

# NORTH FLORIDA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP



## 2023 Regional Rural Development Grant Fourth Quarter Report

Submitted to:

Pam Portwood  
Chief, Bureau of Small Cities and Rural Communities

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  
February 15, 2024



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**

- Scholarship Documentation

### **Technical Assistance**

- Technical Assistance Forms



## Board of Directors

Jimmy Norris, Chair  
*Suwannee County  
Economic Development Director*

Jennifer Goff Daniels, V-Chair  
*Columbia County Economic  
Development Department*

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

Doug Brown, Treasurer  
*Executive Director  
Madison County Development Council*

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*

Rocky Ford, Commissioner  
*Columbia County BOCC*

Mark Hatch, Commissioner  
*Dixie County BOCC*

Karen VanAnam , Executive Director  
*Dixie County Chamber of Commerce*

Tommy Langford, Commissioner  
*Gilchrist County BOCC*

Donna Creamer, Assistant County Administrator  
*Gilchrist County BOCC*

Jimmy Murphy, Commissioner  
*Hamilton County BOCC*

Chadd Mathis, Executive Director  
*Hamilton County BOCC*

Chris Tuten, Commissioner  
*Jefferson County BOCC*

Shannon Metty, County Coordinator  
*Jefferson County*

Mason Byrd, Commissioner  
*Lafayette County BOCC*

Keesha Fundora  
*Lafayette County Economic Development*

Matt Brooks, Commissioner  
*Levy County BOCC*

Scott Osteen Executive Director  
*Nature Coast Business Development Council*

Donne Waldrep, Commissioner  
*Madison County BOCC*

Larry Harvey, Commissioner  
*Putnam County BOCC*

Mark Litten, V-President Economic Development  
*Putnam County Chamber of Commerce*

Don Hale, Commissioner  
*Suwannee County BOCC*

Thomas Demps, Commissioner  
*Taylor County BOCC*

Taylor Brown, Executive Director  
*Taylor County Development Authority*

Lacey Cannon, Commissioner  
*Union County BOCC*

Jimmy Williams, County Manager  
*Union County*

Julie Conley  
*Mayor of Monticello*

Mary Swoope, 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*

Derick Thomas, Chief Public Relations Officer  
*Clay Electric Cooperative*

Jeff Hendry, Executive Director  
*NFEDP*



# NORTH FLORIDA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

February 5, 2024

Ms. Pam Portwood  
Chief, Bureau of Small Cities and Rural Communities  
Florida Department of Economic Opportunity  
Division of Community Development  
107 East Madison Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-4135

Dear Ms. Portwood:

This is the North Florida Economic Development Partnership's (NFEDP) 2023 Fourth Quarter Report for the Rural Regional Development Grant-D0235. The Partnership continues to enhance the region's economic development recruitment efforts in our leadership role through outreach, shared resourcing, world-wide marketing and responding to the needs of the 14-county region to provide various forms of administrative, technical assistance, and capacity building scholarships to our stakeholders.

The NFEDP coordinated and conducted the FREDA Rural Summit November 29-December 1, 2023. It was extremely well attended and was a huge success based on feedback from all three RAOs. Additionally, the NFEDP conducted the Rural Counties Day (RCD) Legislative Networking Reception, January 24, 2024 and the RCD Fish Fry January 25, 2024. Twenty-eight of Florida's 32 rural counties had registered booths on Capitol Plaza to market the assets of their county to all in attendance.

Ten of the 14 NFEDP counties received significant damage from Hurricane Idalia in late August. NFEDP staff continue to support state and federal efforts to provide recovery assistance to those counties impacted.

The fourth quarter reimbursement request of \$65,771.25 from the 2023 RRDG #D0235 grant facilitated the NFEDP in the accomplishment of all objectives in the RRDG D0235 grant Scope of Work.

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

Sincerely,

Jimmy Norris  
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: Marissa Hadoulis  
107 East Madison Street  
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-4135  
850-717-8497

**DATE:** February 15, 2024

DESCRIPTION: Deliverables Including Minimum Performance Standards	Invoice Period: November 1, 2023-February 9, 2024
Contract Invoice #D0235	\$65,771.25
<b>INVOICE AMOUNT</b>	<b>\$65,771.25</b>

**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: Jimmy Norris

Title: NFEDP Chairman

Contractor Signature: \_\_\_\_\_



Date: February 15, 2024

**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: Marissa Hadoulis

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 #: 4-2024 Date: February 15, 2024

Contract Amount: \$250,000.00

MBE Participation Amount: \$-0- MBE Percentage: 0%

DV Participation Amount: \$-0- DV Percentage: 0%

**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)
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>TOTALS</b>				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	

\*\*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)
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	
<b>TOTALS</b>				\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	

\*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 #: D0235

Invoice No.: 4-2023  
Date: February 27, 2024

**TO:**  
FloridaCommerce  
Division of Community Development  
Attn: Cristin Beshears  
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, 2023 – February 9, 2024	
Deliverable 1: Marketing	\$ 900.00
Deliverable 3: Printed Marketing Material	\$1,050.00
Deliverable 4: Scholarships	\$23,396.25
Deliverable 5: Technical Assistance	<u>\$40,425.00</u>
<b>Expenditures:</b>	
<b>Registrations</b>	\$8,065.00
<b>Travel</b>	\$15,331.25
<b>Contractual Services</b>	\$1,950.00
<b>Staff Time</b>	<u>\$40,425.00</u>
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$65,771.25</b>

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: Jimmy Norris Title: Chairman

Signature:  Date: February 28, 2024



**North Florida Economic Development Partnership  
Board of Directors and General Membership Meeting Agenda  
Friday, March 1, 2024  
Camp Anderson Anchored  
Old Town, Florida  
9:00 a.m.-12 noon**

- I. **Meeting Call to Order (A)**  
Jimmy Norris, NFEDP Chairman
- II. **Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation(I)**
- III. **Welcome from Host Community(I)**
- IV. **Consideration of September 8, 2023, Meeting Minutes (A)**  
Diane Head, NFEDP Secretary and Executive Director  
CareerSource North Florida/Board Action
- V. **Consideration of Treasurers Report (A)**  
Doug Brown, NFEDP Treasurer and Executive Director, Madison  
County Development Council/Board Action
- VI. **Meeting Sponsor Remarks(I)**  
Robert Sheets, Executive Vice President, Anser—An Accenture  
Company
- VII. **Consideration of NFEDP Sponsorships for FEDC Conference  
and LIFT Annual Membership(A)**  
Hendry/Board Discussion
- VIII. **Consideration of RRDG 4th Quarter Report (A)**  
Diane Scholz, NFEDP/Board Action
- IX. **Recap: Rural Counties Day, January 24-25, 2024(I)**  
Hendry/Board Discussion
- X. **Florida Rural Economic Development Summit, November 20-  
22, 2024, World Equestrian Center, Ocala, Florida (I)**  
Hendry/Board Discussion



