FLORIDA FIREFIGHTERS
SAFETY AND HEALTH
COLLABORATIVE

The Collaborative Connection – September 2022

FFSHC would like to introduce and welcome our new FACE Team Co-Chair, Division Chief John Schmidt. John's career in the fire service began in the mid-80s as a volunteer at the local fire department. While serving his community as a volunteer, John started the educational journey to become an EMT and Firefighter. He spent nearly four years as a volunteer before becoming a career firefighter.

John's career started when he was offered a position by the City of Seminole Fire Rescue Department in Pinellas County, Florida. During his career for the City of Seminole, John served in various progressive roles and leadership, including several committees. He became a driver within the organization, then Company Officer, District Chief, and retired serving as the Training Chief. Chief Schmidt served as the Departments Safety Committee Chair as the Training Chief. Additionally, Chief Schmidt served on the Inaugural Pinellas County Technical Rescue Team (PCTRT) and the Pinellas County Hazardous Materials Response Team (PCHMRT). Chief Schmidt also moved through the ranks on the PCHMRT; when he retired, he served as the Team Commander.

In 2019, Chief Schmidt was hired by Pasco County Fire Rescue, serving as the Division Chief of Health, Safety, and Wellness. In this role, he can directly influence the Health and Safety of all firefighters. The Health, Safety, and Wellness Chief is responsible for the On-scene decontamination program, On-scene Rehabilitation program, Air Truck program, Occupational Health, Infection Control, Peer Fitness, and Safety Committee Chair.

Chief Schmidt has served on various committees throughout his career, including the City of Seminole Strategic Plan, Operational Advisory Committee, and Safety Committee. He also served as the Treasure for IAFF Local 2896.

He was also involved with organizations outside the Departments he worked for. Examples include the Pinellas County Fire Chiefs – Training group, Florida Fire Chiefs Association Health and Safety Committee, International Association of Fire Chiefs – Safety, Health, and Survival Section, IFSFI, Florida Firefighter Safety, and Health Collaborative FACE team, and a member of FDSOA. These external relationships are essential to successful programs within the organization.

PASTA DINNER
CORAL SPRINGS
CORAL SPRINGS PARKLAND
FIREFIGHTERS
SUPPORT
STRENGTH
COURAGE
2022
CANCER AWARENESS
PASTA DINNER
Saturday, October 8 • $8
5 to 9 p.m. • Fire Station 80
2825 Coral Springs Drive
Dinner includes: Homemade Firehouse Sauces, Pasta, Salad, Bread and Beverages
SCAN THE CODE TO PRE-PURCHASE YOUR TICKETS!
Donations can be made payable to:
Coral Springs Professional Firefighters Benevolent Association
Proceeds benefit the University of Miami Sylvester Firefighters Cancer Initiative along with the Coral Springs Professional Firefighters Benevolent Fund
CORAL SPRINGS
www.coralspringsfirefighters.org

On September 11th, Stormhouse Brewing in Palm Beach County, held Patriots Day fundraiser and donated proceeds to the Florida Firefighter Safety and Health Collaborative.

Thank you Stormhouse Brewing!!

INAUGURAL

MENTAL WELLNESS SYMPOSIUM

HOSTED BY THE CITY OF CORAL SPRINGS

OCTOBER 26, 2022 • 8AM to 5PM

FREE • CORAL SPRINGS, FL

IMPLEMENT THE BHAP MODEL IN YOUR ORGANIZATION

The Mental Wellness Symposium will help any agency or organization protect and care for its most valuable assets, its employees. Attendees will learn about the Behavioral Health Access Program (BHAP) as a comprehensive, integrated, multi-component, systematic program for employee mental health/wellness and crisis intervention.

FEATURING:

- Josh Goldberg, Boulder Crest: "Transforming Struggle to Strength: The Path of Posttraumatic Growth"
- Dr. Kellie O'Dare, 2nd Alarm Project
- Dr. Deborah C. Beidel, UCF Restores
- Frank Babinec, Coral Springs City Manager

- **City Governments**
- **Dispatch Communications**
- **Fire Departments**
- **Hospitals**
- **Law Enforcement**
- **Private Ambulance**

Location:
Coral Springs Center for the Arts
2855 Coral Springs Dr.
Coral Springs, FL 33065

BHAP has become a nationally recognized model that has proven to be effective in providing guidance during the assessment, basic counseling, and stress crisis intervention. BHAP was adopted by the State of Florida as a deployable response model and was activated following the Champlain Towers collapse in Surfside, Florida in June 2021. BHAP is recognized by International City/County Managers Association, National Fallen Firefighters Foundation, NFPA, Florida Safety and Health Collaborative, UCF Restores, and 2nd Alarm Project.

Attendees will learn the importance of each modular component and how to adapt them to any business or organization, leaving with a toolkit to guide implementation.

