



Membership Meeting
April 15, 2026 @ 1pm
Meeting Notes

The April Membership Meeting of the Northeast Florida Healthcare Coalition was held virtually via Zoom. The meeting commenced at 1:00 pm on Wednesday, April 15, 2026.

CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order by the Chair with a validation of members, with the following Executive Board members present. Quorum was met for voting.

Baker County – Kassie Knoll, John Blanchard
Clay County – Sonny Rodgers, Don Weatherby
Duval County – Katherine Jones
Flagler County – Jaffy Lee
St. Johns County – Philip Hernandez
Emergency Management – John Blanchard, Jonathan Lord
EMS – Kevin Kotsis
Hospitals – Dave Chapman

Absent:

Nassau County – Briana Angstman
Public Health – N/A
Long-Term Care – Jerry Lynn Daniels, Evelena Dowling
Home Health – Susan Chapman, Netasha King

A digital sign-in link was provided to attendees. The sign-in sheet is attached to the minutes.

***Approval of Minutes**

The draft minutes from January 21, 2026, Membership Meeting were provided as part of the meeting packet.

The Chair called for a motion. A motion was made to approve the draft minutes by Sonny Rodgers (Clay County). A second was made by Philip Hernandez (St. Johns County). Motion carries.

FINANCIAL

***Budget Report**

The finance report for March 2026 was presented by Leigh Wilsey.

The Chair called for a motion. A motion was made to approve the financial report by Jaffy Lee (Flagler County). A second was made by Sonny Rodgers (Clay County). Motion carries.

Management and Administration

Project Funding

Four Project Focus Areas:

1. Pediatric Restraint Devices for EMS
2. Hospital Disaster Stretchers
3. Evacuation Equipment for Long-Term Care
4. Evacuation Equipment for Hospitals

Based on survey results, the direction of the working group, and Board approval, staff are working to fulfill all EMS, LTC, and stretchers for hospitals. Equipment is in the process of being ordered and directly shipped to receiving facilities. All funds will be spent by June 30th. Staff shared the Resources and Gaps working group will resume meeting in the new fiscal year to develop new project ideas.

Cybersecurity Assessment and Extended Downtime Health Care Delivery Impact Assessment

Staff shared the cybersecurity assessment, and the extended downtime health care delivery impact assessment are two of the new deliverables for this new 5-year contract. Staff shared highlights of both assessments and will share the draft versions with the membership soon. Staff ask that members review the assessments and provide feedback.

BUSINESS

*Approval of General Membership Requests

As required in the bylaws, the Board must approve all membership requests. There have been twenty-one (21) membership requests since the last meeting. The list was provided in the meeting packet.

The Chair called for a motion. A motion was made by Sonny Rodgers (Clay County) to approve the new members. A second was made by Katherine Jones (Duval County). Motion carries.

Meeting Schedule

Staff shared the upcoming meeting schedule to account for the upcoming conflicts and Alliance meeting in June.

- May – Canceled
- June 17th – Virtual Alliance Meeting

TRAINING AND EXERCISE

VTTX Opportunities

Staff shared there is one virtual tabletop exercise left for this fiscal year, and both options are full. Staff ask if those who are registered cannot attend, to let them or the vendor know, as there are individuals on a waitlist.

- Storm Resilience: A Tropical Weather TTX
 - April 30th & May 13th

Shelter-In-Place Training & Exercise

Staff shared the in-person train-the-trainer, shelter-in-place training throughout the region has been a success. There were 9 different training opportunities, and 165 individuals were trained. Those who attended the pre-requisite train-the-trainer will be able to participate in the community-based exercise on Tuesday, April 28th. More to come as this program wraps in early summer.

Medical Response & Surge Exercise (MRSE)

The Medical Response and Surge Exercise (MRSE) is an annual requirement and is designed to test the region's capability and capacity to manage and support a surge of patients equal to at least 10% of their licensed general medical/surgical bed capacity. The exercise will be held in the North Central region this fiscal year. Planning meetings started in March, and the exercise will take place on May 12th in Gainesville.

Center for Independent Living of North Central Florida Preparedness Expos

The CILNCF hosted 5 preparedness expos throughout the region this spring. The preparedness expos are for those within the community with disabilities and for organizations/services to come together to learn more about preparedness.

There is one expo opportunity left in Bradford County on April 25th.

OPEN DISCUSSION

- Hospitals –

Mr. Dave Chapman shared they are beginning hurricane season preparation. Additionally, there is a virtual First Coast Disaster Council meeting on Thursday, April 23rd at 10am.

