

NORTH FLORIDA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP



2020 Regional Rural Development Grant Fourth Quarter Report

Submitted to:

Robert Gitzen, Grants Specialist III
Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
Division of Community Development
107 East Madison Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-4135

By

North Florida Economic Development Partnership
3200 Commonwealth Boulevard, Suite 7
Tallahassee, FL 32303
March 8, 2021



A PARTNERSHIP OF BAKER, BRADFORD, COLUMBIA, DIXIE, GILCHRIST, HAMILTON, JEFFERSON, LAFAYETTE, LEVY, MADISON,
PUTNAM, SUWANNEE, TAYLOR AND UNION COUNTIES
3200 COMMONWEALTH BOULEVARD, SUITE 7, TALLAHASSEE, FL 32303 850-487-1870

NORTH FLORIDA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP



DELIVERABLES

Administration

- Overview/Summary
- Compliance Certification Form
- Minority & Veteran Form
- Invoice -DEO
- Matching Fund Documentation
- NFEDP Board Approval Agenda,
Minutes & Authorization Letter

Marketing

- Website Analytics
- Website Cost Reimbursements

Scholarships

There were no Scholarships during the 4th Quarter.

Technical Assistance

- Technical Assistance Forms



Board of Directors

Todd Gray, Chair
Gilchrist County BOCC

Glenn Hunter, Vice Chair
*Columbia County Economic
Development Department*

Diane Head, Secretary
*Executive Director, CareerSource
North Florida*

Vacant, Treasurer
Vacant

Darryl Register – Past President
*Executive Director
Baker County Chamber of Commerce*

James G. Bennett, Commissioner
Baker County BOCC

Chris Dougherty, Commissioner
Bradford County BOCC

Pam Whittle, Director
N FL Regional Chamber

Williams, Chairman
Columbia County BOCC

Mark Hatch, Commissioner
Dixie County BOCC

Carol West, Executive Director
Dixie County Chamber of Commerce

Darrel Smith, Commissioner
Gilchrist County BOCC

Jimmy Murphy, Commissioner
Hamilton County BOCC

Chadd Mathis, Executive Director
Hamilton County BOCC

Gene Hall, Commissioner
Jefferson County BOCC

Henry McCray, Commissioner
Lafayette County BOCC

Steve Land
Clerk of the Court, Lafayette County

Matt Brooks, Commissioner
Levy County BOCC

Donne Waldrop, Commissioner
Madison County BOCC

Sherilyn Pickels, County Administrator
Madison County BOCC

Larry Harvey, Commissioner
Putnam County BOCC

Dana Jones, Executive Director
Putnam County Chamber

Don Hale, Commissioner
Suwannee County BOCC

Jimmy Norris
*Suwannee County
Economic Development Director*

Thomas Demps, Commissioner
Taylor County BOCC

Tisha Penny, Executive Assistant
Taylor County Development Authority

Lacey Cannon, Commissioner
Union County BOCC

Jimmy Williams, County Coordinator
Union County BOCC

Elizabeth Godwin, Manager, Economic Development
Duke Energy

James Bush, External Affairs Manager
Florida Power and Light

Lauren Yeatter, Senior Planner
NCF Regional Planning Council

Patrick Wnek, Executive Director
NEFEC

Jon Little, Executive Director
Suwannee Valley Electric Cooperative

Jeff Hendry, Executive Director
NFEDP



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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

Robert Gitzen, Grants Specialist III
Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
Division of Community Development
107 East Madison Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-4135

March 8, 2020

Dear Mr. Gitzen:

On March 5, 2021, the North Florida Economic Development Partnership (NFEDP) conducted the NFEDP full board quarterly meeting virtually over the internet due to social distancing requirements by Governor DeSantis. The Fourth and Final Quarterly Report and request for reimbursement for NFEDP Rural Regional Development Grant #D0166 was on the agenda for approval and submission to DEO. The report was emailed to board members prior to the meeting to allow time for review.

The report was provided to board members prior to the virtual meeting at which time Diane Scholz provided a brief summary and asked for questions or comments. None were made. Commissioner Larry Harvey, Putnam County BOCC, made a motion to submit the report and reimbursement invoice to the Department of Economic Opportunity, and Patrick Wnek, Northeast Florida Education Consortium Executive Director, seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously approving the submittal of the 4th and Final Quarterly Report for RRDG #D0166, and reimbursement invoice DEO for \$20,400.

