



## **NCFHCC General Membership Meeting**

January 24, 2024

### **MEETING MINUTES**

The North Central Florida HealthCare Coalition held its hybrid January meeting on January 24, 2024, at 1:30. The meeting was held in person at the Alachua County Health Department and virtually via Zoom.

Documents provided to the NCFHCC Members via email:

Agenda; Validation of Board Members; Minutes from December 2023; Financial Report for November and December 2023; New Member Requests.

### **CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by the Chair, Matthew Ferguson with the validation of a quorum, with the following Board members present:

EMS: Matt Ferguson

Hospitals: Suzanne DeKay

At-Large Representative: Jason Long

At-Large Representative: Lola Butler

Others in Attendance: See attendance report attached.

Absent:

Emergency Management: Ralph Smith

Public Health: N/A

Long-Term Care: N/A

At-Large Representative: Misty Woods

### **Welcome & Introductions**

Chair, Matthew Ferguson welcomed everyone to the meeting.

### **Approval of Minutes**

The minutes from December 2023 were provided to Board members via electronic mail and January Meeting Packet.

*The Chair called for a motion of approval. Mr. Long moved approval; Ms. DeKay seconded; Motion carried.*

### **FINANCIAL**

#### **Finance Report**

Ms. Suzanne DeKay presented the finance report for November and December 2023.

*The Chair called for a motion of approval. Mr. Long moved approval; Mr. Spellman seconded; Motion carried.*

#### **MANAGEMENT AND ADMINISTRATION**

- **Website Updates** Staff report a website development company has been contracted and has begun the work of merging the existing Coalition websites. Staff are working to incorporate some of the member requests into the new websites (i.e., a member-only page that includes contact information for other members and a resource list of HCC purchased equipment). The website should be live in the coming months.
- **Chemical Surge Annex** The focus area for this fiscal year's contract is chemical surge. As part of the contract requirements, staff have drafted a Chemical Surge Annex, in partnership with the other Florida HCCs. The Chemical Surge Annex Draft shared the document to the membership for feedback and suggestions earlier this month. In the email, there is a form link which allows members to provide their feedback and suggestions. A special planning meeting will be set up for February to review the plan, and staff hope local subject matter experts will join to provide feedback.
- **BOLDPlanning** Staff report the Florida contract is being finalized, and that any HCC member across the state will have access to the BOLDPlanning platform at no cost to them. BOLDPlanning has been working closely with the HCCs, the State, and other regulatory entities (i.e., AHCA) to ensure the platform and contract will meet facility requirements. COOP planning workshops are in the works, and the CEMP workshops are intended to begin in the spring.
- **Project Funding Update** Staff report three projects have been submitted for reimbursement – Flagler County Emergency Management (FirstNet Communications Unit), Baptist Health System (PAPRs), and Baker County Emergency Management (Pediatric and Adult Training Manikins). Staff are working closely with the other agencies who have projects pending, and some have reported issues with procurement so the submission for reimbursement will be delayed. Staff report, however, all projects remain on track to be spent by the end of the fiscal year.

Ms. DeKay asked staff for the next meeting to have a table that shows the list of projects with their respective agency and brief description.

- **EMAG Conference** The EMAG Conference in Savannah, GA will be held April 17-19, 2024. The HCC budgeted to send a group of interested members again this year. An interest form was shared with the membership, and staff ask that all those interested complete the form by January 31<sup>st</sup>. Once the form closes, staff will provide the list to the Board to see how many individuals can be sponsored to attend. As a reminder, the HCC covers the costs of conference

registration, hotel, and hotel parking; conference attendees are responsible for their pay, meals, and mileage.

- **Pulsara** Staff share at the State HCC Task Force Meeting the Pulsara project was mentioned, and staff wanted to garner member (EMS) feedback. Members voiced their concern on whether it would require duplicative charting for both pre-hospital and hospital providers. To be effective, the Pulsara platform would have to integrate into the existing EMR platforms pre-hospital and hospital agencies use.

#### **BUSINESS**

##### **New Members**

Two (2) new member requests were presented for membership.

*The Chair called for a motion of approval of the members. Ms. DeKay moved approval; Mr. Spellman seconded; Motion carried.*

#### **TRAINING AND EXERCISE**

##### **Statewide Chemical Surge VTTX**

The HCC is partnering with the other Florida HCCs to host a statewide chemical surge virtual tabletop exercise on March 6<sup>th</sup>. It will be the same concept as last year's radiation surge VTTX. This year, All Clear Emergency Management Group is planning and facilitating the exercise for the entire state. This exercise is a contract requirement and is to test this year's Chemical Surge Annex. Public health, hospitals, EMS, emergency management, and other public safety members are encouraged to attend.

