

June 2022

## BUILDING A BRIDGE THROUGH HELP, HOUSING, AND HOPE

## Homeless Outreach Unit Supports Homeless Neighbors

The City of Fort Lauderdale Police Department (FLPD) continues to be a key provider of assistance to the homeless. From January 1st to May 31st of this year, the Homeless Outreach Unit made approximately 2,000 contacts with our homeless neighbors throughout the City. As a result of these contacts, homeless individuals are referred to temporary shelter and/or various social services. In addition, 15 Notices to Appear before the Community Court were issued. Community Court participants received additional supportive resources such as case management to assist them on the path to recovery. Current year to date, five participants received permanent long term housing placement. Furthermore, through the Reunification Program, officers successfully united 18 individuals with their relatives outside the City. The officers also provide homeless individuals with information about Continuum of Care services, and other addiction and mental health support services.

## City Works to Increase Awareness of Resources Available to Homeless Neighbors

The City is launching an awareness campaign to connect the homeless population with resources that can help them. The campaign includes advertisement for a webpage at <u>fortlauderdale</u>. <u>gov/helpnow</u> with resources available to those experiencing homelessness in our City. The homeless may also call Broward County's Homeless Helpline at 954-563-HELP (4357) to receive information about connecting with



Homeless assistance resources bus bench design mockup

Flyer for RentalNet Program

needed resources such as housing, mental health and substance abuse services. The campaign will be promoted through printed outreach flyers and posted prominently on bus stop benches around the City. The City is also working to register local landlords with Broward County's RentalNet Program. The program enters local properties

into a database where caseworkers may place their homeless clients. Rent is guaranteed to landlords through the program. The outreach campaign contacts property owners and local rental associations to encourage participation in the program. If you are a landlord or know a landlord interested in participating in the program, you can find more information at <u>RentalNet.broward.org</u>.