If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Diane Scholz at (850) 728-5191 or at dscholz@iof.fsu.edu.

Sincerely,

Todd Gray
Chair, NFEDP

FROM:
North Florida Economic Development Partnership, Inc.
3200 Commonwealth Blvd. Suite 7
Tallahassee, FL 32303
Phone: 850/487-1870

COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATION FORM

TO:
DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY (DEO)
DIVISION OF COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
ATTN: Robert Gitzen
107 East Madison Street
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-4135
850-717-8497

DATE: February 15, 2021

DESCRIPTION: Deliverables Including Minimum Performance Standards	Invoice Period: Nov -Dec 2020- Jan 2021
Contract Invoice #D0166	\$20,346.00
INVOICE AMOUNT	\$20,346.00

Contractor Certification:

I certify, by evidence of my signature below, the above information is true and correct; and accurately reflects the terms and conditions of the executed contract document on file. I understand that the office of the State Chief Financial Officer reserves the right to require additional documentation and/or to conduct post-audits of any agreements.

Contractor Name printed: Todd Gray

Title: NFEDP Chairman

Contractor Signature: _____



Date: February 15, 2021

DEO-Division of Community Development Contract Manager

I certify, by evidence of my signature below, the above information is true and correct; the goods and services have been satisfactorily received and payment is now due. I understand that the office of the State Chief Financial Officer reserves the right to require additional documentation and/or to conduct post-audits of any agreements.

DEO Contract Manager Name printed: Robert Gitzen

Title: Grants Specialist III

DEO Contract Manager Signature: _____

Date: _____

**DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY
MINORITY SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN BUSINESS ENTERPRISE REPORT**

EXHIBIT B

Company Name: North Florida Economic Development Partnership, Inc.

Invoice #: 4-2020

Date: February 15, 2021

Contract Amount:	<u>\$150,000.00</u>	<u>-</u>		
MBE Participation Amount:	<u>\$-0-</u>	<u>-</u>	MBE Percentage:	<u>0%</u>
DV Participation Amount:	<u>\$-0-</u>	<u>-</u>	DV Percentage:	<u>0%</u>

MINORITY BUSINESS ENTERPRISE (MBE)

**Include consultants, sub-contractors, travel agents, etc. who provided services on this project

**Minority Business Enterprise	Description	** MBE Status	State Certified MBE (Yes or No)	MBE Contract \$ Amount	\$ Amount this Invoice	Total Paid	Balance Due	Project Type (Commodities or Contractual Services)
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
TOTALS				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
							\$ -	

Certified MBE: **H - African American **I** - Hispanic **J** - Asian/Hawaiian **K** - Native American **M** - American Women
Non-Certified MBE: **N** - African American **O** - Hispanic **P** - Asian/Hawaiian **Q** - Native American **R** - American Women

SERVICE-DISABLED VETERAN (DV) BUSINESS ENTERPRISE

**Include consultants, sub-contractors, travel agents, etc. who provided services on this project

**Service-Disabled Veteran Business Enterprise	Description	** DV Status	State Certified DV (Yes or No)	DV Contract \$ Amount	\$ Amount this Invoice	Total Paid	Balance Due	Project Type (Commodities or Contractual Services)
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
TOTALS				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
							\$ -	

*Certified DV: **W** - Service-Disabled Veteran Business
Non-Certified DV: **Y - Service-Disabled Veteran Business

INCLUDE THIS FORM WITH YOUR INVOICE

**North Florida Economic Development
Partnership FEIN: 20-4360126**

INVOICE

Agreement #: D0166

Invoice No.: 4-2020
Date: February 15, 2021

TO:

Florida Dept. of Economic Opportunity
Division of Community Development
Attn: Robert Gitzen
107 E. Madison Street,
Caldwell Bldg. MSC 160
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-1160

FOR:

North Florida Economic Development Partnership
3200 Commonwealth Blvd.
Suite # 7
Tallahassee, FL 32303
850-487-1870

DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT
Dates of Service: November 1, 2020 – January 31, 2021	
Deliverable 1: Website Enhancement Analytics Support & Map Enhancement	\$900.00
Deliverable 4: Technical Assistance	\$19,500.00
	<u>\$20,400.00</u>
Expenditures:	
Registrations	
Contractual Services	
Staff Time	\$900.00
	\$19,500.00
NOTE: The available balance is \$20,346 and the amount requested for the 4th is \$20,400. Therefore, although the invoice states a request of \$20,400, the NFEDP recognizes only a reimbursement of \$20,346 is anticipated.	
TOTAL	\$20,346.00

Make all checks payable to North Florida Economic Development Partnership FEIN: 20-4360126
I certify, by evidence of my signature below, the above information is true and correct; the goods and services have been satisfactorily delivered and payment is now due. I understand that DEO and other state personnel have authority to require additional documentation and/or conduct audits or inspections of grant records.

Name Printed: Todd Gray Title: Chairman

Signature:  Date: February 15, 2020



**North Florida Economic Development Partnership
Board of Directors and General Membership VIRTUAL Meeting
Friday, March 5, 2021
9:30—11:30 a.m.**

Agenda

- I. **Meeting Call to Order (A)**
Todd Gray, NFEDP Chair, Commissioner Gilchrist County
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation(I)**
- III. **Consideration of December 4, 2020, 2020 Meeting Minutes (A)**
Diane Head, NFEDP Treasurer and Executive Director
CareerSource North Florida
- IV. **Consideration of Treasurers Report (A)**
Jeff Hendry, Executive Director, NFEDP
- V. **Approval of RRDG 4th Quarter and Final Report, and Status of 2021 RRDG (A)**
Diane Scholz/Hendry
- VI. **Update: Rural Counties Days 2020: March 10-11, 2021 (I)**
Jeff Hendry/Diane Scholz/Jenny Anderson
- VII. **Update: NFEDP Counties and Enterprise Florida Rural Toolkit/Grants (I)**
Diane Scholz/Jeff Hendry
- VIII. **Presentation: NFEDP Regional Site Prep Grant from EFI**
Diane Scholz/Victor Leotta, Leotta Location and Design
- IX. **Broadband Crowd-Sourcing Project(s) (I)**
Scholz/Glenn Fishbine and Paul Deming, GEO Partners, LLC and
Edward Dean, Madison County Economic Development Consultant

- X. **Presentation: COVID's Impact on the Region's Education System(s)**
Patrick Wnek, Executive Director, Northeast Florida Education Consortium (NEFEC)

- XI. **Project Eggshells (I)**
Diane Scholz/Tom Hoversen, COMARCO Products, Inc., Palatka, Florida

- XII. **2021 Legislative Session Preview (I)**
Mike Grissom, Senior Government Relations Director, Buchanan, Ingersoll & Rooney, Inc.

- XIII. **Comments from Public(I)**

- XIV. **Next Board Meeting Date (I)**
Friday, June 4, 2021

- XV. **Adjournment (A)**



DRAFT MINUTES

North Florida Economic Development Partnership Board of Directors and General Membership Meeting March 5, 2021 9:30 a.m. – 11:00 am VIRTUAL MEETING

NFEDP Board Members in Attendance

Darryl Register (Baker County), Pam Whittle (Bradford County), Glenn Hunter (Columbia County Economic Development Department), Commissioner Todd Gray (Gilchrist County), Steve Land (Lafayette County), Commissioner Larry Harvey (Putnam County), Elizabeth Godwin (Duke Energy), Diane Head (CareerSource North FL), Jimmy Norris (Suwannee County EDO), Scott Koons, Lauren Yeatter (North Central FL RPC), Robert Krefting (Central FL Electric Coop), Jon Little (Suwannee Valley Electric Coop), Chadd Mathis (Hamilton County Development Authority), Patrick Wnek (Northeast Florida Educational Consortium), Robert Krefting (Central FL Electric Coop), Ryan Hart (Seminole-Electric Coop)

Others in Attendance

Eric Anderson (EFI), Jennifer Goff-Daniels (Columbia County ED Dept.), Brunilda Robles (USDA), Jessica Holley (Florida House), Gina Salvati (City of Live Oak), Donna Creamer (Gilchrist County), David Tyler (FDOT), Stew Lilker (Columbia County Observer), Mark Tomczyk (Woolpert), Donna Creamer (Gilchrist County), Luke Davis (Tetra Tech Engineering), Ana Grogan, Allison Carter, Andy Easton, Cathy Chambers, Chris Doolin, Christopher Campbell, Daniel Wilgus, Darrel Smith, Glenn Fishbine, Paul Deming, J.J. Harris, Jo Penrose, John Grosskopf, Karin Lee, Katherine Allen, Kay Dennis, Larry Moore, Mary Swoope, Mike Grissom, Nancy LaJoice, Renee Hough, Victor Leotta, Sydney Armstrong, and Thaddeus Hammond (SBA).