- XI. **Presentation: Joint County/City Meetings in Dixie County: A Forum for Cooperation and Coordination(I)**  
Representatives from Dixie County and City of Cross City
- XII. **Presentation: Florida Department of Commerce: Rural Jobs Tax Credit Program (I)**  
Chris O’Kelly, State Programs and Governmental Liaison, Florida Department of Commerce
- XIII. **Update on SSI Site Marketing Project(I)**  
Victor Leotta, Leotta Location & Desing/Board Discussion
- XIV. **Economic Development Project Case Study: Baker County Plant AS(I)**  
Darryl Register, Executive Director, Baker County Chamber of Commerce and Economic Development
- XV. **Preparing for the Project: Action in Hamilton County(I)**  
Chadd Mathis, Executive Director, Hamilton County Development Authority
- XVI. **Economic Development Project Case Study: Suwannee County, Project Wave (I)**  
Jimmy Norris, Economic Development Director, Suwannee County Office of Economic Development
- XVII. **Legislative Update**  
Hendry/Board Discussion
- XVIII. **Comments from Public (I)**
- XIX. **Next Board Meeting Date (I)**  
Friday, June 7, 2024 (Bradford County)  
Friday, September 6, 2024 (Putnam County)  
Friday, December 6, 2024, (Location TBD)
- XX. **Adjournment (A)**





**North Florida Economic Development Partnership  
Board of Directors and General Membership Meeting  
Friday, March 1, 2024  
Camp Anderson Anchored  
536 NE 168th Avenue  
Old Town, FL 32680  
9:00-12:00 p.m.**

***DRAFT* Board Meeting Minutes**

**NFEDP Board Members in Attendance**

Jimmy Norris (Suwannee County EDO), Don Hale (County Commissioner, Suwannee County), John Meeks (Commissioner, Levy County) Diane Andrews (Commissioner, Bradford County), Patrick Wnek (NEFEC), Darryl Register (Baker County), Pam Whittle (Bradford County EDO), George Buckner (Central Florida Electric Cooperative), Craig Callahan (ARCO—Executive Committee), Karen VanAernam (Dixie County Liaison), Mark Litten (Putnam County Chamber of Commerce), Thomas Demps (Taylor County Commissioner), Diane Head (CareerSource North Florida), Tommy Langford (Gilchrist County Commissioner), Donna Creamer (Gilchrist County EDO), Chadd Mathis (Hamilton County Development Authority), Scott Osteen (Nature Coast Business Development Council), Danny Collins (Duke Energy), and Taylor Brown (Taylor County Development Authority),

**NFEDP Board Members Absent**

Jimmy Williams (Union County Manager), Sherilyn Pickels (Madison County Administrator), Doug Brown (Madison County Development Council), Larry Harvey (Putnam County Commissioner), Jennifer Goff Daniels (Columbia County EDO), Commissioner Rocky Ford (Columbia County), Mark Hatch (Dixie County Commissioner), Mason Byrd (Lafayette County Commissioner), Donnie Waldrep (Madison County Commissioner), Chris Tuten (Commissioner Jefferson County), Shannon Metty (County Manager, Jefferson County), Commissioner James Bennett (Baker County), Keesha Rourk (Lafayette County), Scott Koons (NCFRPC), Lacey Cannon (Union County Commissioner), Jimmy Murphy (Hamilton County Commissioner),.

**Others in Attendance**

Paul Gainey (Dixie County Manager), Carol West (Dixie County Economic Liaison), Kay McCallister (Dixie County TDC), Martha McCaskill (Dixie County Grant Administrator), Katherine Allen (IFAS Suwannee County Extension Officer), John Driggers (Cross City-City Mgr.), Mary Swoope (Consultant), Commissioner Maurice Perkins (Suwannee County), Mike McWaters (SVEC), Charissa Setzer (Suwannee County EDC), Chris O'Kelley (FloridaCommerce-Governmental Liaison), Laura Dibello, (Former Secretary of Commerce, currently consultant with Adams & Reese, LLP), Derick Thomas (Clay Electric Coop), Bob Krefting (CFEC), Kaitlyn Culpepper (Tri-County Electric Coop), Patricia Evans (Capital City Bank), Latricia Wright (City of Williston Clerk), Jonathan Bishop (City of Williston), Joshua Askey (DEO), Mark Yarwick (HAECO Airframe Services, LLC), Douglas Conkey (SJRWMD), Ed Sour (SCORE), Dale Williams (NFPS), Stewart Wasson (Capital City Bank), John Beall (Thomas-Howell-Ferguson), Kevin Gehrke (Big Bend Manf. Assn.), Carol

Saviak (FPL), Chris Smith (Thomas Howell Ferguson), Nicole Smith (Thomas Howell Ferguson), Gianna Kelly (Thomas Howell Ferguson), Caroline Smith (ARPC), Jim Bush (FPL), Christopher Campbell (Answer Advisory/Accenture), Robert Sheets (Accenture), Lakeisha Hood Moise (USDA-State Director), Scott Kornegay (Bradford County Manager), Bob Milner (V-Chair NEFEDC), Amber Shepherd (NEFEDC), Tara Reynolds (Accenture Grants Mgr.), Jeannie Rickman (US Congresswoman Kat Cammack Rep.), Robby Roberson (Hamilton County Commissioner), Rusty Skinner (Executive Director CareerSource-CLM), Heather Shubirg (Chief Growth Officer -Ocala Metro CEP), Jody Stephenson (Dixie County Commissioner), Ryan Fulford (Cross City Councilman), Sam Sullivan (Putnam County Port Manager & Grants), Alicia Tretheway (Levy County Procurement), Tisha Whitehurst (Levy County TDC), Victor Leotta (Leotta Location & Design), and Alice Leotta (Observer).

### **NFEDP and IOG staff in Attendance**

Jeff Hendry, Executive Director, NFEDP and Florida Institute of Government

Diane Scholz, Director of Rural and Economic Development Services

Jenny Anderson, Program Director

Liane Giroux, Events Coordinator

Jordan Askew, Event Coordinator

#### **I. Meeting Call to Order (A)**

The meeting was called to order at 9:07 am by Jimmy Norris, NFEDP Chairman.

#### **II. Pledge of Allegiance and Invocation(I)**

Chairman Norris asked Commissioner John Meeks (Levy County) to provide the Pledge of Allegiance, and Commissioner Larry Harvey (Putnam County) to lead the invocation.

#### **III. Welcome from Host Community (I)**

Dixie County, County Manager, Paul Gainey provided Welcome remarks.

#### **IV. Consideration of September 8, 2023, Meeting Minutes (A)**

Diane Head, NFEDP Secretary and Executive Director CareerSource North Florida presented the draft minutes and asked for a motion. Commissioner Larry Harvey made the motion; seconded by Commissioner John Meeks. Passed unanimously.

#### **V. Consideration of Treasurer's Report (A)**

Doug Brown, Treasurer, was unavailable due to travel. Jeff Hendry presented the Treasurer's Report and asked for questions and a motion. Commissioner Thomas Demps made the motion; seconded by Commissioner Tommy Langford. Passed unanimously.

#### **VI. Meeting Sponsore Remarks (I)**

Robert Sheets, Executive Vice President, Answer-An Accenture Company, welcomed everyone and expressed his pleasure to provide lunch and cover the cost of the meeting facility.

#### **VII. Consideration of NFEDP Sponsorships for FEDC Conference and LIFT Annual Membership (A)**

Jeff Hendry explained in past years the NFEDP has been a reciprocal agreement with Marketing Opportunity with FEDC and in turn they participate in a Marketing Opportunity with the Rural Summit. Karen VanArnham made the motion, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Commissioner Larry Harvey.

Motion passed unanimously. Jeff explained about the important opportunity to participate in an annual LIFT membership and advanced training opportunities. Donna Creamer asked if the date on the contract should be updated, and Jeff affirmed it should. A motion was made by Donna Creamer made the motion with a change of date; Diane Head seconded. Motion passed unanimously.