##### **Florida Week at CDP – April 14-20, 2024**

Florida Week at CDP is this upcoming April 14<sup>th</sup> through 20<sup>th</sup> in Anniston, AL. There are several training opportunities, and is a great networking opportunity. Slots fill quickly, and anyone interested in attending is encouraged to apply quickly, as the deadline is January 31<sup>st</sup>. The next Florida Week will be in 2026; the flyer with more information and the links to register will be attached to the minutes.

##### **BOLDPlanning**

Staff report there is one virtual, midterm planning workshop scheduled for February 13<sup>th</sup>, and is targeted for those who have attended at least one initial planning workshop. However, all members can attend the workshop to garner an understanding of the platform. Staff share more initial and midterm workshops will be scheduled in the coming months.

#### **MEMBER REPORTS AND OPEN DISCUSSION**

Hospitals – Mr. Ebbin Spellman from UF Health Gainesville reports they are sending several representatives to Florida Week at CDP, and are working on having executive level leadership attend, as well. States UF Health Gainesville's Joint Commission window is about to open, so they have been preparing. Additionally, UF Health Gainesville is working with the VA Hospital to plan a chemical release TTX in the coming months.

Ms. Suzanne DeKay from UF Health Gainesville shared the Stroke Ambulance powered through UF Health and Alachua County Fire/Rescue is working on contracts with surrounding counties so the ambulance can service individuals in the surrounding areas, as well.

Emergency Management – Ms. Francine Vincent from Alachua County EM reports they are gearing up to update their CEMP. Additionally, working on a Mass Casualty and Family Assistance Center annex. Reports they have started the process of creating a COAD in Alachua County, and already have several organizations signed up.

Public Health –

Ms. Freda Vaughn, the Region 3 RERA, reports that Region 3 continues to have quarterly meetings. Additionally, there will be several training offerings between now and June (i.e., body mechanics, special needs, etc.).

Mr. Howell Batts, the Region 2 RERA, reported that last week’s State Preparedness Workshop went well. States a MOG system was just purchased for Columbia County and will be housed at the fire department. Additionally, Columbia/Hamilton are looking to start a community paramedicine program.

Mr. Shane Ross reports he will lead the MOG program in Columbia County and is working on the MOA with Columbia County Fire Department.

Mr. Caleb Hardee from DOH Gilchrist/Levy/Dixie reports they are participating in a long-term recovery group post-Hurricane Idalia, which allows them to do outreach projects and service anyone with unmet needs.

EMS – Mr. Matthew Ferguson from Dixie County reports the same supply chain issues that they have faced for the past several years. Reports being 1-1.5 years out on acquiring a new ambulance, and a 3-year timeline for acquiring a fire truck which affects their budgeting process. States there is mitigation funding available for counties impacted by Hurricane Idalia. However, for financially constrained counties like Dixie, the 25% match requirement makes it impossible for those counties to receive the funding. Reports they are working and meeting in Tallahassee to have the match requirement waived for financially constrained counties.

Long-Term Care – Nothing to report.

At-Large Representatives – Ms. Lola Butler from FDOT reports they are almost complete with the debris removal following Hurricane Idalia in the seven counties they were servicing.

Mr. Kevin Towles from the Center for Independent Living shared the upcoming Disability Expo in Alachua County on March 14<sup>th</sup>. The flyer with more information is attached to the meeting minutes. Additionally, there are exhibitor spots still available if any agency is interested.

**CLOSING REMARKS AND ADJOURN**

Next Meeting:  
February 28, 2024 @ 1:30 PM – Board of Directors Meeting  
Virtual Meeting

<https://nefrc-org.zoom.us/j/89168661472> Or Call 1-786 635 1003 Meeting ID: 891 6866 1472

With no additional business, the meeting was adjourned.

#### Presentation

- CDBG Health and Medical Lifeline Project: Essential Care Service Delivery Survey

Monica Dominguez and Andrew Prokopiak from the Northeast Florida Regional Council, presented on the CDBG Health and Medical Lifeline Project which utilizes the Region 3 HCC Alliance region for analyzing healthcare facilities and their impacts from extreme weather events. The team provided a brief overview of the project, and garnered member feedback based on the results of the Essential Care Service Delivery Survey.