NFEDP Board Members Absent

Jim Bush (FP&L), LaWanda Pemberton (Taylor County Administrator), Tisha Penny (Taylor County Development Authority), Commissioner James Bennett (Baker County), Chris Dougherty (Bradford County), Commissioner Robby Hollingsworth (Columbia County), Commissioner Mark Hatch (Dixie County), County Administrator Bobby Crosby (Gilchrist County), Commissioner Gene Hall (Jefferson County), and Commissioner Henry McCray (Lafayette County), Sara Owen (City of Lake Butler, Union County), Taylor Brown (City of Perry), and Kaitlyn Culpepper (Tri-County Electric Coop).

NFEDP and IOG staff in Attendance

Jeff Hendry, Executive Director, NFEDP and Florida Institute of Government
Diane Scholz - Director of Rural Economic Development, Florida Institute of Government
Debby Kent, Events Coordinator, Florida Institute of Government
Jenny Anderson, Program Director – Media, Marketing & Communications
Mike Rycko, Marketing & IT Services Director

I. Welcome and Meeting Call to Order

Chairman Todd Gray, NFEDP Chair, Gilchrist County called the meeting to order at 9:30 am and thanked everyone for attending the virtual NFEDP Board meeting by Zoom. Chairman

Gray recognized Jeff Hendry and asked he provide a couple of updates regarding the composition of the NFEDP Board. Jeff stated that Dave Pieklik, formerly the Levy County EDO, had left that position and moved to a new job in Citrus County. Jeff stated since Dave had been the NFEDP Board Treasurer, he would be providing the Treasurer's Report until a new Treasurer is elected. Jeff also stated that Brian Bergen, the former EDO for Putnam County, had also left that position. He also stated there will be a slight modification in the flow of today's agenda Item XIII. 2021 Legislative Session Preview, by Mike Grissom which has to be a time certain at 10:30 am.

II. Invocation and Pledge of Allegiance

Commissioner Gray stated he would lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance (full-screen American flag was on the monitor) which would be immediately followed by the invocation by Darryl Register, NFEDP Immediate Past-Chairman, to lead the attendees in prayer.

III. Consideration of December 4, 2020 Meeting Minutes (A)

Diane Head recommended minutes for approval. Motion was made by Diane Head, seconded by Commissioner Larry Harvey, Putnam County. Motion passed unanimously.

IV. Consideration of Treasurers Report (A)

Jeff Hendry stated the current balance in the bank is \$227,000, but the NFEDP has been invoiced by the IOG for its monthly services contract for \$15k. After that payment, the balance will be approximately \$215k. Jeff expressed he believes it puts the NFEDP in a very strong cash position. Jeff asked if anyone had questions. Hearing none, Chairman Gray also asked questions and then for a motion which Steve Land, Lafayette County Clerk of Court made and Diane Head, Executive Director CareerSource North Florida, seconded. Gray asked for any further discussion, vote was taken, and passed unanimously.

V. Consideration of the 2020 RRDG 4th Quarter and Final Report, and the Status of the 2021 RRDG Grant. (A)

Chairman Gray asked Diane Scholz to please provide the update for both items. Diane stated that for the first time ever the NFEDP was able to submit both the 2020 RRDG 4th and Final Report and the approval of the 2021 grant before the 2020 expired on February 9th so there was no lap between one ending and the other beginning. Chairman Gray asked for a motion to approve. Commissioner Larry Harvey made the motion, Patrick Wnek, NEFEC, seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. Update: Rural Counties Day 2021: March 10-11, 2021 (I)

Jeff Hendry stated everybody should have gotten an emailed notice cancelling/postponing the 2021 event due to COVID. All the corporate sponsors chose to leave their sponsorship funds in the NFEDP-Rural Counties Day account to be used toward the Rural Counties Day 2022 event. Jeff went on to say all feedback was positive that it was the right thing to do in an abundance of caution for everyone's health and safety. Commissioner Harvey asked to be recognized and stated he believe there will be no problem starting the event back up in 2022 based on free food and the popularity of networking with the legislators.