VIII. **Consideration of RRDG 4<sup>th</sup> Quarter Report (A)**

Diane Scholz provided a brief explanation of FloridaCommerce's report submittal process. The 4<sup>th</sup> and Final 2023 report and request for reimbursement is for \$65,771.25. Donna Creamer made the motion to approve the; Commissioner John Meeks seconded the motion. Motion carried.

IX. **Recap: Rural Counties Day, January 24-25, 2024 (I)**

Hendry/Board Discussion

Jeff provided a brief history of Rural Counties Day and the continued growth and success of the event.

X. **Florida Rural Economic Development Summit, November 20-22, 2024, World Equestrian Center, Ocala, Florida (I)**

Jeff provided a brief history of the Summit and how it had grown over the years. He emphasized the need of booking your hotel room as soon as possible because you run the risk of not having one if you wait too long. The Save-the-Date notice will be emailed within the next 2 weeks.

XI. **Presentation: Joint County/City Meetings in Dixie County: A Forum for Cooperation and Coordination (I)**

Karen VanArnam, Dixie County Economic Development Liaison, and Paul Gainey, Dixie County Manager, briefed the group of their local efforts to improved various local initiatives, projects, and plans between the county and city of Cross City. The informed everyone of the upcoming the Town of Cross City Centennial Day celebration on Saturday, April 20, 2024.

XII. **Economic Development Briefing by the Former Secretary of FloridaCommerce, Laura DiBella, MPE**

Laura provided information about her current position with Adam & Reese, LLP and her assessment of the state of Florida's economy and recruitment of foreign projects.

XIII. **Presentation: Florida Department of Commerce: Rural Jobs Tax Credit Program (I)**

Chris O'Kelly, State Programs and Governmental Liaison, FloridaCommerce, provided information on the Rural Jobs Tax Credit Program and the advantages and opportunities it provides.

XIV. **Update on SSI Site Marketing Project (I)**

Victor Leotta, Leotta Location & Design provided the status of the NFEDP's most recent initiative to select a priority site for each one of the 14 counties. He explained how the number one priority properties would be used to market them on the NFEDP website.

XV. **Economic Development Project Case Study: Baker County Plant AS (I)**

Darryl Register, Executive Director Baker County Chamber of Commerce, provided a narrative on the challenges and the creative ways they were overcome regarding the recruitment of Plant AS. This is probably the largest economic development ever recruited to the NFEDP region. The development of 8.1M square feet of advanced CEA production facilities on 772 acres near US

90 & Interstate 10, where fresh produce, including, but not limited to, leafy greens and vine crops such as tomatoes, will be produced using state-of-the-art hydroponic technology. The company will be deploying a projected \$750M in capital expenditure for the project, which will scale up operations over 8 years to hire over 600 full-time employees with starting wages, including benefits, of \$21/hour.

XVI. **Preparing for the Project: Action in Hamilton County (I)**

Chadd Mathis, Executive Director, Hamilton County Development Authority (HCDA) provided a different kind of case study by telling the audience of how the HCDA had purchased a number of old blighted hotels and gas stations from the 50s and 60s at the first I-75 interchange in Florida traveling south from Georgia. Acquiring the blighted properties was difficult due to so many previous owners, and asbestos and lead paint contamination, plus demolition and removal. However, this multi-year initiative has resulted in prime available land which is now owned by the HCDA for economic development.

XVII. **Economic Development Project Case Study: Suwannee County, Project Wave (I)**

Jimmy Norris, Economic Development Director, Suwannee County Office of Economic Development, provided an overview of the initial recruitment efforts, how the county stayed in touch with the prospect after they initially selected a different county, and how those continued efforts resulted in eventually landing the project a year later.

XVIII. **Legislative Update**

Jeff Hendry provided legislative updates regarding the term limits for county commissioners which is dead. The Florida Jobs Growth Grant Fund is expected to be funded at \$75 million as it stands right now. We are continuing to work toward eliminating the required match for the RRDG. Additionally, he explained that the Rural Bill is moving forward and hopefully funding for a revamped Rural Toolkit program.

XIX. **Comments from Public (I)**

Jimmy opened the floor for public comments. The owner of Suwannee Gables Motel announced that the hotel renovation was filmed by "Hotel Rescue" and will air in June or July (2024).

XX. **Next Board Meeting Dates (I)**

Friday, June 7, 2024 (Bradford County)  
Friday, September 6, 2024 (Putnam County)  
Friday, December 6, 2024 (Location TBD)

XXI. **Adjournment (A)**

Motion to adjourn made by Jim Bush, 2<sup>nd</sup> by Bob Krefting.

**Board of Directors**

Jimmy Norris, Chair  
*Suwannee County  
Economic Development Director*

Jennifer Goff Daniels, V-Chair  
*Columbia County Economic  
Development Department*

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

Doug Brown, Treasurer  
*Executive Director  
Madison County Development Council*

Darryl Register-Immediate Past Chair  
*Executive Director  
Baker County Chamber of Commerce*

James G. Bennett, Commissioner  
*Baker County BOCC*

Diane Andrews, Commissioner  
*Bradford County BOCC*

Pam Whittle, Director  
*NFL Regional Chamber*

Rocky Ford, Commissioner  
*Columbia County BOCC*

Mark Hatch, Commissioner  
*Dixie County BOCC*

Karen VanAernam, Economic Development Liaison  
*Dixie County BOCC*

Tommy Langford, Commissioner  
*Gilchrist County BOCC*

Donna Creamer, Assistant County Administrator  
*Gilchrist County BOCC*

Jimmy Murphy, Commissioner  
*Hamilton County BOCC*

Chadd Mathis, Executive Director  
*Hamilton County BOCC*

Chris Tuten, Commissioner  
*Jefferson County BOCC*

Shannon Metty, County Coordinator  
*Jefferson County*

Mason Byrd, Commissioner  
*Lafayette County BOCC*

Keesha Fundora  
*Lafayette County Economic Development*

John Meeks, Commissioner  
*Levy County BOCC*

Scott Osteen Executive Director  
*Nature Coast Business Development Council*

Donne Waldrep, Commissioner  
*Madison County BOCC*

Larry Harvey, Commissioner  
*Putnam County BOCC*

Mark Litten, V-President Economic Development  
*Putnam County Chamber of Commerce*

Don Hale, Commissioner  
*Suwannee County BOCC*

Thomas Demps, Commissioner  
*Taylor County BOCC*

Jim Moody, Commissioner  
*Taylor County BOCC*

Lacey Cannon, Commissioner  
*Union County BOCC*

Jimmy Williams, County Manager  
*Union County*

Mary Swoope, Manager, Industry Recruitment  
*Duke Energy*

James Bush, External Affairs Manager  
*Florida Power and Light*

Lauren Yeatter, Senior Planner  
*NCF Regional Planning Council*

Patrick Wnek, Executive Director  
*NEFEC*

George Buckner, Chief Information Officer  
*Central Florida Electric Cooperative*

Jeff Hendry, Executive Director  
*NFEDP*



**NORTH FLORIDA**  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP

March 4, 2024

Ms. Pam Portwood  
Chief, Bureau of Small Cities and Rural Communities  
Florida Department of Economic Opportunity  
Division of Community Development  
107 East Madison Street  
Tallahassee, FL 32399-4135

Dear Ms. Portwood:

On March 1, 2023, the North Florida Economic Development Partnership (NFEDP) conducted the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter NFEDP full board meeting at Camp Anderson Anchored, Old Town, FL. Approval of the Rural Regional Development Grant #D0235 Report and request for reimbursement was emailed to the members prior the meeting. The request was approved unanimously.

