

NEERIC

Highlights

Monthly Report of the Northeast Florida Regional Council

May 2005

Forum addresses opportunities and challenges of medical home model

The Northeast Florida Healthy Start Coalition recently helped to sponsor the 2005 Community Pediatrics Forum entitled "Establishing a Medical Home for Children and Families: Opportunities and Challenges."

The forum was a part of a Community Pediatrics Training Initiative and was designed specifically to address many aspects of the Medical Home Model and promote the Medical Home Partnership. The Medical Home Model is one of the American Academy of Pediatrics (AAP) essential child health outcomes for the 21st Century. The Medical Home Model was originally used to describe a place – a single source of all medical information about a patient. The term now refers to a partnership approach with families to provide access to quality health care in a cost effective manner in the primary health care setting.

The Forum, which was held on May 26, 2005 at University of Florida & Shands/Jacksonville also addressed the importance of advocacy and public policy for children and families in the Medical Home Model and the role of the health provider.

Keynote speakers for the event were David L. Wood, MD, MPH; Associate Professor of Pediatrics and Chief of the Division of Community Pediatrics at the University of Florida/Jacksonville and Duval County Health Department; and Alan E. Kohrt, MD, FAAP, Clinical Associate Professor of Pediatrics of the Children's Hospital of Philadelphia and the University of Pennsylvania School of Medicine.

For more information please visit www.medicalhomeinfo.org or contact Carol Brady at (904) 279-0885 X 140.

Council staff participates in Governor's hurricane conference

Council staff attended the 19th Annual Governor's Hurricane Conference at the Tampa Convention Center, May 9-13.

Because of Florida's unprecedented experiences in 2004, the 2005 Conference addressed lessons learned from all of Florida previous hurricanes, from a variety of perspectives. Presenters included representatives from first responders to federal officials who shared what went right, what went wrong and how we can be better prepared to respond to single or multiple strikes in the future.

For more information, please contact Ed Preston at (904) 279-0885 X 155.

Recent workshop focused on growth management legislation

The 2005 Growth Management Workshop was co-hosted by the Florida Department of Community Affairs and the Florida Regional Councils Association and took place May 23-24, 2005 at Florida State University's University Center Club in Tallahassee.

The Workshop focused on SB 360, the growth management legislation passed in the 2005 session, and on regionally oriented approaches to solving the problems associated with Florida's fast pace of growth. In addition, specialized sessions were offered in order to allow workshop participants to explore particular topics including transportation planning, hazard mitigation initiatives, use of forecasting models, water supply planning, school capacity planning, rural growth tools, and affordable housing opportunities.

Workshop attendees heard presentations from prominent speakers from around the country, such as John Parr from the Alliance for Regional Stewardship and Robert Freilich, J.S.D., of Paul, Hastings, Janofsky and Walker LLP.

For more information, please contact Ed Lehman at (904) 279-0885 X 130.

Conference addresses hazardous material training

The District IV Local Emergency Planning Committee (LEPC) held its' "2005 Hazardous Material Training Conference" on May 18 & 19. This event took place at the North Campus of the First Coast Technical Institute (FCTI) in St. Augustine. FCTI's North Campus is dedicated to programs for firefighters and EMS personnel.

This was a multiple-course conference attracting over 75 first responders, HAZMAT technicians, corporate safety officials and interested citizens from within and outside the region. Classes consisted of meters and monitoring, railcars and chlorine, HAZMAT awareness, risk analysis, CAMEOfm software and other specific technical courses.

The Local Emergency Planning Committee also held its' quarterly board meeting during the first day on the conference.

Please contact Ed Preston, X 155 for more information.

Perspectives of growth management focus of annual conference

Council Executive Director, Brian Teeple, presented, along with colleagues from other Florida Regional Councils, on the regional perspectives of growth management, at the May annual conference of the Florida Planning and Zoning Association held in Tallahassee.

Teeple also participated in the Conference's closing panel on the future of growth management in Florida. Other panelists included Secretary Thaddeus Cohen, former Secretary Steve Seibert and noted author James Howard Kuntzler.

For more information, please contact Brian Teeple at (904) 279-0885 X 104.

Affordable Housing focus of workshop

St. Johns County in conjunction with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development sponsored an Affordable Housing workshop at the World Golf Village on May 16, 2005.

Congressman John Mica was the keynote speaker. Part of the workshop was an affordable housing roundtable discussion facilitated by Council Executive Director Brian Teeple. This roundtable was attended by nearly 50 people and resulted in a commitment among the participants to continue to work together on affordable housing issues in Northeast Florida. For more information, contact Brian Teeple at (904) 279-0885 X 103.

Mapping the Future of Baker County

On behalf of the Baker County Board of County Commissioners, the Northeast Florida Regional Council has recently applied for and received a grant from the Environmental Systems Research Institute. The grant will provide Baker County with over \$15,000 in geographic information systems (GIS) software, training, and industry publications designed to assist the county with its digital mapping efforts.

By creating and maintaining a comprehensive GIS, the Baker County employees will be able to access information including but not limited to property ownership maps, future land use maps, zoning maps, and road network maps in digital format.

This will allow the County Employees to more efficiently analyze information and make intelligent decisions concerning future growth. It will also allow the employees to better serve citizens of the county by putting all of the geographic information on the employees' computers and at their fingertips as opposed to having to sift through hard copy maps which can be very time consuming.

For more information please contact Keith Joiner @ (904) 279-0880.
