Vision clinics provided over 1,000 free eye exams and eyeglasses

### Clients accessed:

- IDs and birth certificates
- Medical and legal correspondence
- Housing authority documentation
- Employment communication
- Social Security, SNAP, and Medicaid notices

# Success Stories

**These stories reflect the strength, resilience, and determination of individuals and families who, with support, moved from crisis toward stability and renewed hope.**



## **Ms. Annette – From Crisis to Community Leader**

Once experiencing homelessness and deep instability, Ms. Annette secured permanent housing through the Healthy Housing Foundation with LifeNet’s support. Her well-being score increased by nine points, and she became a positive force in the PLP community, even facilitating workshops and speaking at a national press conference.



## **Samantha Guzman – A Mother’s Determination**

A single mother of five living in her minivan, Samantha received support with housing navigation, move-in costs, pantry food, and SNAP benefits. Her family is now safely and permanently housed.



## **Ms. Sharon Latimer – A Senior Regains Stability**

After seven months of homelessness with her adult son, Ms. Latimer secured a two-bedroom apartment through the housing authority. LifeNet supported her with car repairs, food, benefits, and move-in assistance.



## **Thomasina Brown – Crisis Turned Into Stability**

When Ms. Brown’s vehicle broke down, LifeNet connected her to emergency funding to cover the \$900 repair. Stability restored, she continued engaging in services and eventually reunited with family.

**Each journey shared here is rooted in dignity and guided by compassionate support, showing how stability becomes possible when people are met with care and respect.**

### **Sheldon Sanders – Rebuilding After Hardship**

A former LifeNet employee who experienced homelessness after medical hardship, Mr. Sanders secured permanent housing with assistance from Handy's Inc. and six months of financial support.



### **Alyssa Kennedy – Family Moves from Car to Home**

Alyssa and her family lived in their vehicle for six months before entering the PLP. She secured a PSH voucher, move-in assistance, and furniture support, allowing her family to rebuild in stable housing.



### **The Bird Family – Stabilizing a Household of 13**

This family faced severe food insecurity and imminent water shut-off. SNAP benefits increased from \$520 to \$1,858, and LifeNet paid \$1,124 to prevent disconnection, stabilizing the entire household.



### **Ms. Kathleen Mical – Health, Housing, and Hope Restored**

At 72 years old, Ms. Mical became homeless following displacement and worsening health. After hospitalization, LifeNet coordinated temporary shelter, full move-in support, furniture, food, and banking assistance. She is now safely housed and recovering with dignity.



# Dignity & Stability

# LOOKING AHEAD TO 2026

As we look toward 2026, LifeNet4Families remains committed to strengthening what works, expanding where gaps persist, and deepening our dedication to dignity, stability, and hope. We will continue enhancing the efficiency and coordination of our core programs, from the Community Café and Pantry to case management and housing navigation, ensuring trauma-informed care remains central to every interaction. As more families, seniors, and first-time individuals seek support, we will deepen crisis stabilization and pathways to long-term stability.

At the same time, we are advancing permanent solutions through LifeNet Homes, our sister agency created to increase the supply of safe, affordable housing in Broward County. While LifeNet4Families addresses immediate needs, LifeNet Homes focuses on long-term impact by developing and sustaining affordable housing aligned with supportive services, reducing chronic homelessness and strengthening communities.

Our impact is amplified through powerful partnerships. Collaborations with Florida Blue, Broward College, Broward Health, and workforce and behavioral health partners allow us to address the full scope of client needs. We are also proud to partner with Feeding South Florida, receiving more than six tons of food each month to help nourish our community. Our faith partners, including the LDS Church, further expand our reach. As the only organization in Broward County participating in the LDS Church's Welfare and Self-Reliance surplus food truck initiative, LifeNet4Families receives more than 15 tons of food per truck, ensuring no neighbor goes to sleep hungry. These partnerships do more than extend services. They transform lives.

Our vision remains unchanged: every person deserves the opportunity to rebuild with dignity, safety, and hope.



# CLOSING REFLECTION

As we close this year's Impact Report, we extend our deepest gratitude to every person who stood with LifeNet4Families in 2025. This year carried extraordinary challenges and extraordinary moments of humanity.

- You helped a mother move her children from a vehicle into a home.
- You helped a senior recover from medical crisis with dignity.
- You helped a family of thirteen regain stability.
- You helped individuals rediscover confidence, health, and purpose.
- You helped rebuild lives.

Thank you for believing in this mission. Thank you for standing with your neighbors. And thank you for helping LifeNet4Families ensure that every person who seeks help is met with dignity, compassion, and the unwavering message:

You are not alone.

Together, we will continue building a community where hope grows, lives transform, and every neighbor has the opportunity to thrive.



Help us continue this work.



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# Annual Report

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