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

Sincerely,

Jimmy Norris  
Chair, NFEDP



# Regional Rural Development Grant



## **TAB B: LOCAL GOVERNMENT FINANCIAL AND/OR IN-KIND SUPPORT**

List the amount of financial or in-kind commitment anticipated/received from each local government served by the regional organization. Copies of checks must be included to document financial match already received, or you may include letters with the amount of future financial commitment indicated on official letterhead. Official letters of commitment may also provide for in-kind match of goods or services and must include supporting documentation to demonstrate fair market value. **Matching funds must be from non-state resources.**

Local Government Name	Type (Cash or In-Kind)	Match Committed	Total Received	Check #
Baker County	Cash	\$2,869.00	\$,2869.00	981620
Bradford County	Cash	\$2,796.00	\$2,796.00	140403
Columbia County	Cash	\$6,881.00	\$6,881.00	46264
Dixie County	Cash	\$1,680.00	\$1,680.00	072841
Gilchrist County	Cash	\$1,813.00	\$1,813.00	262577
Hamilton County	Cash	\$1,431.00	\$1,431.00	4514
Jefferson County	Cash	\$1,459.00	\$1459.00	322854
Lafayette County	Cash	\$794.00	\$794.00	66681
Levy County	Cash	\$4,358.00	\$4,358.00	146727
Madison County	Cash	\$1,812.00	\$1,812.00	18100
Putnam County	Cash	\$7,367.00	\$7,367.00	808464
Suwannee County	Cash	\$4,368.00	\$4,368.00	0207888
Taylor County	Cash	\$2,096.00	\$2,096.00	68533
Union County	Cash	\$1,580.00	\$1,580.00	203301
<b>Total Local Government Match</b>		\$41,304.00	\$41,304.00	

Attach additional documentation if needed. Additional pages attached? Yes  No

# NORTH FLORIDA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP



## **Marketing**

November 1, 2023 – February 9, 2024

Website Analytics  
Website Cost Reimbursement

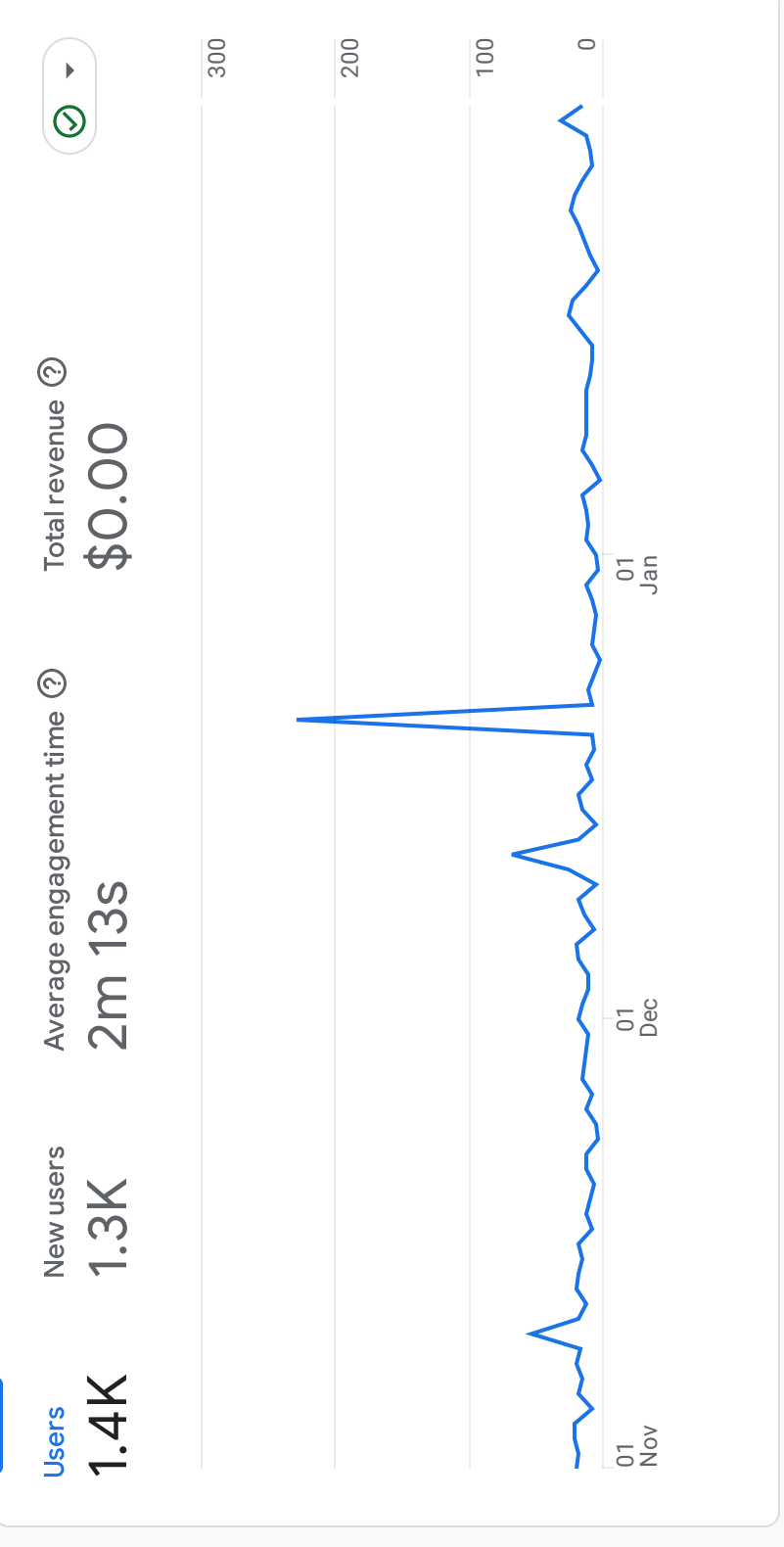
Printed Materials  
Rural Counties Day Booklet



