



BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

**Housing and Human Services**

2725 Judge Fran Jamieson Way  
Building B, Suite 103  
Viera, Florida 32940

**TO:** James Liesenfelt, Interim County Manager  
**FROM:** Juanita D. Jackson, Director Housing and Human Services Department  
**SUBJ:** Citizen Efficiency and Effectiveness Recommendation #2025013

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CEER #2025013, titled Help for Senior Citizens, was received by the County from James Cotter.

**Citizen Statement:**

Brevard County needs to study and prepare for an aging population. Transportation, and home health care help need to be improved and made more available.

**Citizen Recommendation:**

Keep people healthy, cut down on fire department calls, and keep Senior Citizens out of hospitals and nursing homes.

**Staff Analysis:**

The following is a summary of some of the programs that Brevard County offers to assist Seniors. The Brevard County Commission on Aging (BCOA) was established in 2001 to plan for the future of the elderly population of Brevard County and to foster a community that supports, accommodates and values aging. The resolution for Commission on Aging was extended until September 30, 2027. BCOA meets monthly to collectively identify community resources, make recommendations for systemic and programmatic changes to enhance services for the elder population of Brevard. The BCOA also informs the Board of County Commissioners about issues impacting the aging citizens of Brevard County. The following is the website for Brevard County Advisory Boards:

Brevard County Housing and Human Services has service contracts with Aging Matters, Helping Seniors of Brevard, Grandparents Raising Grandchildren, Central Brevard Sharing, and Brevard Alzheimer's to provide services to seniors for: Meals on Wheels, Seniors at lunch, transportation, housing, housing improvements, food pantry, adult day care, and in home care.

The following Brevard County Housing and Human Services programs offer preferences to income eligible seniors to assist with emergency home energy, rehab, repair, or replacement of their home, and weatherization of their home: Low Income Home Energy Assistance Program (LIHEAP)

<https://brevardflhhs.seamlessdocs.com/f/LIHEAPapp> Emergency Home Energy Assistance Program (EHEAP), Weatherization (WAP)

<https://www.brevardfl.gov/HousingAndHumanServices/HousingPrograms/WeatherizationProgram>

State Housing Initiatives Partnership program (SHIP)

<https://www.brevardfl.gov/HousingAndHumanServices/HousingPrograms/ReplaceRehabAndRepairProgram> These programs allow seniors to age safely and actively in their own homes as long as possible.

Space Coast Area Transit operates specialized services to meet the needs of Seniors who are unable to use fixed route service. These specialized services include Volunteers in Motion, Transportation Disadvantaged Paratransit, and ADA Paratransit services as contracted routes. The Space Coast Area Transit services assist many Seniors in Brevard to live independently through assisted transportation.

<https://321transit.com/special-services/td-paratransit-services/>

The Brevard County Library System provides valuable services and resources to seniors ensuring that they have easy access to materials and programs to enhance their lives. For seniors or homebound individuals unable to visit the library in person, a homebound service is offered through the Talking Books Department. Each library branch is equipped with various assistive technologies to help seniors with visual impairments. Library Services also offers programs specifically designed for seniors, including tax assistance, AARP driving safety course, chair yoga, fiber arts, chess club, gardening, computer classes, arts and craft workshops, concerts, line dancing, ukulele meetup groups, game day, movie day and many more. Libraries also offers affordable printing, faxing, copying, and scanning services for seniors who may need to manage their personal or medical documents.

<https://www.brevardfl.gov/PublicLibraries/ServicesForTheDisabled>

Libraries has a Community Support Advocate ready to speak to seniors to help them connect with the following services: housing assistance, job/career assistance, food/SNAP benefits, health care and insurance, social security benefits, senior resources, and Veteran's Benefits.

Brevard County Libraries also offers a variety of volunteer opportunities for seniors who want to give back to their community. Volunteering at the library provides a meaningful way to stay active and engaged while making a positive impact.

UF/IFAS Extension Brevard County offers a variety of educational programs and classes available to Seniors such as the following: Citizens Academy, Cooking for Bone Health, Pressure Cooking and Air Frying, and Master Naturalist. <https://sfyl.ifas.ufl.edu/events/?location=brevard>

The Brevard County Fire Rescue Department also offers the Community Health Resource Program (CHRP), with the goal of providing necessary resources to individuals who don't have an emergent medical need yet may need assistance in obtaining shelter, prevent readmittance back to the hospital, access to meals, prescription medication reconciliation, healthcare screening, telemedicine, and other non-medical needs.

**Staff Recommended Action:**

It is recommended that the Board of County Commissioners accept CEER #2025013 with revisions, as staff will continue efforts to offer programs and opportunities specifically for the senior population of Brevard.

cc: Frank Abbate, County Manager

## Horst, Rachel

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**From:** CEER@brevardfl.gov  
**Sent:** Tuesday, January 7, 2025 2:36 PM  
**To:** Horst, Rachel  
**Subject:** A new CEER Recommendation has been submitted as ID #2026013

### Recommendation # 2026013

Dear CEER Administrator,

Speak Up Brevard Recommendation ID #2026013 has been submitted. Please login to the CEER Application to start the recommendation evaluation workflow.

#### Contact Information:

##### Group/Organization

<b>Name</b>	James Cotter
<b>Address</b>	855 Ridge Lake Dr, Melbourne FL 32940 3294
<b>Phone</b>	(860) 917-3371
<b>Email</b>	Baw101@aol.com
<b>Alternate Email</b>	Baw101@aol.com

#### Recommendation Information:

<b>Recommendation ID</b>	2026013
<b>Recommendation Title</b>	Help for Senior Citizens
<b>Areas Affected</b>	
<b>Department Affected</b>	
<b>Current problem</b>	Brevard County needs to study and prepare for an aging population. Transportation, and home health care help need to be improved and made more available.
<b>Recommendation</b>	Keep people healthy, cut down on fire department calls, and keep Senior Citizens out of hospitals and nursing homes.
<b>Attachments</b>	No Documents were attached.

Please do not reply to this e-mail, as it will go to an unmonitored mailbox.