DRAFT



## Attendance Recorded in ReadyOp: General Membership Meeting – January 24, 2024

First Name	Last Name	Facility Name	Facility Type
Suzanne	DeKay	UF Health Gainesville	Acute Care Hospitals (Core HCC Member)
Matthew	Ferguson	Dixie County EMS	EMS (Including inter-facility and other non-EMS patient transport systems; Core HCC Member)
Chris	Westmoreland	DOH – Putnam	Public Health Agencies (Core HCC Member)
Heather	Gmitter	Human Potential Healthcare	Clinical Services Provider
Caleb	Hardee	DOH – Levy/Gilchrist/Dixie	Public Health Agencies (Core HCC Member)
Casey	Ditter	FDOH – Lafayette and Suwannee	Public Health Agencies (Core HCC Member)
Jason	Long	DOH – Suwannee	Public Health Agencies (Core HCC Member)
Shane	Ross	DOH – Columbia/Hamilton	Public Health Agencies (Core HCC Member)
Jim	Lyons	DOH – Bradford/Union	Public Health Agencies (Core HCC Member)
Howell	Batts	DOH – Region 2	Public Health Agencies (Core HCC Member)
Lola	Butler	FDOT	Emergency Management Organizations (Core HCC Member)
Aurelio	Perea	DOH – Columbia	Public Health Agencies (Core HCC Member)
Heather	Henderson	Suwannee County Emergency Management	Emergency Management Organizations (Core HCC Member)
Ebbin	Spellman	UF Health Gainesville	Acute Care Hospitals (Core HCC Member)
Kevin	Towles	Center for Independent Living	Non-governmental organizations (e.g. American Red Cross, voluntary organizations active in disaster, amateur radio operators, etc.)
Garrison	Vandegrift	DOH – Levy/Gilchrist/Dixie	Public Health Agencies (Core HCC Member)

Freda	Vaughn	DOH – Region 3	Public Health Agencies (Core HCC Member)
Francine	Vincent	Alachua County Emergency Management	Emergency Management Organizations (Core HCC Member)
Tommy	Capobianco	FDLE	Jurisdictional partners, including cities, counties and tribes
Sean	Withers	City of Gainesville	Emergency Management Organizations (Core HCC Member)
Tiffany	Rizzo	FDOH	Public Health Agencies (Core HCC Member)
James	Carter	FDEM	Emergency Management Organizations (Core HCC Member)
Monica	Dominguez	NEFRC	Other
Conrad	Irving	City of Gainesville	Emergency Management Organizations (Core HCC Member)
Andrew	Prokopiak	NEFRC	Other
Mark	Cromer	HCA Florida North Florida Hospital	Acute Care Hospitals (Core HCC Member)
Joshua	Saunders	FDEM	Emergency Management Organizations (Core HCC Member)
Robert	Linnens	DOH – Alachua	Public Health Agencies (Core HCC Member)
Brad	Caron	DOH – Alachua	Public Health Agencies (Core HCC Member)
Sabrina	Wynn	FDOH	Public Health Agencies (Core HCC Member)

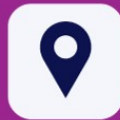
# 3RD ANNUAL ALACHUA COUNTY EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXPO



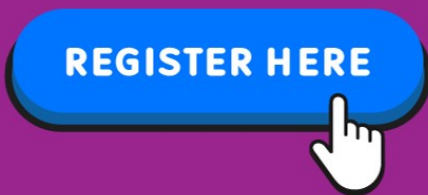
The FREE event will include a variety of vendors and speakers to help prepare people with disabilities in our community for any type of emergency.



**THURSDAY | MARCH 14, 2024**  
**8:45 AM - 1:00 PM**



**SENIOR RECREATION CENTER**  
**5701 NW 34TH BLVD, GAINESVILLE, FL 32653**



**[HTTPS://WWW.EVENTBRITE.COM/E/EMERGENCY-  
PREPAREDNESS-EXPO-FOR-PEOPLE-WITH-DISABILITIES-  
IN-ALACHUA-COUNTY-REGISTRATION-718046706027](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/emergency-preparedness-expo-for-people-with-disabilities-in-alachua-county-registration-718046706027)**



For more information about the event, please email Kevin Towles at [ktowles@cilncf.org](mailto:ktowles@cilncf.org) or call (352) 368 - 3788





# Virtual Chemical Tabletop Exercise

Sponsored by the Healthcare Coalitions of Florida

**Date: Wednesday, March 6, 2024**

**Time: 1:00 PM - 5:00 PM ET**

**Location: Zoom**

## What to Expect

Join us for a virtual tabletop exercise that has been designed to evaluate Florida Healthcare Coalitions' surge annexes. Before the exercise begins, participants will hear from a guest speaker who will address topics related to chemical response. Following the presentation, participants will engage in exercise group discussion, working through a provided scenario and a series of questions.

