



NASSAU COUNTY
BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
96135 Nassau Place, Suite 1
Yulee, Florida 32097

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County Manager/County Attorney

January 14, 2019

Susan Grich, President/CEO
Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida
4201 Baymeadows Road, Suite 2
Jacksonville, FL 32217

Dear Ms. Grich,

Nassau County is pleased to support The Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida (HPCNEF) for their HRSA Rural Communities Opioid Response Program (RCORP) Planning Grant Application. We have worked with HPCNEF to improve health outcomes in Nassau County. We believe that the participation of County Officials in the process is vital for successful outcomes. Through our partnership with local health system providers and the Partnership for a Healthier Nassau, we have identified mental health as one of the top priorities in Nassau County. We are concerned with substance abuse by our residents, particularly in the use of opioids as Nassau County was ranked 8/27 in opioid-involved non-fatal overdoses in 2017.

Nassau County is divided into five districts with a five-member Board of Commissioners who are elected at-large for four-year staggered terms. The Board is responsible for enacting Resolutions and Ordinances for the general health, safety and welfare of the residents of Nassau County and providing necessary services to safeguard the well-being and safety of our residents. We understand that grant funds for the RCORP Planning Grant will be used for the activities proposed in the work plan to benefit Nassau County, and that grant funds will not be used for the exclusive benefit of any one-network partner or to provide clinical services.

Being a rural county, obtaining affordable and quality health care in Nassau County can be challenging. The Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida's community engagement efforts and your partnership with local health departments and hospitals ensures that our residents are aware of services available to them and where they can locate those services. We are fortunate to have The Health Planning Council of Northeast Florida as a community partner and believe that receiving this grant will assist in your efforts of creating a healthier and more vibrant community.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Justin M. Taylor
Chairman, Board of County Commissioners

(904) 530-6010 or (866)-474-1446

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