



Message from the Director

As we enter June and the start of hurricane season, I encourage everyone to take time to prepare before severe weather impacts our communities. Reviewing emergency plans, gathering essential supplies, and planning ahead can help keep individuals and families safe during hurricanes and other emergencies. Preparedness is especially important for many individuals served by APD who may rely on medical equipment, medications, transportation, or caregiver support.

I also want to recognize and thank our incredible APD team during Public Service Recognition Week. Every day, our staff work tirelessly to support individuals and families across Florida with compassion, professionalism, and dedication. Whether serving directly in our communities or supporting operations behind the scenes, your work makes a meaningful difference in the lives of countless Floridians. Thank you for your continued commitment to APD's mission and for the important work you do each day.

– Director Bob Asztalos

Observances

- National Safety Month
- Hurricane Season Begins

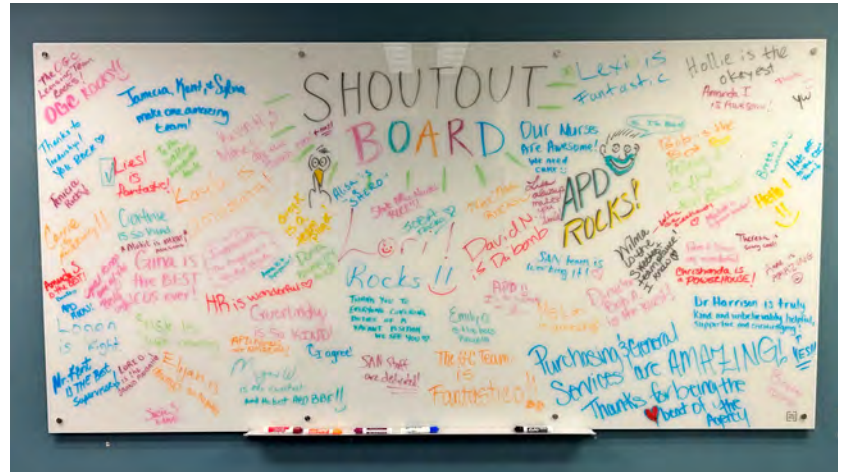
Hurricane Season Starts June 1: Prepare Now

As Florida enters hurricane season on June 1, now is the time to make sure you and your loved ones are prepared before a disaster happens. Hurricanes, severe weather, and power outages can happen quickly, and planning ahead can help keep individuals and families safe. APD encourages everyone to review their emergency plans, build a disaster supply kit, and prepare a portable "Go Kit" with important items such as medications, medical supplies, important documents, food, water, and emergency contact information. Individuals served by APD may have additional needs during emergencies, including medical equipment, transportation, or caregiver support, making preparedness especially important. Keep important phone numbers up to date and handy, and pay close attention to weather and emergency alerts throughout hurricane season.

PUBLIC SERVICE RECOGNITION WEEK

Shout-Out Board Spreads Appreciation Across APD

APD staff were encouraged to participate in a special Shout-Out Board where team members shared messages of appreciation and recognition for coworkers who made a positive impact on their day, week, and careers. The board quickly filled with kind words, encouragement, and gratitude, highlighting the teamwork, dedication, and positive culture that help drive APD's mission forward each day.



APD Staff Enjoy "Wind Down Wednesday"

APD staff gathered for "Wind Down Wednesday" to enjoy popsicles, connect with coworkers, and spend time with agency leadership. The event provided an opportunity for staff to relax, recharge, and celebrate the hard work and dedication of public servants across the agency. Events like these help foster connection, appreciation, and a positive workplace culture throughout APD.



APD CELEBRATES YEARS OF SERVICE MILESTONES

APD proudly recognized staff members celebrating important service milestones with the State of Florida. These employees have dedicated years of service to supporting individuals and families across the state and helping advance APD's mission.

A special congratulations was extended to employees celebrating 40 years of state service:

- Felicia D. Jones
- Sue A. Taylor
- Alisa Roberson

APD is grateful for the commitment, experience, and lasting impact these team members have made throughout their careers in public service!





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APD WEARS GREEN FOR MENTAL HEALTH AWARENESS MONTH

In recognition of Mental Health Awareness Month, APD staff wore green to show support for mental health awareness and the importance of emotional well-being. Team members participated by wearing green as a reminder that mental health matters for everyone — including the individuals and families we serve, our coworkers, caregivers, and our communities. Mental Health Awareness Month serves as an opportunity to help reduce stigma, encourage open conversations, and promote the importance of caring for both physical and emotional health. APD is proud to support efforts that encourage compassion, connection, and overall well-being throughout the workplace and beyond.

EMPLOYEE SPOTLIGHT

Mayra Arzate, APD's May Employee of the Month, has been with the Agency for Persons with Disabilities since October 2009 and currently serves as a Senior CDC+ Customer Service Representative. Beginning her career with APD as an Administrative Assistant for the CDC+ program, Mayra has continued to grow professionally while remaining dedicated to providing excellent customer service to clients and representatives across the state. In her role, she assists with incoming and outgoing calls, claims research, data entry, bilingual customer support, and training new customer service staff members. Over the years, she has enjoyed building relationships with clients and representatives and is grateful to be recognized for her service and dedication.



Mayra Arzate
Senior CDC+ Customer Service Representative

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