*\*This exercise is designed to help meet your CMS "Exercise of Choice" requirement.\**

## Participating Healthcare Coalitions

- Big Bend Health Care Coalition
- Central Florida Disaster Medical Coalition
- Emerald Coast Health Care Coalition
- Keys Readiness Coalition
- Northeast Florida Regional Council
- Southwest Florida Healthcare Coalition
- Tampa Bay Health & Medical Preparedness Coalition



*At the time of registration, you will receive information on how to access exercise documentation through the online web portal and a Zoom login link for use on the day of the exercise.*

For questions or more information:  
ElainaH@AllClearEMG.com

**REGISTER**

# Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

**Who is recommended to attend?**

- Emergency Management
- Emergency Medical Services
- Fire
- Law Enforcement
- Long Term Care
- Healthcare Coalitions
- Hospitals
- Public Health
- Skilled Nursing

**What topics will be covered during the exercise?**

- Chemical emergency care assets.
- Agency and facility roles during a chemical incident
- Healthcare Coalition Chemical Surge Annexes
- Regional and statewide partnerships
- Sheltering-in-place

**How can I come prepared for the exercise?**

Prior to the exercise, we recommend printing the exercise Situation Manual to reference. On the day of the exercise, make sure that you have access to and are familiar with your chemical response plans. You will be asked to participate in groups and discuss your organization's response.

**Where can I find the exercise documents?**

At the time of registration, you should have received information on how to login to your web portal. To login to the web portal, [click here](#), and use the email and password you created at the time of registration to gain access. Once in the web portal, select 'statewide chemical exercise' and then select 'exercise documents.'

**How do I login to the exercise?**

Following registration, you should have received an email from Zoom containing your login link. You will use the information in this email to login to the exercise on March 6th. Those confirmation emails will be resent one week before the exercise and on the day of the exercise.

**For questions or more information:**

**ElainaH@AllClearEMG.com**



# FLORIDA WEEK AT CDP

April 14-20, 2024

Join state, local, and tribal responders and other healthcare partners from across Florida at the Center for Domestic Preparedness (CDP) in Anniston, Alabama. This week-long event includes a variety of advanced all-hazards trainings that will ultimately culminate into an Incident Capstone Event (ICE) full-scale exercise.

## COURSE OFFERINGS:

Environmental Health  
Training in Emergency  
Response (EHTER)  
Operations

PROMO CODE:  
118FLEHTEROPS

Hospital Emergency  
Response Training (HERT)  
for Mass Casualty  
Incidents

PROMO CODE:  
121FLHERT

Barrier Precautions and  
Controls for Highly  
Infectious Disease

PROMO CODE:  
124FLHID

Healthcare Leadership  
for Mass Casualty  
Incidents

PROMO CODE:  
119FLHCL

## APPLY HERE:

<https://cdp.dhs.gov/apply>

## QUESTIONS? CONTACT:

Ann Rowe  
850-617-1541  
ann.rowe@flhealth.gov

Sheridan Taylor  
850-245-4859  
sheridan.taylor@flhealth.gov

Mitchell Carbajal  
850-617-1507  
mitchell.carbajal@flhealth.gov

# THE CENTER FOR DOMESTIC PREPAREDNESS

The Center for Domestic Preparedness provides advanced, all-hazards training to approximately 50,000 emergency responders annually from state, local, tribal, and territorial governments, as well as the federal government, foreign governments, and private entities, as available. The scope of training includes preparedness, protection, and response.



Since opening its doors in 1998, the CDP has trained more than 1.3 million responders. Responders in 17 different disciplines – Emergency Management, Emergency Medical Services, Fire Service, Governmental Administrative, Hazardous Materials, Healthcare, Law Enforcement, Public Health, Public Safety Communications, Public Works, Agriculture, Education, Citizen/Community Volunteer, Information Technology, Security and Safety, Search and Rescue, and Transportation – train at the CDP.

The Noble Training Facility at the CDP is the only hospital facility in the United States dedicated solely to training hospital and healthcare professionals in disaster preparedness and response. The facility includes classrooms, exercise and simulation areas, an emergency operations center, emergency department, clinical ward, and an isolation ward for 'patients' with highly infectious diseases.



*Visit [cdp.dhs.gov](http://cdp.dhs.gov) for more information*