

NEFLRIC

Highlights

Monthly Report of the Northeast Florida Regional Council

March 2007

Safe Sleep Campaign partners bring nationally known SIDS and infant death expert to our region



In a major effort to combat the rising number of infant deaths in the five-county Jacksonville area, a public awareness partnership involving state and local agencies came together to bring a nationally known expert on Sudden Infant Death Syndrome (SIDS), Dr. Fern Hauck, to the First Coast region. The SIDS presentation was held on Tuesday, March 20, 2007, at noon at Shands Jacksonville.

Dr. Hauck's presentation, "Update on SIDS: Risk Reduction Guidelines, Implementation and Objectives", reviewed the American Academy of Pediatrics guidelines for reducing the risk of SIDS published in 2005 and the research finding supporting these recommendations; discussed controversies associated with the recommendations; and examined barriers to implementation and ways to approach them.

Dr. Hauck's research focuses on SIDS and sudden unexpected infant death. She is the principal investigator of a large case-control study of infant mortality in Chicago to examine risk factors for SIDS and other unexpected infant deaths.

SIDS and sleep-related deaths are a leading cause of infant mortality after the first month of life. In 2000-2005, there were 134 sleep-related deaths in the area. These deaths accounted for 14% of all infant deaths and nearly 40% of all deaths between 28 days and 364 days.

The goal of the *Safe Sleep Campaign* is to increase awareness of how parents and caregivers can properly position their infants to get ready for sleep, the dangers of parents sharing their beds with infants, the importance of breastfeeding, the impact of secondhand smoke and more. Please contact Sarah Holdstein at (904) 279-0885 X 129 for more information.



Northeast Florida Regional Leadership Academy accepts applications for Class of 2008

The Northeast Florida Regional Leadership Academy (RLA) is now accepting applications for its **Class of 2008** which will commence at an Opening Retreat on September 17-18, 2007. Regional leaders from all sectors (business, education, non-profit, government, healthcare, media and others) are encouraged to apply to be part of this dynamic program. Completed applications must be received by May 4, 2007. The new class will be announced in July.

THE VISION

The RLA envisions a future in which there has been a fundamental transformation in the capacity and perception of leadership in Northeast Florida; to accept full responsibility as regional stewards of the public trust, raise public awareness of the importance of effective regional leadership, collaborate regionally and provide leadership within and beyond the region.

THE MISSION

The mission of the Regional Leadership Academy is to build a strong, diverse, regional network of leaders with a shared commitment to collaboration and to connecting communities to make Northeast Florida a better place to live and work.



Applications are available online at www.nefrla.com. Or for more information, please contact Mike Hadden at (904) 279-0885 X 104.

Emergency Preparedness staff conducts hazardous waste assessments

In 1983, Florida Legislature recognized the need for proper hazardous waste management in the state. It directed the Florida Department of Environmental Protection to work with local governments and



regional planning councils to learn more about hazardous waste protection in Florida. Part VI of the Water Quality Assurance Act of 1983 requires county governments and regional councils to conduct hazardous waste assessments.

The Northeast Florida Regional Council's Emergency Preparedness team has started working with Baker and Nassau Counties' Small Quantity Generators (SQG) Programs. This program requires that all known and potential SQG's of Hazardous Waste (less than 1,000kg/mo) be identified in those two counties. Staff has recently started site visits to businesses in those counties to verify waste management practices and inform them of their legal responsibilities regarding

proper waste management practices including pollution prevention options and opportunities.

For more information, please contact Heather Golightly at (904)279-0885 X 113.

Regional Leadership Academy discussed the concerns of human services and disaster preparedness in the region

To better understand the numerous challenges and opportunities Northeast Florida is facing in regard to human services and disaster preparedness, the Regional Leadership Academy came together on March 14, 2007 at the Northeast Florida State Hospital in Baker County.

Kerry Dunlavey, Baker County Health Department Administrator and Lori Bilello, Executive Director of the Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida and Steve Kennedy, Northeast Florida State Hospital Administrator were all part presenters for the first part of the day dedicated to human services which included an evaluation of the impact of deinstitutionalization increasing need and the decrease of dollars for regional human services.

After a tour of the Baker County Health Department, the class reconvened to explore the region's stance on preparing for disaster. Chip Patterson, Director of J.B Coxwell Contracting, Inc. gave an overview of disaster preparedness and recovery in Northeast Florida. Jack Morgan, CEO of the Red Cross, and Jeff Alexander, from the Northeast Florida Regional Council Emergency Preparedness each made presentations and then participated in "round robin" discussions that provided an opportunity for class members to engage in small group question and answer sessions with these regional experts.

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



Jack Morgan (center), Red Cross CEO, engages the RLA class members in a discussion of emergency preparedness efforts for Northeast Florida. Jeff Alexander (left) and Chip Patterson also participated in the program day.

A National Call to Action

AMERICA'S AFFORDABLE COMMUNITIES INITIATIVE

U.S. Department of HUD Presents:

2007 Workforce Housing: A Call to Action Southeast Regional Conference

Wednesday, June 20, 2007

SAVE THE DATE

No Registration Fee

Louisville Downtown Marriott
180 W. Jefferson
Louisville, Kentucky

For more information, please email
WorkforceConf@hud.gov