REGISTER TODAY!
www.ntoa.org/mentalwellness

CORAL SPRINGS

Florida Firefighters **Safety and Health Collaborative**

2022 Crush Cancer 5k

Captain Ritchie Hudson

Captain Hudson, a 25 year Veteran of the fire service wass diagnosed with Acute Myeloid Leukemia in 2019. After 10 months of treatment, the leukemia was deemed in remission in 2020 and Captain Hudson went back to work in the training division of Davie Fire Rescue to finish his career. August of 2022, 6 months from retirement, Captain Hudson has found out that the leukemia has returned. He and his family are devasted but are ready to fight once again and need your help. Treatment for Captain Hudson will include a bone marrow transplant and he will need a donor.

Let's show Captain Hudson our support. We will never leave a brother behind.

LOSING IS NOT AN OPTION

Registration can be found at www.victorysportsmgt.com Event: 2022 Crush Cancer 5k

Vista View Park

Sunday November 6, 2022

4001 SW 142nd Ave
Davie, FL 33330
6:45 am Registration and packet pick up

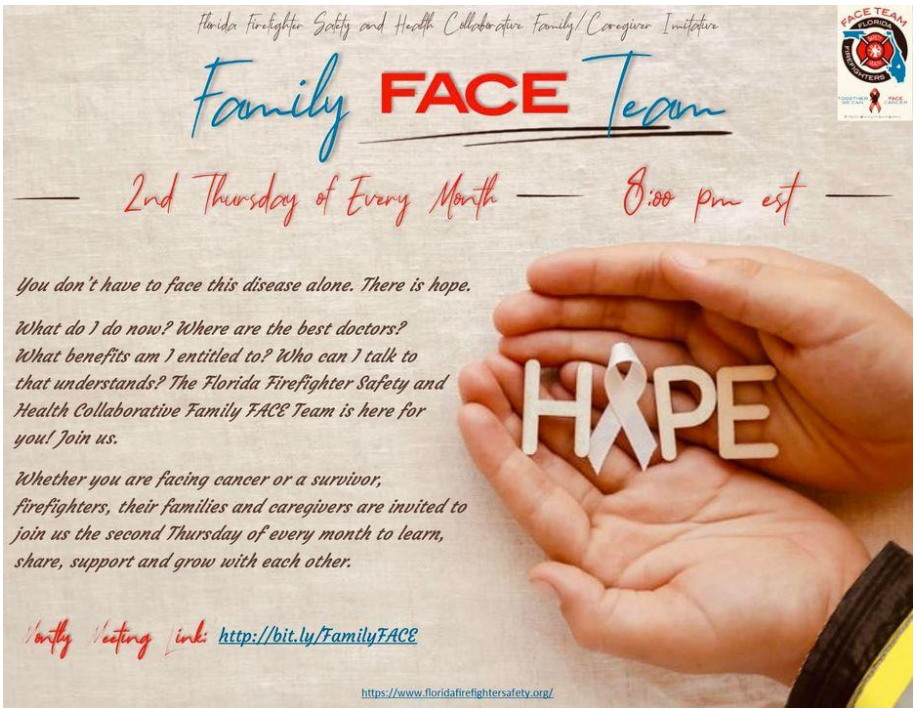
Florida Firefighters Safety and Health Collaborative

AMAZON SMILES DONATES TO FFSHC

Remember when you are doing your shopping that when you shop at AmazonSmile they will donate a portion of your purchases directly to **Florida Firefighters Safety and health Collaborative.** Please select our Collaborative from the Charity Lists in the Amazon Shopping app on your mobile phones. You can also continue to shop your lists at smile.amazon. com on desktop or mobile web browsers.

Florida Firefighters Safety and Health Collaborative

[Family FACE virtual meeting]



FFSHC LOGO APPAREL ONLINE

New FFSHC logo apparel is available on our website – everything from T shirts, women's tanks, hats, polos and oxford shirts. Check us out and help support our mission.

www.floridafirefightersafety.org

As you establish your annual contributions to the United Way for 2021– why not select the Florida Firefighters Safety and Health Collaborative to be the recipient of your United Way contributions?

Contact Gina Hudson if you have any questions or need assistance.

ghudson@floridafirefightersafety.org

United Way

REDLINE RESCUE™

Struggling with depression, anxiety, addiction or posttraumatic stress?

Your Brothers and Sisters are Here to Help

www.RedlineRescue.org

The Redline Rescue movement – led by first responders, for first responders – is dedicated to serving first responders and their families in their times of need.

Our network is a highly connected community of first responders and culturally trained clinicians, working hand-in-hand, devoted to the needs of those serving behind the badge. And our community is here to help – at no cost and with complete confidentiality.

Right now, you can log on to RedlineRescue.org from your phone or laptop and connect immediately with an army of trained first responder peer support team members and a host of professional mental health clinicians trained in first responder culture.

We know what you've gone through and what you've seen.
We are here and ready to help.

Fire Prevention and Safety Grants
Funding provided through DHS/FEMA'sGrant Program Directorate
Assistance to Firefighters Grant Program

Florida Firefighters Safety and Health Collaborative