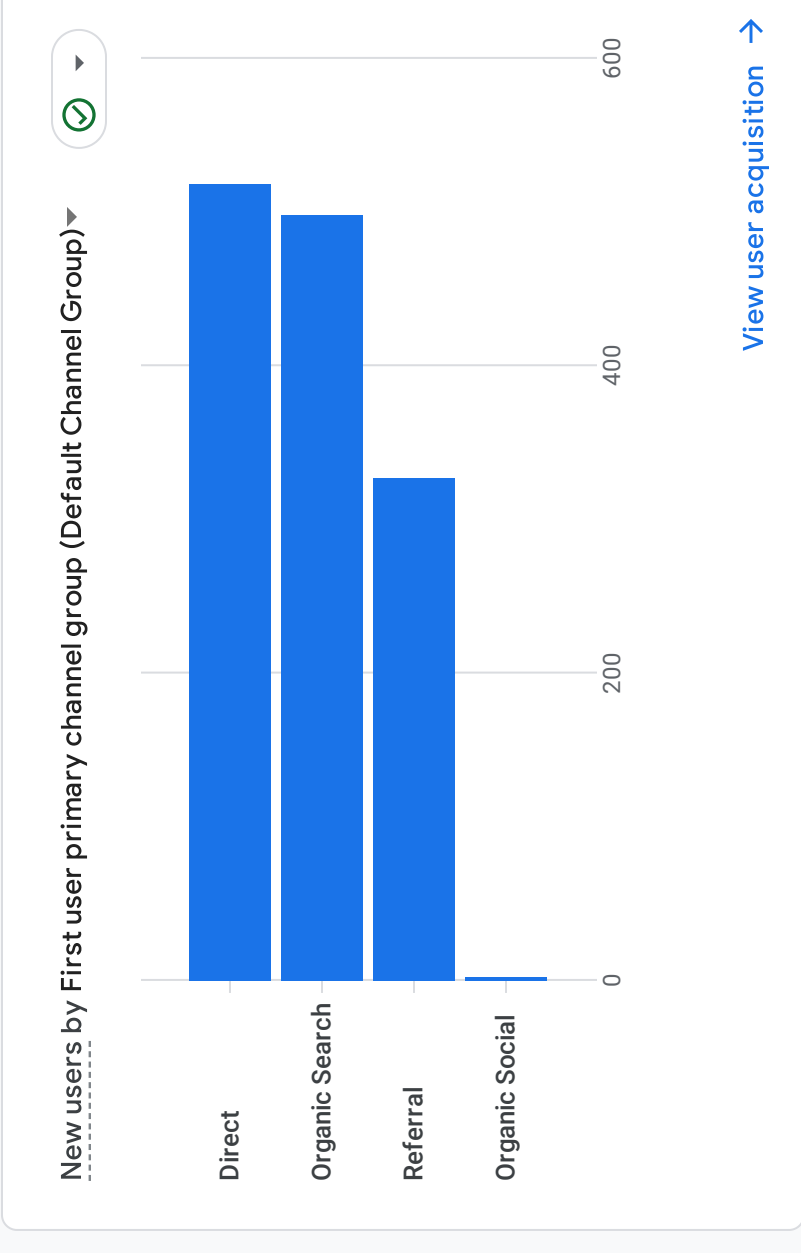


### Reports snapshot

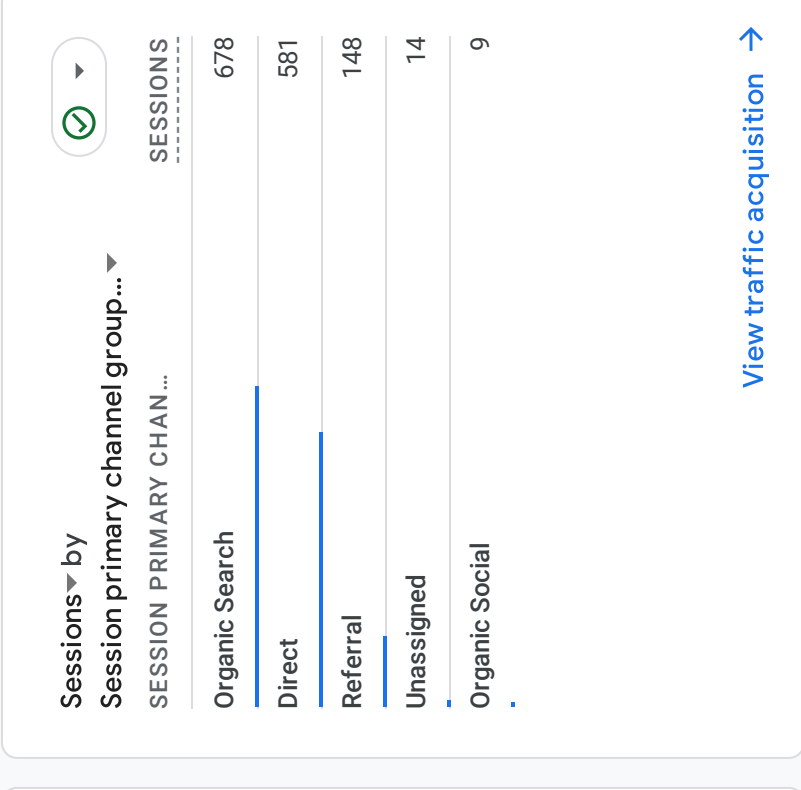
#### WHERE DO YOUR NEW USERS COME FROM?



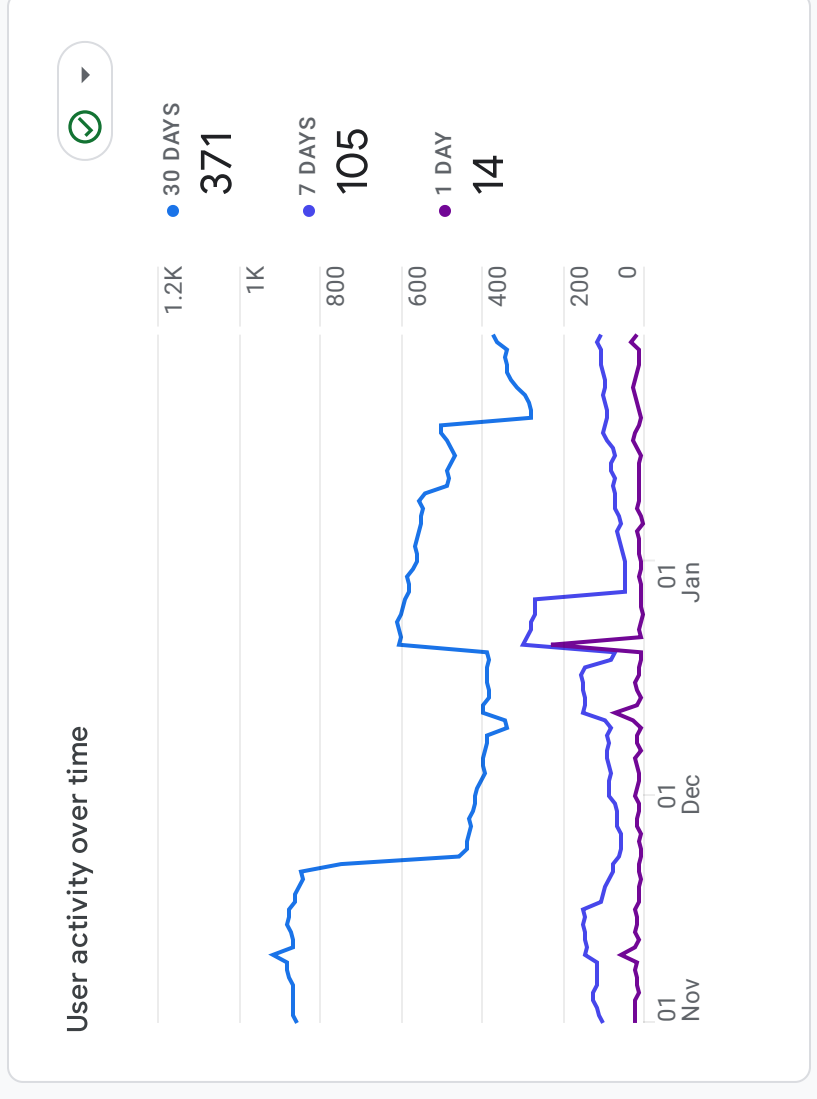
#### WHERE DO YOUR NEW USERS COME FROM?