VII. Update: NFEDP Counties and Enterprise Florida Rural Toolkit Grants (I)

Diane Scholz began by explaining Round I of the Site Preparedness Grant's (SPG) deadline was December 15, 2020. Seven NFEDP applications were submitted and all were funded. There was a total of 14 grants statewide submitted, 2 from Opportunity FL and 5 from FHERO. Unknown at the time, EFI announced Round II of the SPG a couple of weeks ago and we also discovered the SPGs can be used for enhancement of broadband. Diane went on to explain the funding potential by a county applying for each one of the EFI Rural Toolkit Grants: Marketing/Training \$5,000; Consulting Grant

\$5,000; and the Site Preparedness Grant \$25,000. Diane explained due to the unexpected funding opportunity most counties probably didn't have the 10% match budgeted for 2021 so therefore the NFEDP determined it would provide the match to make certain if the county wanted to apply, they would not be held back if they didn't have the match. Jeff reiterated this point to make certain everyone understood. Diane stated everyone needs to contact the NFEDP if they have an interest in applying. Diane reminded everyone of the email she sent on Thursday, February 25th, explaining 3 scenarios of how the total amount of the 3 grants (\$35,000) could be used. She offered to work with each county to explain the possibilities by phone if they would just call her.

VIII. Broadband Crowd-Sourcing Project(s) (I)

Chairman Gray ask Diane Scholz to introduce Glenn Fishbine, Paul Deming and to the Crowd-Sourcing project. She explained how GEO Partners identified the NFEDP as a potential region to be a part of a pilot the Crowd-Sourcing project through the NFEDP website, www.nflp.org. Madison County and Union County were given the opportunity to have the Crowd-Sourcing process free as a part of GEO Spatial Partners demonstrating how the crucial data is obtained to use in federal funding intended to enhance broadband in rural. Glenn Fishbine the Chief Technology Officer and Creator of the software which he first started development in 2011. Glenn provided a demonstration of how the software works and used Madison County to illustrate the value. Paul Deming provided background, history of other states and regions who have used this technology. Edward Dean, Madison County Economic Development Consultant, explained how had promoted the Crowd-Sourcing survey in Madison County to reach the optimal ratio of tests/surveys to population.

TIME CERTAIN PRESENTATION AGENDA ITEM XIII. 2021 LEGISLATIVE SESSION PREVIEW WAS HEARD AT THIS POINT OF THE MEETING.

IX. Presentation: NFEDP Regional Site Preparedness Grant from EFI (I)

Jeff Hendry asked Diane Scholz to explain the NFEDP Regional Site Preparedness grant. Diane provided a quick summary of the 14-county project and introduced Victor Leotta, Leotta Location+Design, LLC who has a lengthy successful work history in all 14 counties. Victor Leotta provided a PowerPoint presentation explaining in greater detail the scope of what Leotta Location+Design (LL+D) goals are:

- i. Advance sites to open real estate market (listed in EFI "Find it Florida"/NFEDP sites and buildings database)
- ii. Improve understanding of site competitive value through conduct of engineering, environmental, and cultural/natural resource due diligence
- iii. Perform site planning to improve development readiness
- iv. Create site marketing materials to improve RFI response and lead generation

Because not all sites within the 14 counties have not completed the same amount of investigation, there are 10 potential components i.e., Phase I, Conceptual Design, Desktop Wetland delineation, etc. Victor stressed the need for each county to appoint someone to be the point-of-contact to assist with providing data.

X. Consideration of Annual Support for FREDA (A)

Jeff Hendry explained the three Rural Areas of Opportunity individual contribution of \$15,000 to the Florida Rural Economic Development Association (FREDA) which serves to help underwrite and sustain the non-profit organization. Jeff went on to state all three RAOs have provided this financial support for the past two years. He explained this issue does take a formal approval of the NFEDP board and asked that there be a motion to approve.

