

# NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL

# HighLights

August/  
September 2017

Monthly Report of the Northeast Florida Regional Council

## Northeast Florida Healthcare Coalition First Annual Healthcare Partners Training Summit

On August 23, 2017, the Northeast Florida Healthcare Coalition (NEFLHCC) held their First Annual Healthcare Partners Training Summit. The event was held at the University of North Florida and included six training sessions and 120 attendees. The day started with a welcome from the Chair of NEFLHCC, Rich Ward. He presented the immediate past chair, Leigh Wilsey, with an award for her dedication and service to the Coalition in her two years as Chair of the Executive Board. The speaker during opening session was Christie Luce, Bureau Chief of Preparedness and Response from the Florida Department of Health, who provided an overview of FDOH and their role in statewide preparedness efforts.



Northeast Florida  
**Healthcare**  
COALITION  
For Disaster Preparedness

*Achieve a health and medical system that is efficient and resilient in an emergency.*

Speakers and instructors traveled from across the state and country for the Summit. An engaging panel, including Aaron Otis, Dr. Brad Elias, John Konhke, Wayne Watts and John Wilgis discussed the issues of Patient Transport and Evacuation. The session focused on experiences during Hurricane Matthew and lessons learned for future events.

Mr. Scott Cormier, Vice President of Emergency Management, Environment of Care and Safety from Medxcel, spoke on issues involving Active Shooter incidents in Healthcare Facilities. Currently, this is a very relevant topic in Northeast Florida and a focus of upcoming Coalition work.

Two sessions were held on requirements of the CMS Rule. This drew participants from a variety of healthcare facilities around the Region. The implementation of the CMS Emergency Preparedness Rule is a challenge to many facilities and the Coalition is working to assist facilities in meeting the new requirements.

The highlight of the day was the lunch keynote speaker, Ms. Sheri Fink. Ms. Fink is a Pulitzer Prize winning journalist, who famously wrote the book, *Five Days at Memorial*, which explored the decisions made at Memorial Hospital in New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina. Ms. Fink addressed the participants with stories of how decisions made at every level affected the outcomes of patients during Katrina. For more information contact Elizabeth Payne at [epayne@nefrc.org](mailto:epayne@nefrc.org).



Opening Session  
Christie Luce



Chair of NEFLHCC,  
Rich Ward presented the  
immediate past chair,  
Leigh Wilsey, with an award  
for her dedication and service



Sheri Fink, Pulitzer Prize  
winning journalist



Sheri Fink signing her book,  
'Five Days at Memorial', which explored  
the decisions made at Memorial Hospital  
in New Orleans during Hurricane Katrina

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## Regional Leadership Class 2017

The last regular class of the 2017 Regional Leadership Academy met at the St. John's River Center in downtown Palatka on August 31st to discuss the environment in Putnam County. Jonathan Griffith, Palatka Public Works Director gave a walking tour about stitching together many capital improvement projects over many years to create big things for a small city. A working lunch included presentations by Brian Bergen of the Putnam Chamber, Cheryl Lynch of the Small Business Administration, Kraig McLane on behalf of the Waterway and Trails Committee of Putnam County and Terry Hadaway with Georgia Pacific. The class then took a water taxi ride along the St. Johns River. For more information, contact Margo Moehring@nefrc.org.



*Jonathan Griffith answers questions from the RLA Class on a walking tour of the downtown waterfront.*



*Kraig McLane addresses questions about trails while Terry Hadaway looks on.*

## EDA Funds Innovate 2.0

The Economic Development Administration has funded a joint application by the Council, JAXUSA Partnership and CareerSource Northeast Florida to undertake Innovate Northeast Florida 2.0. Innovate 2.0 will refine our economic development strategies that were established in 2012. We will start this effort by undertaking an economic assessment and community benchmarking exercise that will be followed by an update of our targeted industry clusters. The final two components will be marketing and implementation plans for each cluster as well as a workforce development strategy. The target for completion of this project is fall 2018. For more information contact Brian Teeple at bteeple@nefrc.org.

## A Stakeholders Meeting on the St. Johns River-to-Sea Loop

Trail users, planners, managers and elected officials met in St. Augustine on August 10th to discuss this multi-regional project. The Loop is a significant effort to provide a safe and continuous multi-use trail to link the communities of Florida's Space Coast to Northeast Florida. SJR2C will improve recreation and quality of life for residents while providing for economic development and increased tourism. The Loop includes a portion of the Coast-to-Coast trail and the East Coast Greenway. For more information, contact Margo Moehring at mmoehring@nefrc.org.