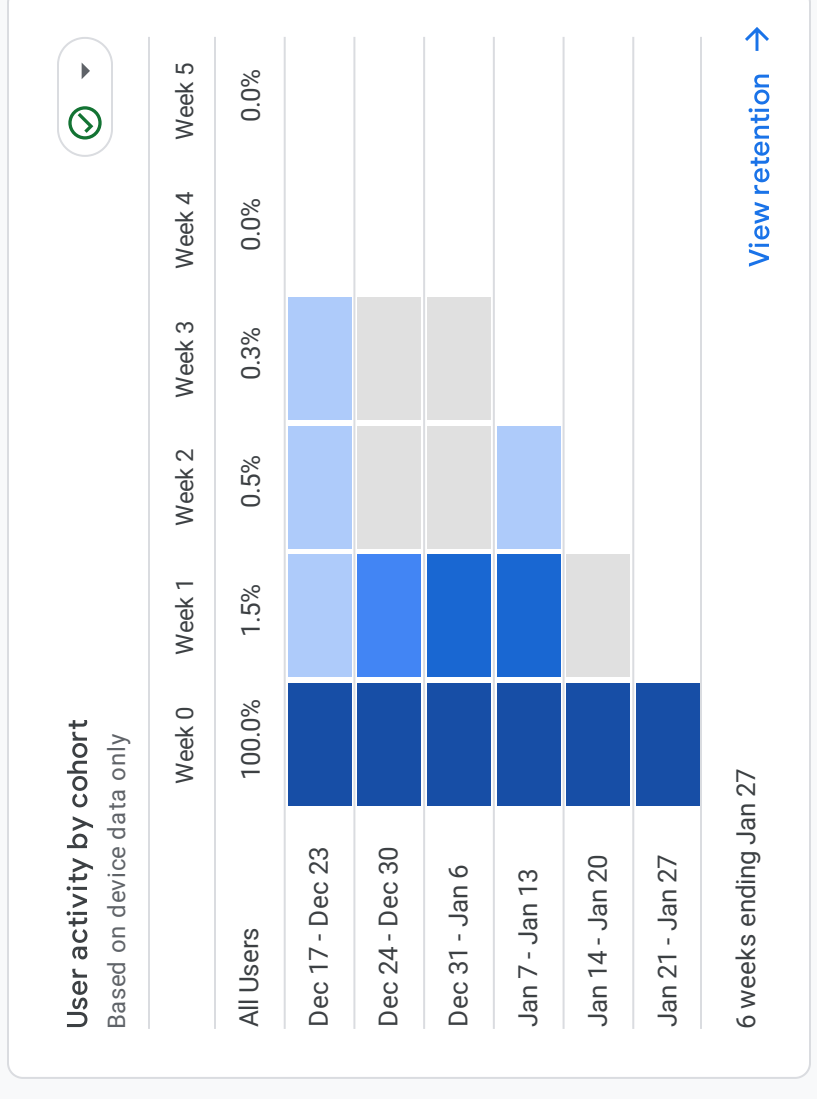
#### WHAT ARE YOUR TOP CAMPAIGNS?



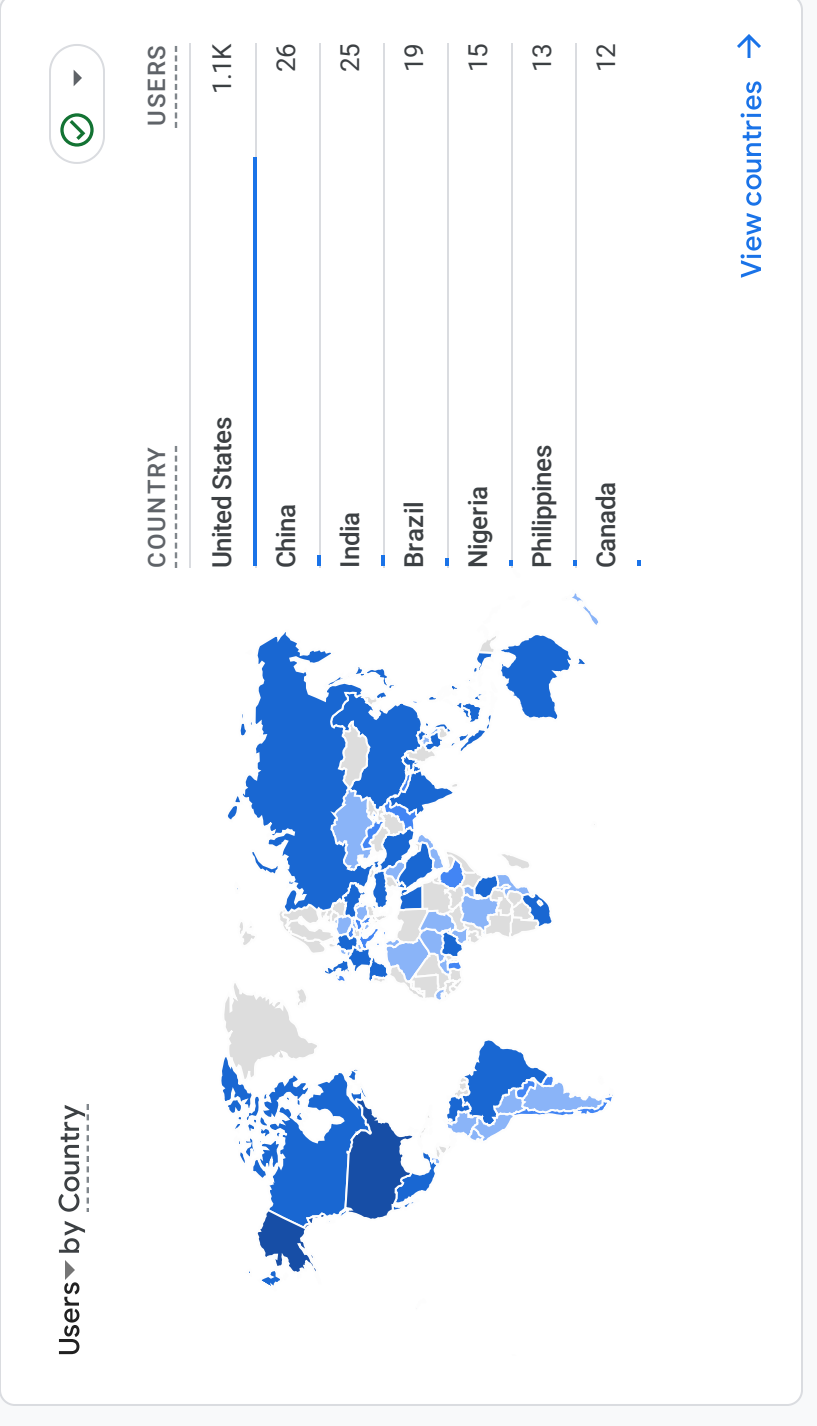
#### HOW ARE ACTIVE USERS TRENDING?