Commissioner Larry Harvey made the motion to contribute to \$15,000 toward the annual financial support of FREDa; Darryl Register seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

XI. Presentation: COVID's Impact on the Region's Education System(s) (I)

Patrick Wnek, Executive Director of the Northeast Florida Education Consortium (NEFEC), provided very interesting information regarding K-12 education in Florida during the COVID-19 pandemic. He discussed the coordination and collaboration with rural county school districts and how NEFEC assisted in the discussion and helped meet the needs. The fact that students often did not have internet connectivity in their home forced them to drive to a McDonald's or Burger King to use public Wi-Fi to download lesson plans and upload homework. Many students did not have a computer in their home so NEFEC coordinated with DOE and 30,000 laptops were distributed throughout the state. Those schools in consortia districts consistently had the highest rates in the state for brick-and-mortar instruction. These same schools safely restarted athletics and extracurricular activities. They also provided social and emotional support for students and teachers. School choice was made available. There are some reports stating there are 98,000 students in Florida, but only about 45,000 students have been located. The Governor's budget only includes funding for those with documented locations. Students enrollment impacts the number of teachers needed, school textbooks and bus transportation. Chairman Gray asked for questions. Commissioner Harvey asked how Patrick believes fair and accurate testing can be achieved when a student may have been quarantined creating learning and emotional problems compared to another student who may have excelled by sitting in the classroom? Patrick explained that they have is call Progress Monitoring Data which is data acquired quarterly to determine each student's progress. Language Arts has held steadfast, but math has slid downward. To advance to the next grade, students will have to test in person. A lot of students will take the state test, but waivers can be requested.

XII. Project Eggshells (I)

Jeff Hendry introduced this project located in Putnam County. Commissioner Harvey (Putnam County BOCC) asked if he could please make some comments about the project. He provided background on how the building which had been built as a spec building approximately 20 years ago had only a dirt floor. Jeff Hendry continued his comments by stating that the NFEDP intends on featuring an economic development project at all future NFEDP quarterly board meetings. COMARCO Products found it to be the perfect location because the dirt floors allowed them to install extensive water, wastewater, and refrigeration systems. They purchased additional land to build a huge freezer to store their product before shipping. (An 18-minute video prepared by Tom Hoversen, COMARCO Products owner, showing and explaining the company's operation in Palatka.)

XIII. 2021 Legislative Session Preview (I)

Mike Grissom, Senior Government Relations Director, Buchanan, Ingersoll & Rooney PC, provided updates on the FL legislative focus this session. Mike stated FREDa had asked that he track and advocate for rural economic development legislation, QTI being of the greatest importance. Senator Joe Gruters' SB 982 is one that Mike has advocated hard. The bill will be heard Tuesday, March 9th, and Mike sees no problems with it moving forward. Florida Rep. Chip LaMarca, Ft. Lauderdale, is moving HB 6071 with no problems. Mike reported he had a very long chat with the Chairman of the Tourism, Infrastructure and Energy Committee, Representative Brad Drake, one of our strong rural champions in the House. He believes there is going to be a fair amount of struggle in the House this year, but Rep. Drake believes there is a way to make a stronger argument for rural and is focusing on that. Mike made a point of saying those advocating for rural on our behalf need everyone to be engaged

by calling your FL Senators and House Representatives to make your views known in support of the various rural bills. Mike stated HB 753 introduced by Rep. Chuck Clemens to enhance broadband improvements. Efforts have been made to have conversations with DEO to approach the broadband issues from the other side of the aisle. The advocacy group also has scheduled meetings with the ISPs, Century Link and Charter. Rep. Jason Shoaf also has introduced a bill on broadband. There will be a lot of attention this session on rural broadband improvements.

XIV. Comments from Public (I)

Chris Doolin, Small Counties Coalition, asked to make comments. The Chair acknowledged him and Mr. Doolin provided legislative updates regarding state programs specific to rural, i.e. FDOT-SCRAP AND SCOP, and the repeal of SB 100 which does away with M-CORES and repeals the \$20 million in funding. Mr. Doolin provided information on the Florida Office of Broadband housed within DEO and spoke in support their efforts. He encouraged everyone else to support their efforts and to collaborate and focus on improving broadband in rural counties.

