

# NORTHEAST FLORIDA REGIONAL COUNCIL

# HighLights

*Bimonthly Report of the Northeast Florida Regional Council* October / November 2017

## RCI Board Member Makes a New Friend!

Regional Community Institute Board Member Bob Page was joined by JaxCan of Jacksonville's Blight Squad at the October 4, 2017 Jacksonville Environmental Symposium. Mr. Page was part of a panel discussing the work of the Institute, the Northeast Florida Regional Council and its Public/Private Regional Resiliency Committee on addressing sea level rise and resiliency in the region. For more information, contact Margo at [mmoehring@nefrc.org](mailto:mmoehring@nefrc.org).



## Enterprise Special Needs Shelter

On October 17th NEFRC staff facilitated an After-Action-Meeting (AAM) for the Department of Health - Duval County to address the strengths and areas of improvement for opening the special needs shelter at Enterprise Learning Academy during Hurricane Irma. During this AAM all participants were able to hear direct feedback from the shelter staff, the Department of Health (DOH) and Emergency Management staff that were responsible for the shelter. As a result, with information collected during the meeting, and After Action Report and Improvement Plan are being developed. These documents will assist DOH in preparing for future shelter activations. For more information, please contact Eric Anderson, [eanderson@nefrc.org](mailto:eanderson@nefrc.org).

## Northeast Florida Healthcare Coalition After Action Meeting

On October 18th NEFRC staff conducted an After Action Meeting for the Northeast Florida Healthcare Coalition (NEFLHCC) and the First Coast Disaster Council (FCDC) in response to Hurricane Irma. In attendance were over 50 people representing healthcare facilities ranging from assisted living to hospitals in the region. The meeting was facilitated by Beth Payne, and included discussions on strength and areas of improvement from



four key mission areas; Incident Command and Leadership, Situational Awareness, Evacuation Decision Making, and Continuity of Care. As a result, staff has been able to develop an After Action Report for NEFLHCC and FCDC that



highlights their strengths and offer guidance on how to improve on the issues discussed to better prepare for future events. For more information, please contact Beth Payne, [epayne@nefrc.org](mailto:epayne@nefrc.org).

## Sanderson Master Plan

The Baker County Planning and Development Department has been awarded a Department of Economic Opportunity grant to develop a master plan for the town of Sanderson (settled in the early 1800's). NEFRC was retained to develop this plan. The first step was to conduct three community input meetings for residents to identify needs, improvements and preservation objectives. Residents want a master development type plan with an emphasis on improvements for economic development and infrastructure. For more information, please contact Ed Preston, [epreston@nefrc.org](mailto:epreston@nefrc.org).

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*Bringing Communities Together to Advance the Regional Agenda*

## Putnam County Hurricane Irma After Action Meeting



On October 20th NEFRC staff conducted an After Action Meeting on Hurricane Irma at the Putnam County Emergency Operations Center. This meeting was used to determine both the strengths and areas of improvement for 5 major categories in relation to preparedness, response and recovery activities. The categories included Public Information and Warning, Situational Assessment, Infrastructure Systems, Logistics and Supply Chain Management, and Mass Care Services. Facilitated by Beth Payne NEFRC, staff was able to obtain

tremendous feedback from Putnam County and as a result, we are now in the process of writing an After-Action Report for Putnam officials to better prepare for the next Hurricane season which will begin on June 1, 2018. For more information, please contact Beth Payne, [epayne@nefrc.org](mailto:epayne@nefrc.org).

## Point of Dispensing Exercise

On October 24th NEFRC staff conducted a Point of Dispensing (POD) tabletop exercise at the Department of Health in Duval County about a mock anthrax release over the greater Jacksonville area. The purpose of this exercise was to allow Department of Health, Department of Homeland Security, U.S. Marshals Service, who are closed POD partners to communicate with one another about their individual actions during this type of event. The closed POD locations would be designated during an event, such as an anthrax attack, to allow essential personnel, and government officials to receive their medication. This would ensure the continuity of government during a biological attack and lessen the impact on the public PODs opened in the City to serve the citizens. Representatives from each agency present were able to work through their own Countermeasure Plans in response to the scenario. For more information, please contact Eric Anderson, [eanderson@nefrc.org](mailto:eanderson@nefrc.org).



*NEFRC CEO addresses the CEDS Committee*

## CEDS Annual Meeting

The annual meeting of the Comprehensive Development Strategy (CEDS) Committee took place on October 27, 2017. The venue was decorated for Halloween, which kept participants on their toes. Based on the Committee's recommendation, a public comment period on proposed additions to the CEDS project list was opened and will end December 4, 2017. For more information, contact Margo at [mmoehring@nefrc.org](mailto:mmoehring@nefrc.org).

## Hurricane Hanna Tabletop Exercise

On November 14th NEFRC staff conducted a tabletop exercise for the Northeast Florida Healthcare Coalition, focusing on non-hospital healthcare facilities. Over 40 people were in attendance, representing nursing homes, home health agencies, assisted living facilities and hospitals. This exercise was intended to let facilities of all sizes communicate their plans and actions in preparation for a category two hurricane. Discussions focused on topics such as at what point they would consider evacuations, how they would evacuate, how they would track their patients, what supplies they would need if they were to shelter in place and if evacuating, how would their patients return to the facility once the storm has past. Additionally, NEFRC staff provided each facility with a template for an After Action Report (AAR), which allows them to identify their strengths and areas of improvement in preparation for next year's hurricane season. For more information, please contact Eric Anderson, [eanderson@nefrc.org](mailto:eanderson@nefrc.org).