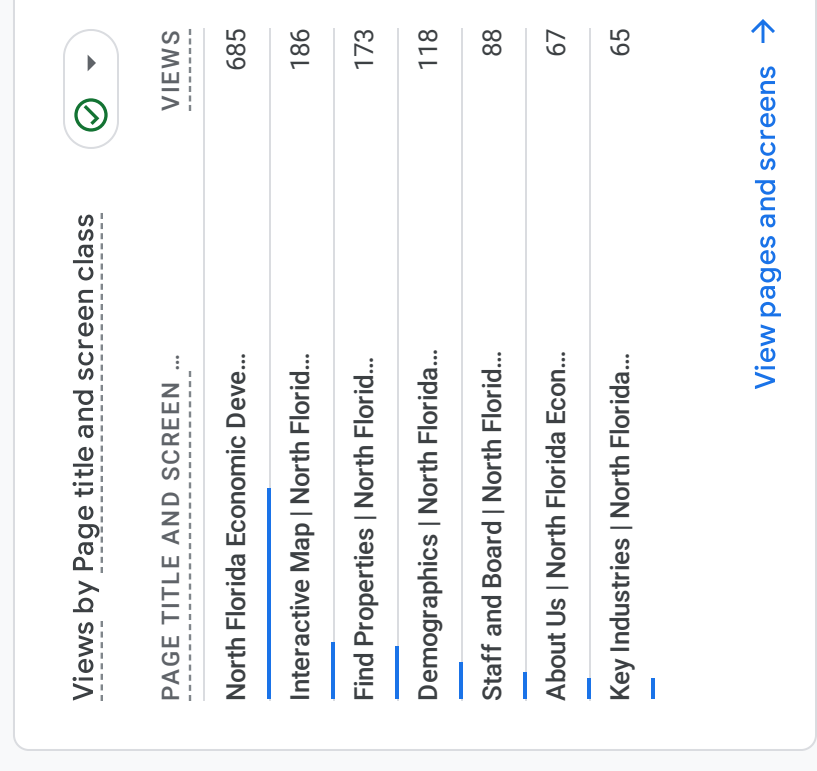
#### HOW WELL DO YOU RETAIN YOUR USERS?



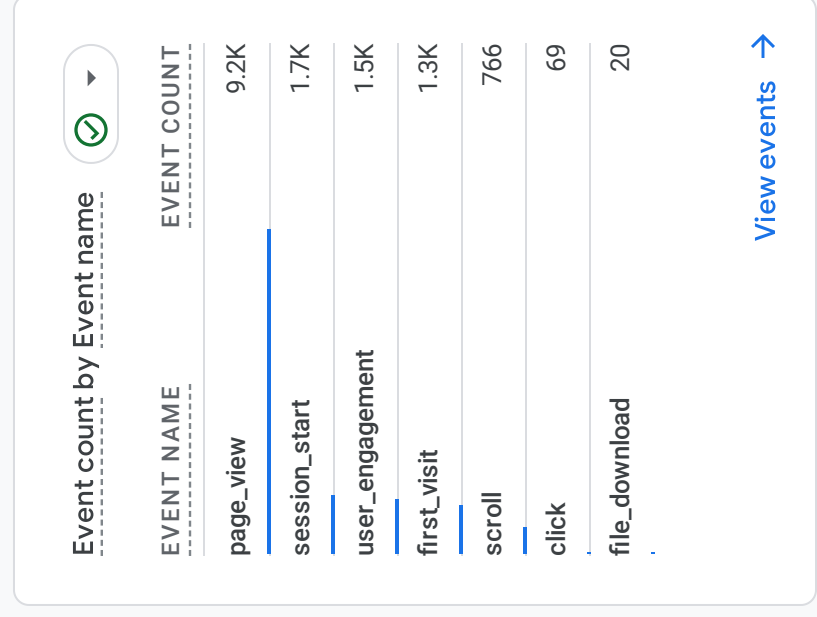
#### HOW ARE ACTIVE USERS TRENDING?



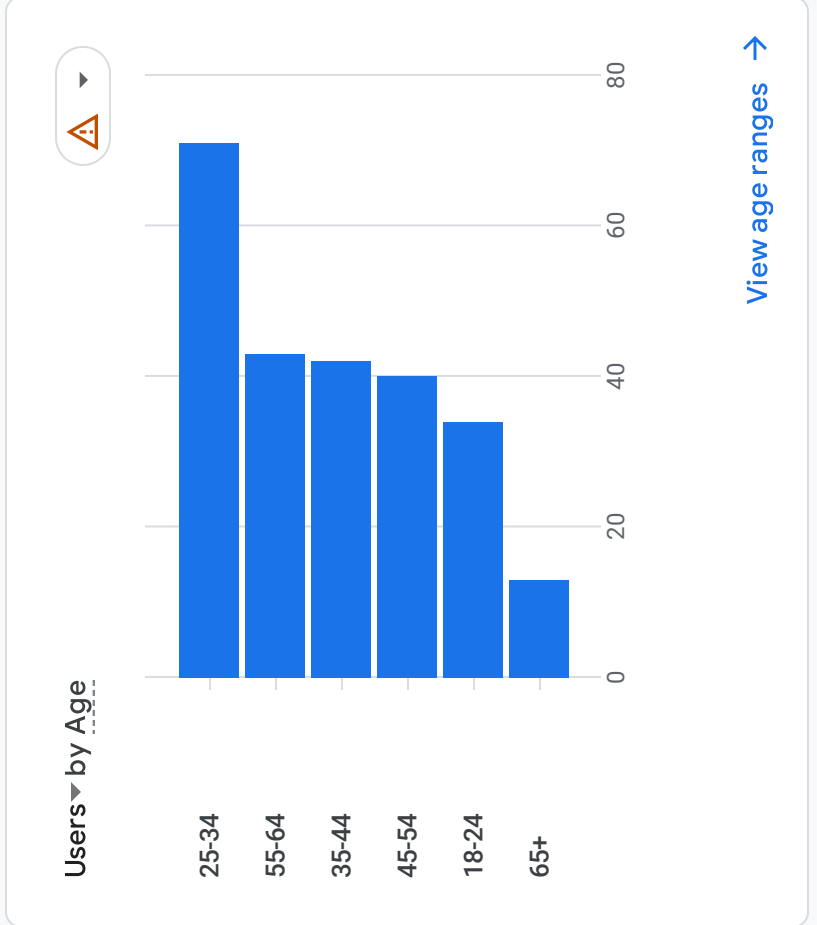
#### WHICH PAGES AND SCREENS GET THE MOST VIEWS?



#### WHAT ARE YOUR TOP EVENTS?



#### HOW ARE ACTIVE USERS TRENDING?



# INVOICE

**Marketing Alliance, Inc.**  
1420 Celebration Blvd., Suite 200  
Celebration, FL 34747

kpetr@marketingallianceinc.com  
+1 (407) 205-7513  
www.marketingallianceinc.com

## North Florida EDP

### Bill to

North Florida EDP  
Diane Scholz  
3200 Commonwealth Blvd., Ste. 7  
Tallahassee, FL 32303

### Ship to

North Florida EDP  
Diane Scholz  
3200 Commonwealth Blvd., Ste. 7  
Tallahassee, FL 32303

### Invoice details

Invoice no.: 26581  
Terms: Net 10  
Invoice date: 01/29/2024  
Due date: 02/08/2024

**FUNDED BY 2023 RRDG-#D0235**  
**Marketing Category**

#	Date	Product or service	SKU	Qty	Rate	Amount
1.		<b>Analytics</b> Enhanced SiteTracker Analytic Services   Quarterly Renewal   2/1/2024-4/30/2024		1	\$900.00	\$900.00

**Total** **\$900.00**

### Note to customer

Please remit to 1420 Celebration Blvd, Suite 200 Celebration, Florida  
34747



## Payment Scheduled

▼ Marketing Alliance \*FEDP

**\$900.00**

Estimated delivery  
02/06/2024

**Mail to** 1420 CELEBRATION BLVD  
SUITE 200  
CELEBRATION, FL 34747

**Payment type** Check

**Check #** 1000021

**Pay with** CKG7001 \*7001

**Send on** 01/30/2024

**Conf #** 22

Total: **\$900.00**

THE CHECK IS VOID WITHOUT THE SAFETY FEATURES LISTED ON THE BACK

Apply to account: PaytotheaccountofNFEDP - NORTH FLORIDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS, INC 257