XV. Next Board Meeting Date (I)

Friday, June 4, 2021

XVI. Adjournment (A)

Chairman Todd Gray thanked everyone for being on the call and made a motion to adjourn. Darryl Register seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Board of Directors

Todd Gray, Chair
Gilchrist County BOCC

Glenn Hunter, Vice Chair
*Columbia County Economic
Development Department*

Diane Head, Secretary
*Executive Director, CareerSource
North Florida*

Vacant, Treasurer
Vacant

Darryl Register – Past President
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Jefferson County BOCC

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Lafayette County BOCC

Steve Land
Clerk of the Court, Lafayette County

Matt Brooks, Commissioner
Levy County BOCC

Donne Waldrop, Commissioner
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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

Robert Gitzen, Grants Specialist III
Florida Department of Economic Opportunity
Division of Community Development
107 East Madison Street
Tallahassee, FL 32399-4135

March 8, 2020

Dear Mr. Gitzen:

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If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Diane Scholz at (850) 728-5191 or at dscholz@iof.fsu.edu.

Sincerely,

Todd Gray
Chair, NFEDP

NORTH FLORIDA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP



Marketing

November 1, 2020 – January 31, 2021

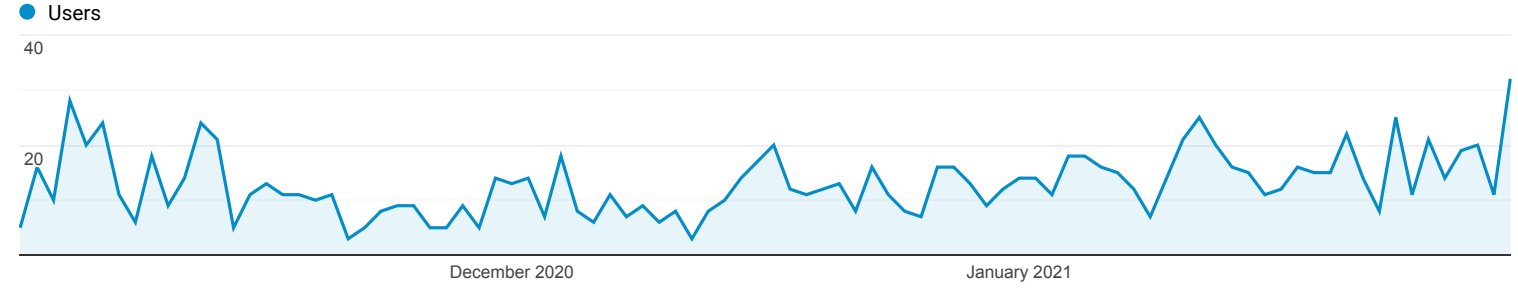
Website Analytics
Website Cost Reimbursement

Audience Overview

All Users
100.00% Users

Nov 1, 2020 - Jan 31, 2021

Overview



Users
1,112

New Users
1,092

Sessions
1,264

Number of Sessions per User
1.14

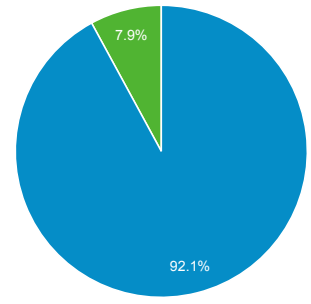
Pageviews
2,269

Pages / Session
1.80

Avg. Session Duration
00:01:07

Bounce Rate
70.97%

■ New Visitor ■ Returning Visitor



Language	Users	% Users
1. en-us	993	89.22%
2. fi	54	4.85%
3. en	38	3.41%
4. c	9	0.81%
5. en-gb	4	0.36%
6. en-ca	3	0.27%
7. de	2	0.18%
8. en-au	2	0.18%
9. de-de	1	0.09%
10. en-in	1	0.09%



**MARKETING
ALLIANCE**

201 W. Marion Ave., Suite 1206
Punta Gorda, Florida 33950

Invoice

Date	Invoice #
1/31/21	24842

Bill To:

North Florida EDP
Jeff H. Hendry / Liz Register
3200 Commonwealth Blvd., Ste. 7
Tallahassee, FL 32303

RRDG FUNDED

P.O. No.	Terms
	Net 30

Item	Description	Amount
Analytics	Enhanced SiteTracker Analytic Services renewal - quarterly - February 2021 through April 2021	900.00

