

From: [Maritza Diaz-Ott](#)
To: [Jasmin Padova](#)
Subject: Fw: Today's call
Date: Tuesday, April 28, 2026 1:31:28 PM
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Hi Jasmine,

Please see below.

With gratitude,



Maritza Diaz-Ott, M.S.
Project Manager for Engagement & Marketing
Communications Department
o. 772-873-6308
c. 772-302-0000



City of Port St. Lucie | Heart of the Treasure Coast

121 SW Port St. Lucie Blvd., Port St. Lucie, FL 34984



From: Positively Lupus Living <positivelylupusliving@gmail.com>

Sent: Tuesday, April 28, 2026 12:39 PM

To: Maritza Diaz-Ott <mott@cityofpsl.com>

Subject: Re: Today's call

Hello Maritza !

Yes, It was good to speak with you yesterday as well. My apologies, this is getting to you later than I had hoped to, as I had a family emergency .

I have attached information about the Lupus Foundation.

I have also included the post I will be placing on my own social media accounts beginning Friday, May 1st, which includes information about Lupus and a glimpse of what the LFA has regarding programming & resources, contact info, and my own contact information.

I also let Jasmin Padova in the City Manager's Office that your office might contact her for verification. As of today the City Hall will be lit purple from May 1st to May 30th. I am hoping the city will get everything in place in time to include lighting the fountain at the corner of Floresta and PSL and the roundabout at Floresta Elementary, purple as well.

Thank You so much for your help, please do not hesitate to contact me if you need additional information. 772-57-3696

sincerely,
Pamela Milazzo, Ambassador
Lupus Foundation of America SE Region

(Social Media Post Edited Version) **Make Lupus Visible in Port St. Lucie**

Tonight, as you travel along Port St. Lucie Blvd after a long day—perhaps finishing errands or meeting friends for dinner—you'll notice City Hall glowing purple. May is Lupus Awareness Month, and once again, the City of Port St. Lucie has partnered with the Lupus Foundation of America (LFA) to make lupus visible in our community.

But what is lupus? Systemic Lupus Erythematosus is a complex, chronic autoimmune disease with an array of symptoms that often makes it difficult to diagnose. It can attack any system of the body, including the skin, blood, nervous system, blood vessels, kidneys, heart, and lungs. Symptoms range from joint pain, rashes, and hair loss (alopecia) to extreme fatigue, which affects 80–90% of patients. It can also cause cognitive issues known as "brain fog" and, in many cases, a clotting disorder that can lead to strokes.

Lupus symptoms develop slowly, varying in severity with periods of active disease (flares) and remission. There is no cure.

Who is affected?

90% of those diagnosed are women.

Highest prevalence is among African American, Latino, Native American, Asian, and Pacific Islander communities.

Men are also diagnosed, but because the disease mimics others, patients often suffer for years without a correct diagnosis.

Sadly, lupus remains underrecognized, even though over 1.5 million Americans—including 100,000 in Florida—are living with it. **1 in 185 people** have lupus, and one new person is diagnosed every 32 minutes.

The Lupus Foundation of America works to improve the quality of life for all people affected by lupus through programs of research, education, support, and advocacy. Free educational courses, seminars, and empowerment conferences are available to help patients live their best life. Through the LFA, Lupus warriors have the opportunity to help guide current research and learn to advocate for themselves and others on state and national levels.

Get Involved & Get Information

Lupus Foundation of America, SE Chapter: (561) 279-8606 | infose@lupus.org

Our website is Lupus.org/Southeast. We are on all Social Media Platforms

Local LFA Ambassador: Pamela Milazzo PositivelyLupusLiving@Gmail.com (For information on local resources, support, and events, etc).

The LFA thanks the Office of Mayor Shannon Martin, the Office of the City Manager and the

Communications department for helping us Make Lupus Visible in Port St Lucie in 2026

On Mon, Apr 27, 2026 at 4:49 PM Maritza Diaz-Ott <mott@cityofpsl.com> wrote:

Hi Pam,

It was great speaking with you today.

Per our conversation, please send me all the details and I'll forward it to the City Manager's office. Have a good day.

With gratitude,



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