NORTH FLORIDA ECONOMIC DEVELOP  
3200 Commonwealth Blvd  
Ste 7  
Tallahassee, FL 32303

06-310  
0688

DATE  
01/30/2024

0001000021

Capital City Bank  
PO Box 900  
Tallahassee FL 32302-0900

PAY NINE HUNDRED DOLLARS AND NO/100  
TO THE MARKETING ALLIANCE  
ORDER OF

AMOUNT

\*\*\$900.00



**Capital City  
Bank**

Memo: Inv No. 26581

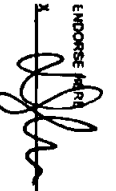
Signature on File  
account holder has pre-approved this check  
Void After 90 Days

MP

⑈0001000021⑈ ⑆063100688⑆ 228437001⑈

68

ENDORSE HERE



For CB & T Remote Deposit Only  
FOR MOBILE DEPOSIT ONLY

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Product design is a certification mark of Check Payment Systems Association

**The Printery Family**

1519 Capital Circle NE, #32

Tallahassee, FL 32308

(850) 877-6418

orders@printeryfamily.com

**Invoice**



**BILL TO**

Diane Sholz

NFEDP

3200 Commonwealth Blvd. Suite 7

Tallahassee, FL 32303

**Approved for Payment Funded by 2023 RRDG**

**Printed Material Category - Diane Scholz 1-23-2024**

INVOICE #	DATE	TOTAL DUE	DUE DATE	TERMS	ENCLOSED
24-0138	01/23/2024	\$1,050.00	02/02/2024	Net 10	

PLEASE DETACH TOP PORTION AND RETURN WITH YOUR PAYMENT.

DATE	ACTIVITY	QTY	AMOUNT
	<b>Booklets</b> 8x10 "Business Growth is in our Nature"	150	1,050.00

SUBTOTAL	1,050.00
TAX	0.00
TOTAL	1,050.00
BALANCE DUE	<b>\$1,050.00</b>

THIS CHECK IS VOID WITHOUT THE SAFETY FEATURES LISTED ON THE BACK

Apply to account: *ThePrinteryFamily - NORTH FLORIDA ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERS INC* 24012414484

NORTH FLORIDA ECONOMIC DEVELOP  
3200 Commonwealth Blvd  
Ste 7  
Tallahassee, FL 32303

06-310  
0688

DATE  
01/24/2024

0001000014

Capital City Bank  
PO Box 900  
Tallahassee FL 32302-0900

PAY ONE THOUSAND, FIFTY DOLLARS AND NO/100  
TO THE ORDER OF THE PRINTERY FAMILY

AMOUNT

\*\*\$1050.00



Memo: Inv # 24-0138

Signature on File -  
account holder has pre-approved this check

Void After 90 Days

⑈0001000014⑈ ⑆063100688⑆ 228437001⑈

68



ENDORSE HERE

X DEPOSIT ONLY  
245121

FOR MOBILE DEPOSIT ONLY

DO NOT WRITE, STAMP, OR SIGN BELOW THIS LINE  
RESERVED FOR FINANCIAL INSTITUTION USE

First Commerce Credit Union

Branch # Branch 7  
2/15/2024 9:22 AM

Trans: 324740

Deposit Acct: 245121

FCCU - 263182516

>263182516<

**\*FEDERAL RESERVE BANK REGULATION CC**

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BUSINESS GROWTH IS IN OUR  
**Nature**



**NORTH FLORIDA**  
ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP



# NORTH FLORIDA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP



## Scholarships

November 1, 2023 – February 9, 2024

## FREDA Rural Summit Scholarships

Doug Brown  
Taylor Brown  
Michaela Clemons  
Donna Creamer  
John Hart  
Mark Hatch  
Diane Head  
Tommy Langford  
Jacqueline Martin  
Kay McCallister  
John Meeks  
Bob Milner  
Jennifer Poore  
Kurt Richardson  
Marty Shaw  
Amber Shepherd  
Ed Sucor  
Jodi Tillman  
Alicia Tretheway  
Karen VanArnam  
Brian Williams  
Jimmy Williams  
Lauren Yeatter

Due to the volume of supporting scholarship documentation of 229 pages, contact Diane Scholz to request by direct email at [dscholz@fsu.edu](mailto:dscholz@fsu.edu) or at 850.728.5191.



# NORTH FLORIDA

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT PARTNERSHIP



## **Technical Assistance**

November 1, 2023 – February 9, 2024

All NFEDP Counties

Bradford County

Columbia County

Dixie County

Levy County

Madison County

Taylor County



# REGIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FORM

DATE: 1/30/2024      TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Jeff Hendry-Diane Scholz

### CLIENT CATEGORY


\_\_\_\_\_ BUSINESS (FLORIDA)                        X   LOCAL GOVERNMENT

<b>CONTACT:</b>	Jimmy Norris, Suwannee County EDO
<b>ORGANIZATION:</b>	Suwannee County Economic Development Office
<b>ADDRESS:</b>	100 Court St. SE, Live Oak, FL 32064
<b>E-MAIL:</b>	<a href="mailto:jimmyn@SUWCOUNTY.gov">jimmyn@SUWCOUNTY.gov</a>
<b>PHONE:</b>	(386) 364-1700

DATE	ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: <b>Jeff Hendry &amp; Diane Scholz</b>	HOURS
11/1/2023-2/9/2024	- During the 4th Quarter, the NFEDP provided a wide variety of technical assistance that impacted all 14 counties. NFEDP staff assisted with Hurricane Idalia’s disaster response which heavily impacted at least 10 of the 14 counties. The NFEDP staff provided hurricane disaster recovery assistance through meetings and other resources. The NFEDP under the umbrella of FREDa conducted the FREDa Rural Summit and provided 25 scholarships to NFEDP attendees. Additionally, the NFEDP conducted Rural Counties Days on Jan. 24 & 25. An estimated 375 attended the Legislative Networking Reception which was a huge opportunity for them to network with their elected officials.	487
Space below <u>must be completed</u>		

### CLIENT CERTIFICATION:

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

NAME:   
\_\_\_\_\_ Jimmy Norris

DATE: January 30, 2024







# REGIONAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT GRANT PROGRAM TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FORM

DATE: 11/1/2023 TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: Diane Scholz

## CLIENT CATEGORY

           BUSINESS (FLORIDA)                        X   LOCAL GOVERNMENT

<b>CONTACT:</b>	Paul Gainey – County Manager
<b>ORGANIZATION:</b>	Dixie County
<b>ADDRESS:</b>	214 NE 351 Hwy, P.O. Box 2600
<b>E-MAIL:</b>	<a href="mailto:assistantmanager@dixiecounty.us">assistantmanager@dixiecounty.us</a>
<b>PHONE:</b>	352.498.1426

DATE	ASSISTANCE PROVIDED BY: <b>Diane Scholz</b>	HOURS
11/1/2023-2/9/2024	- During the 4th quarter 2023, NFEDP staff provided technical services to Dixie County by assisting Karen VanArnam with identifying and connecting with the Melissa Sexias, a keynote speaker from the FREDA Rural Summit. Provided 3 scholarships to the Summit.	5
Space below <b><u>must be completed</u></b>		

### CLIENT CERTIFICATION:

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

NAME:   
Paul Gainey

DATE: 1/31/2024