Thank you for your business. If you have any questions please call 941-347-7412.	Sales Tax (\$0.00
	Total	\$900.00

NORTH FLORIDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

3200 COMMONWEALTH BOULEVARD

SUITE 7

TALLAHASSEE, FL 32303

1853

63-68/631
002

DATE 02.09.2021

CHECK ARMOR
PROTECTION

PAY TO THE ORDER OF Marketing Alliance \$ 900.00

Nine Hundred dollars & ^{NO}/₁₀₀ DOLLARS



FOR pmt of invoice # 24842

[Handwritten Signature]

⑈001853⑈ ⑆063100688⑆022843700⑆⑈

NORTH FLORIDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

3200 COMMONWEALTH BOULEVARD
SUITE 7
TALLAHASSEE, FL 32303

1853

63 68/631
002

DATE 02.09.2021

CHECK **ALWAYS**

PAY TO THE ORDER OF

Marketing Alliance

\$ 900.00

Nine Hundred dollars & ^{NO}/₁₀₀

DOLLARS

Photo
Safe
Deposit
Back of Pass



DOWNTOWN OFFICE
TALLAHASSEE, FL

FOR pmt of invoice # 24842

[Handwritten Signature]

⑈001853⑈ ⑆063100688⑆022843700⑆⑈

4015 40130000628436⑆082902757⑆ 021121

PAY TO THE ORDER OF
CENTENNIAL BANK
PUNTA GORDA, FL 33950
⑆082902757⑆
FOR DEPOSIT ONLY
MARKETING ALLIANCE INC
0503473144

NORTH FLORIDA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP



Scholarships

November 1, 2020 – January 31, 2021

There were no Scholarships during the 4th Quarter.

NORTH FLORIDA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

Technical Assistance

November 1, 2020 – January 31, 2021

All NFEDP Counties

Columbia County

Dixie County

Gilchrist County

Madison County

Union County



REGIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FORM

DATE: 2/15/2021 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Diane Scholz

CLIENT CATEGORY

BUSINESS (FLORIDA) LOCAL GOVERNMENT

CONTACT:	Steve Conner or Daniel Dickert
ORGANIZATION:	Cross City Lumber, LLC
ADDRESS:	59 NE 132 Ave, Cross City, FL 32628
E-MAIL:	Steve@dupontyard.com or daniel@crosscitylumber.com
PHONE:	(912) 218 4563 or (352) 356-1029

DATE	ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Diane Scholz	HOURS
11/1/2020 - 1/31/2021	- During the fourth quarter of 2020, NFEDP staff provided technical services to Cross City Lumber, LLC (CCL) and Dixie County regarding a huge modernization upgrade of this local major employer. The Dixie County BOCC is supportive in applying for a DEO-Rural Community Development Loan on behalf of CCL but needed assistance with the application. NFEDP staff has worked closely with CCL in preparing the application and responded to DEO's request for additional information. Researched with Dixie County to see why Dixie County was denied the loan.	18
Space below <u>must be completed</u>		

CLIENT CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that I received the technical assistance as described above.

NAME: 
Steve Conner or Daniel Dickert

DATE: 2/15/21

**REGIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM
TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FORM**

DATE: 2/15/2021 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Diane Scholz

CLIENT CATEGORY

 X BUSINESS (FLORIDA) LOCAL GOVERNMENT

CONTACT:	Dave & Tess Padot
ORGANIZATION:	Premier Best Western Resort Hotel (Developer)
ADDRESS:	9219 Greenways Lane Fanning Springs, FL 32693
E-MAIL:	<u>DavidPadotSr@gmail.com</u>
PHONE:	352.222.6656

DATE	ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Diane Scholz	HOURS
11/1/2020 1/31/2021	- During the fourth quarter of 2020-2021, NFEDP staff provided technical services to the developer of the Premier Best Western Resort Hotel in Fanning Springs, Gilchrist County. Identifying potential funding resources, coordinating virtual introductions and providing conference call lines for virtual meetings for numerous agency and organization meetings.	21
Space below <u>must be completed</u>		

CLIENT CERTIFICATION:

I hereby certify that I received the technical assistance as described above.

NAME: David Padot DATE: Feb. 15, 2021
 David Padot, Sr. /
 MARITES PADOT