Mr. Darian Pearson with Brooks Rehabilitation Hospital shared they are beginning hurricane season preparations.

- Public Health –

Ms. Katie Jones (Duval County) shared they are hosting a Pediatric Disaster course through TEEEX in November. Participated in the JAA tabletop exercise and plans to participate with the full-scale exercise in October. Continuing with routine plan reviews and hurricane preparedness.

Mr. Sonny Rodgers (Clay County) shared last month they participated in the state planner workshop, hosted a special needs sheltering exercise and shelter-in-place training. Continues to work on certifying the Community Disaster Preparedness certificate program through TEEEX. Participated in FDEM's hurricane exercise this week. Additionally, with community preparedness, they will be conducting special needs shelter registration, hurricane preparedness, and participating in the Clay touch-a-truck event.

Ms. Jaffy Lee (Flagler County) shared they are conducting annual training with staff and will be facilitating a special needs sheltering TTX with staff.

- EMS – Mr. Kevin Kotsis shared there was nothing to report for EMS.

- Emergency Management –

Mr. John Blanchard (Baker County) shared they participated in the statewide hurricane exercise this week and noted the growth in the region.

Ms. Kayla Futch (Clay County) shared they are beginning their hurricane season preparations, in addition to the touch-a-truck event, graduations and boater skip day. Clay EM participated in the statewide exercise this week and will host their own exercise with a medical coordination

day in May.

- Home Health – Nothing to report.
- Long-Term Care – Nothing to report.

Ms. Shanti Smith-Copeland shared her presentation was selected for the upcoming National Healthcare Coalition Preparedness Conference this December.

ADJOURN

The meeting was adjourned at 1:33PM.

NEXT MEETING

Virtual Alliance Meeting

Wednesday, June 17, 2026, at 1:00PM

DRAFT



Membership Meeting Attendance
April 15, 2026, @ 1pm

Name	Name (Last)	Facility Name	Facility Type	'other'
Dave	Chapman	Ascension St. Vincent's Southside	Acute Care Hospitals (Core HCC Member)	
Kassie	Knoll	DOH-Baker	Public Health Agencies (Core HCC Member)	
Sonny	Rodgers	DOH-Clay	Public Health Agencies (Core HCC Member)	
Philip	Hernandez	DOH-St. Johns	Public Health Agencies (Core HCC Member)	
Jonathan	Lord	Flagler County Emergency Management	Emergency Management Organizations (Core HCC Member)	
Don	Weatherby	DOH - Clay	Public Health Agencies (Core HCC Member)	
Darian	Pearson	Brooks Rehabilitation	Acute Care Hospitals (Core HCC Member)	
Steven	Viola	AdventHealth Palm Coast and Parkway	Acute Care Hospitals (Core HCC Member)	
Kayla	Futch	Clay County Emergency Management	Emergency Management Organizations (Core HCC Member)	
Jaffy	Lee	DOH – Flagler	Public Health Agencies (Core HCC Member)	
Katie	Jones	DOH – Duval	Public Health Agencies (Core HCC Member)	
Leah	Guthrie	Mental Health Resource Center	Behavioral Health Services and Organizations	
John	Blanchard	Baker County Emergency Management	Emergency Management Organizations (Core HCC Member)	
Jay	Farhat	Baptist Medical Center	Acute Care Hospitals (Core HCC Member)	
Tara	Willis	Aza Health	Outpatient health care delivery (e.g., ambulatory care, clinics, community and tribal health centers, Federally Qualified Health Centers, urgent care centers, free standing emergency rooms, stand-alone surgery centers)	
Michael	Layne	HCA Florida Orange Park Hospital	Acute Care Hospitals (Core HCC Member)	
Kyle	Higginbotham	St. Johns County Emergency Management	Emergency Management Organizations (Core HCC Member)	
Shanti	Smith-Copeland	iParametrics, LLC	Other	Consulting

Karen	Robeson	Global Medical Response	Emergency Management Organizations (Core HCC Member)	
Lisa	Nichols	Wolfson Children's	Acute Care Hospitals (Core HCC Member)	
Chris	Tytler	Baptist Medical Center South	Acute Care Hospitals (Core HCC Member)	
Cameron	Land	CISA	Jurisdictional partners, including cities, counties and tribes	
Kevin	Kotsis	Ascension St. Vincent's	EMS	