

Making Magic: Joining Forces to Create a Statewide Consumer Health Information Network

Mission:

Increase Florida residents' knowledge of consumer health information resources and services available statewide and from local communities.

Members:

The Florida Consumer Health Information Network (FCHIN) Steering Committee, composed of 20 members, began meeting in July 2007. Members represent:

- All seven medical schools in Florida
- Florida Library Association
- Florida Health Sciences Library Association (reps from hospital & academic health centers)
- State Library and Archives of Florida
- AHEC programs
- Public libraries providing consumer health services
- Two Florida colleges of library & information science
- National Network of Libraries of Medicine, Southeastern/Atlantic Region (ex officio)

Major Accomplishments:

- Formation of a network of librarians from all types of libraries
- Information sharing & partnership building
 - Four face-to-face meetings
 - Four group teleconferences
 - Numerous emails & conversations
- Partnership with Florida Agency for Health Care Administration (AHCA). FCHIN members serve on two AHCA workgroups:
 - Public Relations Workgroup
 - FloridaHealthFinder.gov Website Technical Workgroup
- Website to report FCHIN activities
- Assessment of consumer health information needs in Florida libraries funded by the Florida Electronic Library
- FCHIN Committees:
 - Communications
 - Training
 - Content
- NNLM web-based training coordinated with Florida multi-type library cooperatives



Participant Locations

FL. Lauderdale	Kaye Robertson, Nova Southeastern University
Gainesville	Linda Butson, AHEC, University of Florida Beth Layton, University of Florida Wallace McLendon, University of Florida
Miami	Dave Boillard, Florida International University Suzy Burrows, University of Miami Mary Moore, University of Miami
Orlando	Nadine Dexter, University of Central Florida
St. Petersburg	Pat Clark, Florida Health Sciences Library Association, All Children's Hospital
Tallahassee	Mark Flynn, Florida Electronic Library Mia Lustria, Florida State University, College of Information Charles R. McClure, Florida State University, College of Information Barbara Shearer, Florida State University, College of Medicine Nancy Teger, Florida Department of Education, School Library Media Services
Tampa	Cheryl Dee, University of South Florida, School of Library and Information Science Allison Howard, Florida Health Sciences Library Association, University of South Florida Charles Parker, Florida Library Association, Tampa Bay Library Consortium Beverly Shattuck, University of South Florida
West Palm Beach	Rachel Rosenblum Mick, Beach County Library System

Future Directions:

- Identify community partners and funding opportunities
- Provide training for library personnel
- Gather and disseminate information on consumer health efforts in Florida
- Build relationship with State Library and Archives of Florida to enhance the Florida Electronic Library consumer health resources

Funded in Part by:

- National Network of Libraries of Medicine Southeastern/Atlantic Region
- Florida Health Sciences Library Association
- Nova Southeastern University
- Orlando Public Library
- Florida Electronic Library
- Florida State University College of Medicine Area Health Education Center Program

For further developments, watch the FCHIN Website at:

<http://www.fhsla.org/fchinweb/home.html>



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